

MINUTES

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

Monday, October 22, 2007 - 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, Livingston, Palermo and Wolf

ABSENT: Trustee Langan

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Village Attorney Mark Burkland
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Public Works Director Ken Watkins
Assistant Public Works Director Mike Bojovic
Police Lieutenant Arnold
Fire Chief David Fleege
Doings Reporter Ken Knutson
Suburban Life Reporter Joe Sinopoli

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger explained that Trustee Langan was not present due to a death in his family.

A. Oath of Office – Firefighter / Paramedic Christopher Cox

President Asperger stated that a vacancy occurred within the Fire Department and the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commission appointed Christopher Cox to the position of Firefighter / Paramedic effective October 15, 2007. President Asperger welcomed Christopher who is a licensed paramedic and currently attending the Firefighter II Academy in order to achieve his training certification. Village Clerk Milne administered the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic Christopher Cox.

President Asperger encouraged the public to attend the Plan Commission meeting tomorrow evening and participate in the public hearing of the proposed redevelopment of the former YMCA property. Prior to the public hearing, the Park District will make a presentation regarding their future plans for Gordon Park.

The La Grange Business Association will hold their Halloween Walk on Saturday, October 27 and Village recommended trick-or-treat hours will be from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31.

President Asperger announced the retirement of police canine Max and his handler Officer Randy Pacana. Officer Pacana will continue to serve the Village as a Police Officer and will permanently adopt Max into his family. Sergeant Erik Berg and new police canine Dak will complete specialized training prior to assuming duties.

President Asperger also announced the retirement of Public Works Officer Manager Chris Dosselman who is moving to Ohio. Chris has served the Village for the past 20 years and will be sorely missed.

Lastly, President Asperger announced that following the formal Village Board meeting this evening, the Board will reconvene in an informal workshop setting to discuss TIF planning which will be televised live and taped for future public viewing.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Ordinance (#O-07-34) – Creation of a Four-Way Stop Intersection / Cossitt Avenue and Madison Avenue
- B. Ordinance (#O-07-35) – Disposal of Surplus Property
- C. Resolution (#R-07-09) Plat of Dedication – Block 230 Alley Right-of-Way
- D. Purchase – Public Works Department – Replacement of Portable Air Compressor (Volvo Construction, Villa Park, Illinois - \$12,650)
- E. Consolidated Voucher 071022 (\$545,807.02)
- F. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, October 8, 2007

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

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

Trustee Horvath commented that the four-way stop at Madison Avenue and Cossitt Avenue was a good outcome, and that the Village should consider stop signs around all school properties at intersections that the Village controls.

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Preliminary Review of The Proposed 2007 Property Tax Levy Request: Referred to Trustee Kuchler (Resolution #R-07-10)

Trustee Kuchler stated that this is a preliminary review of the proposed 2007 property tax levy request and explained that the Truth in Taxation Law requires a preliminary review of the proposed tax levy at least 20 days prior to its adoption. If the aggregate levy is more than 5% greater than the preceding year's extension, exclusive of debt service, the Village must hold a public hearing before adopting the proposed property tax levy. Since the proposed Truth in Taxation levy request, excluding debt service, shows a total increase of 3.88% over the prior years' extension, the Village of La Grange is not required to hold a public hearing regarding the 2007 property tax levy. Trustee Kuchler indicated the Property Tax Limitation Act limits the increase in property tax extensions, exclusive of debt service and new property growth, to 5%, or the percent increase of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) whichever is less. The CPI for the 2007 tax levy determined as of December 2006 was 2.5%.

Trustee Kuchler gave a detailed explanation of the Village limiting rate; the General Fund levy; Police and Fire Pension Fund levies; and debt service levies noting that the 2007 levy funds the final debt installment on the Police and Fire facility.

Trustee Kuchler noted that the La Grange Public Library is a municipal library not a library district, therefore the library levy is a part of the Village levy. The Library's tax levy request represents an increase of 3.88% over the 2006 property tax levy extension.

