

## MINUTES

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

Monday, April 25, 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 7:30 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Thomas Morsch, The following were present:

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

ABSENT: None

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

President Asperger noted that there are several mini-workshop items under the Manager's Report segment of the agenda on the Use of In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signage, Public Safety and Technology.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

### 4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Ordinance (#0-11-09) – Resubdivision of Lots, 200 South Stone & 201 South Brainard
- B. Ordinance (#0-11-10) – Cost Recovery Amendments to the Village Code Regarding (1) Fire Department Plan Review Fees and (2) to Establish a Fee for Extrication Services Provided by the Fire Department

- C. Engineering Services Agreement – Baxter & Woodman – Detailed Engineering and Design Services for the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer Project – Bluff Avenue to La Grange Road
- D. Engineering Services Agreement – Baxter & Woodman – Detailed Engineering and Design Services for the Poplar Place Drainage Improvements
- E. Engineering Services Agreement – Baxter & Woodman – Street Condition Survey
- F. Furniture and Shade Purchase – Energy Efficiency and Facility Improvement Project – Public Works
- G. Resolution – Village Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
- H. Ordinance (#0-11-11) – Disposal of Surplus Property
- I. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Monday, April 11, 2011
- J. Consolidated Voucher 1104125

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and J 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. Contract – Group Health and Life Insurance Renewal: Referred to Trustee Holder

Trustee Holder stated that the Village provides group health insurance coverage as a benefit to all full-time employees under a contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois which expires on April 30 2011. Trustee Holder explained how the Village experienced a period of stable health insurance premiums throughout the 1990's. However in 2000, the Village began to incur an upward trend in health insurance costs almost doubling worldwide.

Trustee Holder noted that having effectively managed our group health insurance expenses over the past decade, we did not anticipate a 25.5% initial renewal proposal that was presented to us by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson worked together with our broker in reviewing

reports regarding utilization and was able to bring the renewal to 18.6%. The Village not being happy with that result continued to negotiate with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Blue Cross/Blue Shield is willing to reduce the proposed renewal amount to 7.5% during the term of the benefit year, if the Village agreed to implement several plan design changes. This adjustment is in-line with our budget allocation for FY 2011-12.

Trustee Holder explained that analysis of the plan design changes will occur over the next 60-90 days. Given the additional time required to negotiate the renewal this year, Blue Cross/Blue Shield has agreed to adjust the open enrollment period from May 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011.

Our group life insurance is provided by Fort Dearborn Life through Blue Cross/Blue Shield and has agreed to a one-year contract with no increase in premiums.

It was moved by Trustee Holder to enter into a contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for group health insurance and Fort Dearborn for group life insurance effective May 1, 2011, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Livingston stated that historically the Village Board recognizes staff effort balancing employee benefits and asked if other plans were explored. Assistant Village Manager Andri Peterson explained that the Village did ask their broker to solicit alternate quotes from other providers. Some quotes came in slightly lower; however, there was not enough time to analyze these quotes.

Trustee Kuchler inquired about the enrollment period and how plan changes will be communicated to the employees. Andri stated that a letter would go out to the employees explaining the process and employee group health insurance meetings would be scheduled in the next 30 days to discuss various plan options and receive feedback from employees.

Trustee Horvath inquired about the net effect of the 18.6% premium increase. Andri replied that \$98,000 is the net effect for the entire year; however, \$24,000 is the net effect for the 3-month period. Finance Director Lou Cipparrone stated that the additional funds needed would come out of General Fund reserves and the FEMA reimbursement of \$56,000 from the snowstorm will be the offsetting revenue to the General Fund.

Trustee Kuchler asked if it was an option to increase employees' share of the contribution. It was noted that the Village could certainly look into that option.

Trustee Palermo inquired what the dollar impact would be to employees. It was noted that employees would see a \$28.00 increase per paycheck as compared to last year. Trustee Palermo also expressed concern that the Village would have to absorb the 18.6% increase. Village Manager Bob Pilipiszyn informed the Board to be aware of the balancing act between the cost containment plan and employee participation. Employees are already sharing in the sacrifice. However, given the impact of the group health insurance renewal on the Village's budget, there is no

recourse but to ask employees to participate further in sharing the cost of providing this benefit.

Trustee Langan recommended that in order to stay within the budget plan for next year's renewal the Village should prepare an RFP for new insurance providers to be able to compare prices and receive feedback from employees regarding any plan changes. Trustees Horvath and Palermo agree that it is important to start the process for health insurance renewal earlier next year in order to receive the best possible coverage at a competitive price.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

## 6. MANAGER'S REPORT

### A. Policy Discussion — Use of In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signage

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn indicated that there were several items to review and consider this evening starting with a carry over item from January that is item A. Policy on In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signs.

Director of Public Works Ryan Gillingham gave a brief introduction regarding the use of in-street pedestrian crossing signs within the Central Business District based on requests by the Police Department and residents. Ryan presented guidelines that should be used by staff when considering deployment of In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signs throughout the Village such as the provisions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) shall be followed, the sign should only be used at key locations and the sign shall only be used at existing crosswalk locations.

Trustee Palermo expressed the need to use the signs as much as possible as weather permits especially in the Central Business District.

President Asperger stated that it was the consensus of the Village Board to support the In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signs policy and directed staff to move forward and use the signs accordingly.

