

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
Village Hall Auditorium
53 South La Grange Road
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, December 13, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Administrative Secretary Ellie Elder, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo

ABSENT: Village Clerk Milne

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson
Village Attorney Mark Burkland
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham
Fire Chief William Bryzgalski
Police Chief Mike Holub

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Oath of Office – Firefighter/Paramedic James D. Baum

With the recent resignation of a Firefighter/Paramedic, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have appointed James D. Baum to fill the position effective October 14, 2010. President Asperger noted his experience and requested he come forward to receive the oath of office.

President Asperger congratulated all involved in the successful Hometown Holiday Walk sponsored by the La Grange Business Association.

Announcing that the next regularly scheduled Village Board meeting on Monday, December 27, 2010 would be canceled, President Asperger added the first meeting in the New Year would be held on Monday, January 10, 2011.

President Asperger reflected upon 2010 as a year of continued growth for the Village despite federal and state economic conditions. President Asperger commended department heads and the entire staff for their professionalism and performance in servicing the public.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Harlan Hirt, 421 S. Spring expressed his opinions related to item 4A of the Omnibus Agenda and presented his written statement to the Village President.

In his written statement Mr. Hirt indicated his main concern was and is that the Board should seek supporting information and public discussion prior to taking any further action on this item.

Thom Rae, added his inquiries regarding item 4A of the Omnibus Agenda and Village Attorney Burkland responded.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. First Amendment to Property Transfer Agreement Between the Village of La Grange and the Park District of La Grange.
- B. Resolution (#R-10-20) – Authorization for Agreement With Cook County for Federal Stimulus Grant for Facility Improvements
- C. Ordinance (#O-10-35) – Disposal of Surplus Property
- D. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Town Meeting Monday, November 22, 2010
- E. Consolidated Voucher 101213 – (\$1,367,744.35)

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve items A, B, C, D, and E of the Omnibus Agenda, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston and Palermo
Nays: None
Absent: None

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance (#O-10-36) Abatement of 2010 Tax Levy / 2005 Street Light Refunding Bonds: Referred to Trustee Holder

Trustee Holder explained the history of the Residential Streetlight Program noting the Village Board's approval to issue alternate revenue bonds in 1998 to complete the program. Due to more favorable interest rates in 2005, the Village adopted an ordinance authorizing the refunding of the remaining outstanding bonds, thereby saving the Village approximately \$100,000 in interest over the remaining life of the issue which matures on December 1, 2017. Trustee Holder added that the Series 2005 bond issue is a general obligation, alternate revenue source issue, backed by the full faith and credit of the Village. Revenues derived from the collection of utility taxes are pledged to pay the principal and interest expenditures related to this issue. Because sufficient revenues from the utility tax are available within the General Fund, it is appropriate to abate this portion of the tax levy.

It was moved by Trustee Holder to approve the Ordinance abating taxes levied for 2010 with respect to the \$2,785,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Alternate Revenue Source, Series 2005, in the amount of \$303,765, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, Palermo and Holder
Nays: None
Absent: None

Trustee Holder indicated he would like to present the 2010 Property Tax Levy as the next item on the agenda.

B. Ordinance (#O-10-37) – 2010 Property Tax Levy for Village Operations:
Referred to Trustee Holder

Trustee Holder commented on the Village's sound financial management while continuing to provide quality services. Trustee Holder explained that the preliminary 2010 property tax levy was reviewed and discussed in detail at the November 8, 2010 Village Board meeting and since the tax levy did not exceed Truth in Taxation requirements it was not necessary to hold a public hearing to adopt the final levy.

The final tax levy includes an increase of 3.73%, exclusive of debt service, over the prior year's tax extension. The increase reflects the allowable increase under the Property Tax Limitation Act of 2.7% (Consumer Price Index) as of December 2009.

Trustee Holder noted that on average, a home with an assessed property value of \$250,000 would only incur an annual increase of \$26.09 from the Village levy and \$7.53 from the Library levy.

Although a Special Service Area levy is filed with Cook County to fund on-going maintenance of the Central Business District, it is not subject to Truth in Taxation requirements. By ordinance the Special Service Area levy is to be adjusted annually by the Consumer Price Index utilized as part of the Property Tax Limitation Act. Trustee Holder noted the 2010 Special Service Area levy of \$58,582 reflects an increase of 2.7% over last year's levy of \$57,042.

It was moved by Trustee Holder to adopt the ordinance requesting a 2010 property tax levy of \$7,912,373, exclusive of debt service, which is a 3.73% increase from the 2009 levy, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Langan, Livingston, Palermo, Holder, Horvath, and Kuchler
Nays: None
Absent: None

C. Resolution – Levying a Tax for Library Operating Purposes: Referred to Trustee Holder

Trustee Holder explained that the La Grange Library Board of Trustees 2010 tax levy request for operating purposes is \$1,970,146 which is a 3.73% increase over last year's tax levy. This is the allowable increase under the Property Tax Limitation Act equal to the increase of the Village tax levy request. Because the La Grange Library this a "municipal library" rather than a separate "public library district" it must levy property taxes as part of the Village of La Grange tax levy.

Members of the La Grange Public Library were in attendance to answer any questions.

It was moved by Trustee Holder to accept La Grange Public Library Resolution approved by the Library Board, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, Palermo, Holder, and Horvath
Nays: None
Absent: None

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn stated that Village offices would be closed on Friday, December 24 and 31 in observance of the holiday, however a full compliment of public safety personnel will be on call.

Lastly, Mr. Pilipiszyn noted that Allied Waste will adhere to the regular refuse pick-up schedule. Allied will also pick-up Christmas trees from the parkway as part of the regular refuse beginning on December 27 through January 13.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

None.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9 TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Holder added his gratitude to all who participated in the La Grange Business Association's Hometown Holiday.

President Asperger expressed her gratitude to fellow Board members for their hard work and commitment to the citizens of La Grange.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Livingston. Motion approved by voice vote.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

Approved Date: 01/10/11