

MINUTES

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

Monday, July 28, 2008 - 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 Robert Milne, the following were present:

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson
Village Attorney Paula Kirlin
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Assistant Public Works Director Mike Bojovic
Police Lt. Vic Arnold
Fire Chief David Fleege
Doings Reporter Jane Michaels

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger explained that the developer for the Village Bluffs condominium project has requested an extension until July 31, 2009. Village code does allow for one extension which has been granted to the developer.

The La Grange Memorial Hospital has begun the demolition of the professional office building and hopes to be completed by the first of September.

President Asperger indicated the next regularly scheduled Village Board meeting on Monday, August 11 will be canceled. The next regularly scheduled Village Board meeting will be on Monday, August 25 and will be followed by a workshop session for continued discussion of the La Grange Theatre. The public was encouraged to attend.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Thom Rae of Brookfield expressed concerns with the timeline for review and release of closed session minutes.

Bernard Martin, 901 W. Hillgrove noted his representation in the absence of Mr. Brannen for the ordinance relating to the Design Review Permit.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. (Moved to Current Business for further discussion.)
- B. Award of Contract – Economic Development / “Festival Lighting” Along La Grange Road (Holiday Concepts, Romeoville, Illinois not to exceed \$35,100)
- C. Open Meetings Act – Review of Closed Session Minutes
- D. Purchase – Fire Department / Cardiac Monitor / Defibrillator (Zoll Medical Corporation, Chelmsford, Massachusetts - \$19,254.30)
- E. Resolution (#R-08-08) Supporting The City of Chicago’s Bid for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- F. Consolidated Voucher 080728 (\$598,653.99)
- G. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, July 14, 2008

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

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve items B, C, D, E, F, and G of the Omnibus Agenda, seconded by Trustee Horvath. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, Palermo, Wolf and President Asperger
Nays: None
Absent: None

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- 4-A. Ordinance (#O-08-20) – Design Review Permit (DRP) #74, 71-71 South La Grange Road Fifth Avenue Property Management / Lawrence Brannen (Removed from Omnibus for further discussion.)

Trustee Kuchler expressed his concerns with the design plan for this project and would like to remand it back to the Design Review Commission for enhancements.

Trustee Langan noted his desire to create the appearance of three different stores.

Mr. Martin, on behalf of his client, explained that time is of essence and believes that his client has in good faith presented a doable plan for the area.

Trustee Wolf noted the need for the property owner to move forward and remanding it back to the Design Review Commission would be an undesirable delay for the property owner.

Trustee Palermo requested staff to elaborate on the criteria used by the Design Review Commission. Patrick Benjamin, Community Development Director reviewed the criteria listed within the application.

Trustee Palermo noted that, absent some defined scope of enhanced design, it is difficult to compel the applicant to make such changes at this time. Those improvements could be costly and effect the owner's return on investment..

President Asperger suggested a compromise whereby the property owner could commence with interior buildout, but be required to pursue alternative exterior designs.

Trustee Wolf noted that it was important to her to fill vacant storefronts.

Trustee Livingston inquired if the property owner had previously applied for a façade loan and Mr. Benjamin could not recall.

Trustee Horvath concurred with Trustee Wolf that tenanting the building was important; that the property owner has a self-interest to improve the façade to attract quality tenants; and that he may have felt differently about directing appearance if this was a façade loan application.

Trustee Kuchler stated that now is the time to direct the appearance of the building; that there is no guarantee that the owner will improve the façade; and that the Village will not have the ability to enforce an upgrade in appearance if the current design is approved.

Trustee Kuchler moved to remand the ordinance granting a Design Review Permit for the property at 71-75 South La Grange Road back to the Design Review Commission, seconded by Trustee Livingston.

Motion fails by a 5-1 roll call vote.

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

Trustee Palermo moved to approve the ordinance granting a Design Review Permit for the property at 71-75 South La Grange Road, seconded by Trustee Wolf.

Approved by a 5-1 roll call vote.

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

A. Special Event – La Grange Business Association “West End Art Festival”:
Referred to Trustee Livingston

Trustee Livingston stated that the Village has received a request from the La Grange Business Association to conduct the 13th annual “West End Art Festival” on Saturday, September 6 and Sunday, September 7, 2008.

Trustee Livingston explained that it is necessary for the Village to formally approve the temporary closure of Burlington Avenue and portions of Stone and Waiola Avenues for the outdoor display and to waive restrictions for the outdoor display and sale of goods and services in the C-2 Zoning District.

It was moved by Trustee Livingston that the Village Board authorize the La Grange Business Association to utilize Burlington Avenue from Waiola Avenue to Brainard Avenue for the “West End Art Festival” on September 6 and 7, 2008; that restrictions prohibiting outdoor display and sale of goods and services be waived in conjunction with this event; and that all conditions be satisfied, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

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

Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin indicated that the auction for the decorated lounge chairs, would take place on Thursday, September 4, 2008.

6. MANAGER’S REPORT

None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON AGENDA

Thom Rae, resident of Brookfield noted that the Freedom of Information Request he filed on May 23, 2008 was partially denied and he believes he should have been granted the documents he requested.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Kuchler commended the Back Door Theater group on a recent production.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:20 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Horvath. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

Approved Date