

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Village Hall Auditorium
53 South La Grange Road
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, January 31, 2011
7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange special meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Administrative Secretary Ellie Elder, the following were:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Livingston and Palermo with President Asperger presiding.

ABSENT: Clerk Milne and Trustee Langan

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham
Assistant Public Works Director Mike Bojovic
Village Engineer Tom Heuer
Fire Chief Bill Bryzgalski

2. SEWER IMPROVEMENT WORKSHOP

President Asperger indicated that this workshop has been scheduled to strategically evaluate possible improvements to the Village's sewer system. As part of the Village's long range planning for capital improvements, several studies have been prepared to address flooding issues which resulted from significant rain events in the last several years. President Asperger noted the objective of this evening's workshop was to provide direction to Village staff for sewer improvements on this strategic priority. She requested Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham to elaborate on potential improvements to the Village's sewer system.

Mr. Gillingham provided a synopsis of the presentations to be discussed which include the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer; the Ogden Avenue Relief Sewer; the drainage basin south of 47th Street; along with neighborhood projects for Poplar Place; Elm Avenue and Sunset Avenue; and the Mason Woods Subdivision. Mr. Gillingham requested Village Engineer Tom Heuer to present findings on each of the areas for potential sewer improvements.

Mr. Heuer annotated a power point presentation for each of the areas noted by Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham. Presenting detailed diagrams of the Village's streets and historical data on the Village's sewer system, Mr. Heuer identified various drainage districts, and explained the difference and interrelationship between storm sewers, sanitary sewers,

combination sewers, relief sewers and the Deep Tunnel System. Providing possible drainage solutions on each topic, Mr. Heuer identified recommendations and provided preliminary cost estimates.

Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham summarized recommendations for each of the projects:

1. Maple Avenue Relief Sewer (MARS) – Recommendation is to continue with the project prior to the other sewer relief projects. Based on the ratio of cost to properties and area served by the improvements, this area has been viewed by staff and consultants as the most problematic area for flooding concerns.
2. Ogden Avenue Relief Sewer (OARS) – Recommendation is to initiate the design and construction for the first stage of the project from Gordon Park to La Grange Road in conjunction with the redevelopment of the former YMCA and to coordinate with the Illinois Department of Transportation as Ogden Avenue is a state road.
3. South of 47th Street Drainage Study – The report has yet to be completed; it will be forwarded to the Village Board as soon as it is received and staff has had the opportunity to review it.
4. Poplar Place Drainage Improvements – Recommendation is to correct a poorly planned sewer system previously built to serve the neighborhood. Staff to analyze further to determine if a more cost-effective solution is feasible.
5. Sunset and Elm Intersection Drainage Improvements – Recommendation is to allocate resources towards MARS as the more cost effective solution to address this localized drainage issue.
6. Mason Woods Area Sewer Project – Recommendation is to repair the failing sewer pipe with sewer lining.

Mr. Gillingham added that although the proposed projects will help to alleviate flooding, residents should be encouraged to utilize private flood control measures as well.

President Asperger noted the difficult task before the Board, as these are complex and very expensive projects. At this point of the meeting, President Asperger opened discussion to the Board. Considerable debate and discussion ensued amongst the Village Board of Trustees including: explore opportunities for cooperation with multiple governmental jurisdictions and other stakeholders for the drainage area South of 47th Street; working with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District; measures used for determining design capacities; applying for funding through available grants; and consideration to budget items for capital project improvements.

Trustee inquiries to Finance Director Lou Cipparrone identified that currently 20% of amounts collected from water and sewer billing are applied to sewers. Village Manager

Robert Pilipiszyn explained that although the Village aggressively applies for grant funding, sewer infrastructure is a localized expenditure.

President Asperger thanked the Board for their thoughtful discussion and comments. It was the consensus of the Village Board to support staff recommendations. At this point in the meeting, President Asperger opened the discussion to the audience.

Numerous residents inquired about the proposed sewer relief projects and possible effects on their immediate residence. Mr. Gillingham and Mr. Heuer responded to their inquiries. Residents also inquired about involvement with neighboring communities and President Asperger explained that the Village is in the preliminary stages of scheduling meetings with surrounding municipalities to review drainage issues.

President Asperger assured the audience that all of the possibilities are being considered and the Village has and will continue to look at options for solutions to the flooding issues caused by the severe storm events which occurred in July of 2010.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Asperger requested a motion to adjourn. At 10:09 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Kuchler to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Motion approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellie Elder
Administrative Secretary

Approved: 02/14/11