

MINUTES

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

Monday, January 10, 2011 - 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 7:32 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
Assistant Community Development Director and Planner Angela Mesaros
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham
Fire Chief William Bryzgalski
Police Chief Mike Holub

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger reflected on support for local businesses during the holiday season and the New Year.

Announcing that the next regularly scheduled Village Board meeting on Monday, January 24, 2011 would be canceled, President Asperger noted that there would be special Village Board meeting workshops on Tuesday, January 25 regarding traffic; Monday, January 31 regarding sewer infrastructure; and Monday, February 7 regarding capital projects. These workshops are in preparation for the upcoming budget process. Adding that Saturday, March 12 is the scheduled budget workshop, President Asperger encouraged the public to attend any and all of the workshops. The public hearing and final budget approval would take place on Monday, April 11.

Lastly, President Asperger noted that the La Grange Police Department is warning homeowners to be on guard against 'ruse burglaries' also known as "gypsy scams,"

which occur when a group of individuals target a residence usually owned by an elderly person. President Asperger reminded residents not to allow strangers access to their home and call 911 to report any suspicious behavior.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Joan Hoigard, 345 S. 6th Avenue expressed several concerns related to item 5A under current business. President Asperger noted that her concerns would be discussed when this item is presented.

Kurt Hoigard, 345 S. 6th Avenue expressed concerns related to item 5A and does not believe it should be voted on at this time.

Greg O'Connor, 315 S. Catherine expressed concerns related to item 5A regarding storage containers.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Resolution (#R-11-01) – Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electrical Cooperative (NIMEC) for the Purchase of Electricity for Village Facilities
- B. (Moved to Current Business for further discussion.)
- C. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Monday, December 13, 2010
- D. Consolidated Voucher 101227 – (\$702,745.51)
- E. Consolidated Voucher 110110 – (\$1,075,389.30)

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

Trustee Palermo requested item 4-B be removed from the Omnibus Agenda and placed under Current Business for further discussion.

It was moved by Trustee Langan to amend the motion to approve items A, 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

4-B Award of Contract – Two Year Extension / Tree Removal Program (Removed from Omnibus for further discussion.)

Trustee Palermo explained the process by which the Village removes public parkway trees that are diseased, dead or become a safety concern to the public. Trustee Palermo noted that in 2009 a competitive bidding process was conducted and in April of 2009 the Village Board approved a two-year contract with D. Ryan Tree & Landscaping for tree removal. Trustee Palermo added that the contract ended on December 31, 2010. D. Ryan Tree & Landscaping has offered to extend their 2009 pricing until April 30, 2013.

Explaining staff's reasons for recommending approval of the new two-year contract, Trustee Palermo noted that D. Ryan Tree & Landscaping pricing was low in comparison to other bidders; they are familiar with the Village's tree removal standards and expectations; and they have performed in a timely manner.

It was moved by Trustee Palermo to waive the competitive bidding process and enter into a new two-year contract through April 30, 2013 with D. Ryan Tree & Landscaping for the tree removal program, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Palermo questioned whether another tree removal vendor may be more cost effective. Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham responded that in 2009 other bidders were considered, however D. Ryan was comparably lower in price and they have agreed to lock in the 2009 prices and it is assumed that current prices would exceed the 2009 ones.

Trustee Palermo felt that it would be wise for the Village to seek new bids for the tree removal program as fees may have changed. Trustee Palermo was interested in seeing if there may be a savings.

Trustee Horvath agreed that data used two years ago may have changed and pricing for tree removal should be current.

Trustee Livingston believed that these were good questions, however indicated support for the renewal with D. Ryan based on staff's recommendations.

Approved by a four to two roll call vote.

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

A. Ordinance – Zoning Code Amendments – Miscellaneous Residential Amendments: Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Prior to introducing this item, Trustee Kuchler requested clarification from Village Attorney Burkland if any inconsistencies on the Board Report may affect the proposed ordinance. Attorney Burkland responded that the ordinance is correct as presented.

Trustee Kuchler indicated that the review of single family districts began in 2006 and the current phase includes standards for required yards, accessory uses and structures, signs, sight distances, and definitions. Trustee Kuchler noted that the report presents recommendations from staff and the Plan Commission regarding amendments to allowable encroachments within required yards; amendments to the accessory structures in the single family districts; provision for driveway clear sight area; amendments to residential real estate signs; and amendments to the definitions.

Trustee Kuchler noted that staff recommendations were based on examining current residential zoning regulations in other municipalities as well as comments from the public, Village Trustees, Commissioners, department heads, and code enforcement staff.

Trustee Kuchler stated that public hearings were held on September 14 and November 9, 2010 at which time the Plan Commission considered all proposed amendments. After substantial deliberation and suggested modifications, the Plan Commission unanimously recommended that the amendments be submitted for Board approval.

Trustee Kuchler detailed each of the amendments which encompassed additions and revisions to the specified structures and uses in required yards; accessory uses and structures; buffers and landscaping; residential real estate signs; and additions to the list of definitions. Trustee Kuchler noted that the entire document with photos is posted on the Village website.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler to approve an Ordinance Amending Various Sections of the La Grange Zoning Code related to Required Yards, Accessory Structures, Signs and Definitions for Single Family Residential Districts; seconded by Trustee Langan.

Considerable discussion ensued amongst the Village Board, Village Attorney and departmental staff relating to decorative columns; gazebos; pergola; seat walls; arbors; outdoor kitchens; and storage units. Some of the Board felt that it would be beneficial to table the item to allow more time for review.

After much debate President Asperger noted that if the Village Board chooses to table this item, staff will require a direction as to what revisions and or changes

the Board is seeking. President Asperger reflected on the Board's thought process and confirmed the two main issues being (1) no setback from front lot line for pillars and or columns, as long as they do not impose on clear line of sight restrictions; (2) proposed regulations of storage units or PODS to also include a provision that allows the Village Manager discretion to extend the time period.

President Asperger summarized by stating that the process to amend the zoning code has been on-going for several years and residents trust the Village Board to work hard on their behalf. Adding that the members of the Plan Commission diligently pursue all venues before submitting their recommendations, President Asperger concurred with the Village Board that this item would be placed on the next regular Village Board meeting to be held on February 14, 2011.

President Asperger conferred with Village Attorney Burkland if a motion was required to continue this item at a future meeting and was advised that it was not.

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

None.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Horvath noted his favor of televising Plan Commission meetings and the upcoming Budget meeting.

Due to a conflict in scheduling, Trustee Livingston noted his inability to attend the January 25 Special Village Board Meeting Traffic Workshop.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:50 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Kuchler. Motion approved by voice vote.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

Approved Date: 02/14/11