At this time the Village is merely announcing the 2007 preliminary tax levy and the ordinance adopting the 2007 tax levy will be presented at the December 10th Village Board meeting.

Trustee Kuchler requested Mr. Tim Sharpe the Village's Actuarial Consultant to elaborate on the history and future of Police and Fire Pension Fund levies. Mr.

Sharpe spoke favorably on the financial position for both funds, noting that the Village has met or exceeded funding requirements.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler that the Village Board approve the Resolution announcing the estimated 2007 tax levy of \$6,792,632, exclusive of debt service, which is a 3.88% increase from the 2006 tax levy, seconded by Trustee Livingston.

Trustee Palermo inquired about interest calculations from a one-time contribution to a pension fund and Mr. Sharpe responded.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

B. Presentation by La Grange Theater: Referred to President Asperger

President Asperger explained that the La Grange Theater compliments local businesses and with its historic architecture is an asset to the community. Although the current owners of the theater have begun to renovate the building, years of neglect and compliance with current code factors has been challenging. President Asperger introduced owner John Rot and co-owner David Rizner to expand on their vision for the future of the theater.

Mr. Rot thanked Village President Asperger and the Board for the opportunity to speak and noted some of the history related to the theater along with some of the improvements which have been made. Mr. Rizner explained that they are attempting to attract an audience by offering performing arts, live entertainment, private parties, and school groups looking for a first class facility.

Mr. Rot noted that they are seeking help from the Village to maintain and preserve the theater and would like an opportunity to provide the Board a business plan for renovation and proposals to help save the theater.

President Asperger recognized that a future workshop discussion could be scheduled and requested thoughts and comments from the Board.

Trustee Kuchler believes the theater is a great asset for teens and asked if future plans include a move towards a more mature audience. Mr. Rot responded that they clearly intend to maintain events and movies for both adults and teens. Trustee Kuchler inquired if the owners intend to reduce the number of screens and Mr. Rot replied no.

Trustee Horvath agreed that the theater is an asset to the community and expressed his interest in receiving additional details.

Trustee Palermo also expressed his interest in details and a subsequent workshop discussion.

President Asperger noted consensus of the Board to schedule a workshop following the regular Village Board meeting on November 12 to discuss and deliberate options for the preservation of the La Grange theater.

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Dave May, 400 S. Eighth Avenue as President of School District 102 and on behalf of School Districts 102 and 204 would like to acknowledge the success of the TIF plan which has helped the downtown to flourish. As TIF is scheduled to end with the 2009 TIF tax levy (24th levy) which is collected in 2010, school districts are requesting that the Village Board consider entering an intergovernmental agreement to waive the 24th tax levy. Mr. May also requested that TIF funds not be utilized for infrastructure improvements; these projects should be weighed against educational needs.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

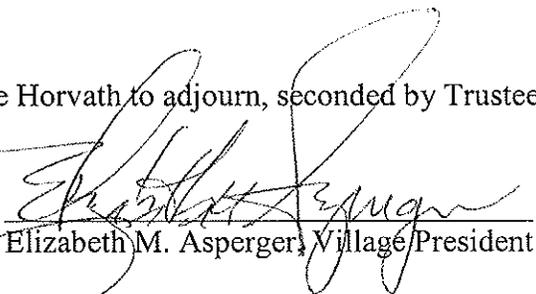
Trustee Livingston noted that in conjunction with fire prevention month he had an opportunity to attend the fire training academy and commended the La Grange Fire Department for their professionalism.

Trustee Kuchler indicated he had received input from several residents regarding the YMCA property and acknowledged their thoughts and comments.

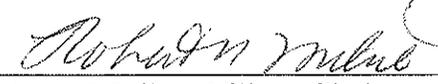
Trustee Horvath offered thanks to Mr. May for his comments relating to TIF.

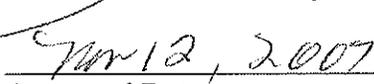
10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Horvath to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Approved by unanimous voice vote.


Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:


Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk


Approved Date