### B. Public Safety Mini-Workshop — Plan and Recommendation to Replace Fire Department Ladder Truck

Mr. Pilipiszyn provided an overview of how the functional consolidation of core public safety services is one of the Village Board's long-term complex strategic goals identified in January 2010. The Fire Chief has since conducted an investigation into the feasibility of replacing the truck company ladder truck with a different type of vehicle that would better serve the needs of the department.

Mr. Pilipiszyn introduced Fire Chief Bill Bryzgalski to provide the framework of the investigation. Chief Bryzgalski stated that the Fire Department's 1993 Pierce truck company is scheduled to be replaced in FY2013-14. The estimated cost of replacement is approximately \$1.0 million. As part of the evaluation, we looked at the cost associated in maintaining the truck, and the response record for the apparatus over the past four years. Estimates indicate that \$18,000 in maintenance will be required to keep the apparatus operational. Because maintenance costs have risen dramatically, Chief Bryzgalski opined that replacing the ladder truck at this time would be more cost effective than maintaining it.

Chief Bryzgalski confirmed that the elimination of the ladder truck would not negatively impact mutual aid response requests for a ladder truck from surrounding communities.

The Chief proposes that the Village replace the ladder truck with a multi-purpose vehicle designed as a "tool box" that could respond to every call. The anticipated cost of this vehicle could be purchased within our existing financial resources and is expected to be budget neutral in the General Fund and the Equipment Replacement Fund.

The Fire Department proposes with the consensus of the Village Board to secure our mutual aid agreements to maintain a truck response within the Village, declare the ladder truck as surplus property and authorize its sale, establish a committee to develop specifications for a multi-purpose vehicle, and research other possible financial incentives.

President Asperger inquired as to the status of the Consolidation Study. Chief Bryzgalski indicated that discussion has not ensued regarding fire services but should be discussed with the committee within the next couple months. Bill also stated that three of the towns engaged in the consolidation study have trucks the same age, but only one other ladder truck is needed to serve the needs of the communities.

President Asperger requested Trustee thoughts on the proposal to replace Fire Department ladder truck. Discussion ensued among the Village Board including concerns with having a ladder truck available to the Village when necessary; the life expectancy of the fire service vehicles; the cost of maintenance repairs to prepare ladder truck for sale; the timeframe to purchase a new multi-purpose vehicle; and the reassurance that the Village has the necessary equipment available to them at all times.

President Asperger stated that it was the consensus of the Village Board to support the proposal to replace the Fire Department ladder truck with a new multi-purpose "tool box" vehicle.

C. Technology Mini-Workshop — Geographic Information System (GIS)

Mr. Pilipiszyn provided an overview of the creation and adoption of an organization-wide technology plan as one of the Village Board's short-term complex strategic goals identified during the strategic planning session in January 2010.

In July 2010, the Village's management team participated in a technology workshop discussion with the Village Board to review the Village's current uses and future technology needs. The Village Board directed staff to continue to identify specific technology needs, consult with third party sources, and to do so economically. One of the specific technology needs identified by staff was mapping and information sharing.

Mr. Pilipiszyn requested Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham to provide the framework for the presentation. Mr. Gillingham stated that the purpose of the workshop was to introduce the concept of GIS technology and provide a demonstration of the technology; to discuss existing mapping operations and specific benefits to each Village Department of an integrated GIS system; discuss staff efficiencies and effectiveness as a result of the implementation of a GIS program; and to provide direction to Village Staff on the course of GIS within the Village.

Mr. Gillingham introduced Mr. Tom Thomey, owner and senior consultant of Municipal GIS Partners, Inc. who also is the founder of the GIS Consortium and will provide an overview and demonstration of GIS technology.

Mr. Thomey proceeded with a power point presentation which detailed GIS technology and local government; a demonstration of the MapOffice Advanced software; and an overview of the GIS Consortium.

At this point in the meeting, President Asperger opened discussion to the Board. The Board initiated numerous questions related to the presentation on GIS technology and local government and participation in the GIS Consortium. Mr. Gillingham and Mr. Thomey responded to their inquiries.

President Asperger requested thoughts from the Trustees on the implementation of a Village-wide GIS system to accomplish the Village's strategic technology goal of information sharing and mapping. Considerable discussion ensued among the Village Board including: concerns with what the overall cost savings would be; how to measure the projected hard cost savings to be derived from increased staff efficiency and productivity; and the effect on the consolidation of fire and police services.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was the consensus of the Village Board to table the implementation of GIS technology for the time being. While the Board is intrigued and would like to go in this direction, budget constraints are currently such that the Village Board is not comfortable with making a commitment to such an expense at this time.

President Asperger thanked Mr. Thomey for his presentation and stated that the Village may revisit GIS technology some time in the future.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

None.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Closed Session - Matters Related to Collective Bargaining

President Asperger indicated that there would be a motion to adjourn to closed session immediately following this meeting and the Village Board would not reconvene to open session as no formal action would occur.

Trustee Langan moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters related to collective bargaining, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Motion approved by voice vote.

9 TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Livingston acknowledged the amount of staff time involved in negotiating health care coverage for employees and thanked Ms. Peterson for her hard work and determination that goes into these discussions.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Motion approved by voice vote.

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Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

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Thomas Morsch, Village Clerk

Approved Date: 05/09/11