

MINUTES

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

Monday, May 23, 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 7:34 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Thomas Morsch, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Kuchler, Langan, Nowak and Palermo

ABSENT: Trustee Horvath

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

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger welcomed newly sworn in Trustee Jeff Nowak to his first official Village Board meeting.

President Asperger noted the Village Hall would be closed on Monday, May 31, 2011 in observance of Memorial Day. A full complement of public safety personnel will be available in the event of an emergency.

Reminding residents of the upcoming Pet Parade and Ahhh! La Grange Weekend, President Asperger noted details of time and guest appearances.

Lastly, President Asperger reported on recent burglaries. Providing tips for crime prevention, President Asperger encouraged residents to contact the Police for any suspicious activity.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Contract Amendment – Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Village of La Grange and IAFF Local No. 2338 (Fire Fighters and Fire Lieutenants)
- B. Contract Amendment – Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Village of La Grange and International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 (Public Works General Utility Workers and Crew Leaders)
- C. First National Bank of La Grange – Temporary Use of a Modular Office (#O-11-13)
- D. Engineering Services Agreement – Baxter & Woodman, Inc. – Detailed Engineering and Design Services for the Resurfacing of Lot 2
- E. Engineering Services Agreement – Wiss, Jenney, Elstner Associates, Inc. – Field Testing, Detailed Structural Engineering and Design Services for Repairs to the Fire Department Apparatus Floor
- F. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Monday, May 9, 2011
- G. Consolidated Voucher 110509 (\$650,703.40)

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

President Asperger noted her desire to comment on the amendments to the union contracts, items A and B of the omnibus agenda prior to a discussion or vote. Stating the importance of maintaining a balanced budget and reducing costs in these challenging economic conditions, President Asperger thanked the Fire Union and Public Works Union for agreeing to wage concessions while currently under contract, as part of the Village's overall cost-containment plan. She recognized the teamwork required to accomplish this achievement and the organizational leadership demonstrated by these two unions as being the first two out of four bargaining units to agree to such concessions.

Motion approved by roll call vote.

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

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Status Report – Review of the Village's Operations Plan

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn noted that the Village Board has an Operations Plan that identifies the Board's strategic goals which have evolved from their planning session in January of 2010. Mr. Pilipiszyn explained that the Operations Plan is the framework for staff to note accomplishments; measure progress; and provide a time line which is reviewed on a regular basis in order to update the Village Board. Numerous Village Board Workshop discussions were conducted and have provided guidance and direction to staff on Board priorities.

Mr. Pilipiszyn identified and provided details on the list of priorities that will continue to occupy the attention of the Village Board and staff over the next several months, those being: stabilization of Village finances via the cost-containment plan; economic development; updating of the zoning code; traffic management and pedestrian safety; sewer improvements; reviewing the findings and recommendations from a study evaluating shared public safety services, pension funding, and technology.

Prior to Board discussion of the Operations Plan, Mr. Pilipiszyn made several suggestions and recommendations to improve the Operations Plan as a more effective and less cumbersome document. Mr. Pilipiszyn noted that if the Village Board concurs with the proposed changes, they will be implemented by September at which time a different form of dialogue can take place.

Looking towards the next strategic planning session, Mr. Pilipiszyn suggested a reduction in the number of priorities and to carry forward several of the higher-order priorities into the next session in order to continue progress and achieve substantial completion.

President Asperger thanked Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn for his report and opened the floor to the Board for discussion.

Trustee Holder inquired if any priorities were pushed back or fell off because of the volume of workload. Mr. Pilipiszyn said no, and proceeded to explain how he thought there was no other way to address the Village Board's priorities then the way they have been over the past eighteen months, beginning with a series of multiple, policy oriented discussions followed by corresponding budget proposals. Trustee Holder noted that he was impressed by the depth and additions to the plan, and the tangible strategies and actions contained therein. He supported the separation of the recording component from the management tool component, and encouraged staff to continue to work on the Village Board's major goals.

After receiving clarification from Mr. Pilipiszyn, Trustee Kuchler acknowledged concurrence with the need to condense the list, and also expressed an interest to see more clearly what priorities have been completed and those left to accomplish, in their order of importance among the four planning categories.

Trustee Langan stated that he was impressed with what the Village has undertaken, adding that managing and building the document is on-going. Trustee Langan suggested that a way to simplify the plan would be to identify for the Village Board: if a project has started, where is the Village in the process including roadblocks, and deadlines. Trustee Langan continued by noting that the plan includes a lot of internal parts. In his opinion, not every task and timeframe needs to be included. The plan should provide the Village Board with a briefer snapshot / more of an overview method on the progress of priorities and as things get added, to let the Village Board know that as well.

Trustee Kuchler feels the Operations Plan should be limited to what the Village Board originally identified as priorities from their two day retreat, and not increased. Those priorities were set and agreed to, and should now be managed.

Trustee Palermo stated that he was undecided between a more abbreviated plan and one as detailed. He observed that since the planning session, it appears that the Village's complex tasks have become more complex, and even simple tasks have become more involved, leading him to believe that a short list of priorities would be appropriate.

He also observed that the priorities were not evenly distributed between operating departments.

President Asperger noted that the Operations Plan continues to evolve and grow.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Harlan Hirt, 421 S. Spring presented President Asperger with a copy of his correspondence to the Environmental Quality Control Commission regarding the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer and requested President Asperger to share the document with the entire Board. Mr. Hirt expressed his concerns related to the capacity of the Village's sewer system in relationship to the deep tunnel. He suggested that to the extent that we support the MWRD's efforts to expand and complete the reservoir component of the Deep Tunnel Project, we should do so.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Holder expressed his gratitude to the Village's team and the Unions for working together for cost containment amendments to the union contracts. In addition, Trustee Holder commented on the positive business marketing efforts put forth by the Community Development Department.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Palermo.
Motion approved by voice vote.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Thomas Morsch, Village Clerk

06/13/11
Approved Date