

MINUTES

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

Monday, December 11, 2006 - 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 7:35 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were:

PRESENT: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston (arrived 7:40 p.m.), Pann and Wolf with President Asperger presiding.

ABSENT: Trustee Cremieux

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 Ken Watkins
Police Chief Mike Holub
Fire Chief David Fleege
Suburban Life Reporter Joe Sinopoli
Doings Reporter Ken Knutson

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Employee Recognition – Police Officer Miles Odom for His Active Military Service in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom

President Asperger explained to the audience that in April of 2005, La Grange Police Officer Miles Odom reported for active military duty with the United States Army in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Noting his numerous promotions and awards as part of a Military Intelligence Unit, President Asperger and the Village Board recognized his service to our country and presented Miles with a Commemorative Iraqi Freedom Medal and Certificate.

B. Employee Recognition – Police Department Employees and Others
Involved in a Recent Burglary-In-Progress Call

On November 30, 2006 several members of the Police Department helped to foil an attempted residential burglary. President Asperger recognized Lieutenant Chris Noel, Sergeant Renee Strasser, Officer Russ Chorley, Officer Duane Murray, Investigator Rob Wardlaw, Investigator Dave Rohlicek, Telecommunications Operator Holly Seymour and Telecommunications Operator Kathy Lockwood for their outstanding performance of duty. These individuals were nominated for a Unit Citation which is awarded to a group or team of employees who in concert have performed an exceptionally valuable act in the line of duty, including an investigation, tactical operation or other endeavor leading to a major arrest, a significant arrest, a key accomplishment in the area of crime prevention or community service. President Asperger and the Village Board recognized these employees for their dedication and service to the Village.

President Asperger expressed pride having received notification from the Cook County Sheriff's Office of several young adults from La Grange who have volunteered more than 100 hours of their time to service in the community.

With sadness and deep concern, President Asperger announced a fatal shooting which occurred yesterday afternoon in the vicinity of Lincoln Avenue and Washington Avenue. President Asperger indicated that the Police Department received a 911 call from an individual who reported hearing shots fired, whereby Police and Fire emergency units immediately responded. The victim, a 41 year old male Village resident, was transported to Loyola University Medical Center, however did not survive his injuries.

President Asperger strongly advocated the Village's aggressive response to this situation. La Grange Police took immediate action and with the help of the South Suburban Task Force, 40 criminal investigators became involved in attempting to solve the crime. Explaining that this is not just a neighborhood problem but rather a community problem, President Asperger noted the Village will use every available resource to maintain safety and security. President Asperger announced the establishment of a permanent tip line (708) 579-0688, whereby residents can report any gang or criminal activity while remaining anonymous.

President Asperger encouraged residents to reach out to their neighbors and use whatever resources to report inappropriate or criminal behavior in La Grange, noting that La Grange is a community that cares and works together. President Asperger encouraged residents to assist the Police Department in their search for individuals in order to help eliminate criminal behavior.

The Village Board held a special meeting on December 4, 2006 at which time approval was given for a three story, mixed use development project known as La Grange Pointe. Representatives from Inland Real Estate and HBD Cambridge are in the audience this evening and the Village is looking forward to working with them for the development of this retail and senior urban living facility.

Congratulations were extended to the La Grange Business Association on their successful Holiday Walk.

President Asperger stated the Plan Commission meeting scheduled on Tuesday, December 12 will continue discussion of zoning code amendments along with considering a second medical office building on the La Grange Memorial Hospital campus.

Lastly, President Asperger noted the Village Board would not meet again until after the holiday season.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Tony Casaccio, President of Inland Real Estate extended special thanks to President Asperger, Trustee Horvath and Village staff for meeting to resolve issues relating to the La Grange Pointe development project and emphasized the project would commence this Spring.

Dave Sanders of HBD Cambridge and Tim Flanagan of Midco concurred with Mr. Casaccio's sentiments.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Ordinance (#O-06-38) Design Review permit (DRP) #71-35 S. La Grange Road, Norman Titiner, on Behlaf of Allen Greenberg, Property Owner
- B. Resolution (#R-06-24) – Emergency Services and Disaster Planning / Establishment of a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- C. Resolution (#S-06-25) Application for Grant Funds / Emergency Services and Disaster Planning – Waiola Park Outdoor Warning Siren System
- D. Agreement – Emergency Services and Disaster Planning / Agreement to utilize St. Cletus Church as an Emergency Community Staging Site
- E. Engineering Services Agreement – Neighborhood “G” Street Resurfacing project (Heuer & Associates \$165,927)

- F. Consolidated Voucher 061211 - \$535,535.40
- G. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Town Meeting, Monday, November 27, 2006
- H. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Special Meeting, Monday, December 4, 2006

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

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann, Wolf and President Asperger
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Cremieux

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance (#O-06-39) - Abatement of 2006 Tax Levy / 2005 Street Light Refunding Bonds: Referred to Trustee Horvath

Trustee Horvath explained that in 1998 the Village Board approved the issuance of alternate revenue bonds, which mature in 2017, to complete the Residential Streetlight Program. Due to more favorable interest rates in 2005, the Village adopted an ordinance authorizing the refunding of the remaining outstanding bonds, thereby saving the Village approximately \$100,000 in interest. Trustee Horvath added that the Series 2005 bond issue is a general obligation, alternate revenue source issue, backed by the full faith and credit of the Village. Revenues derived from the collection of utility taxes are pledged to pay the principal and interest expenditures related to this issue. Because sufficient revenues from the utility tax are available within the General Fund, it is appropriate to abate this portion of the tax levy.

It was moved by Trustee Horvath to approve the Ordinance abating taxes levied for 2006 with respect to the \$2,785,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Alternate Revenue Source, Series 2005, in the amount of \$281,958, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann, and Wolf
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Cremieux

- B. Resolution - Levying a Tax for Library Operating Purposes: Referred to Trustee Horvath

Trustee Horvath explained that because the La Grange Library is a “municipal library” rather than a separate “public library district” it must levy property taxes as part of the Village of La Grange tax levy. The La Grange Library Board of Trustees’ 2006 levy request for operating purposes in FY 2006-07 is \$1,614,024 which is a 4.37% increase over last year’s tax levy. This is the allowable increase under the Property Tax Limitation Act and is equal to the increase of the Village tax levy request.

Trustee Horvath noted that Library Director Steve Moskal is in attendance to answer any questions.

It was moved by Trustee Horvath to accept La Grange Public Library Resolution No. R-11-A-2006, approved by the Library Board, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann and Wolf
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Cremieux

C. Ordinance (No. O-06-40) - Property Tax Levy for Village Operations:
Referred to Trustee Horvath

Trustee Horvath explained that since the tax levy did not exceed Truth in Taxation requirements it was not necessary to hold a public hearing to adopt the final levy. The final tax levy includes an increase of 4.37%, exclusive of debt service, over the prior year’s tax extension. The increase reflects the allowable increase under the Property Tax Limitation Act of 3.4% (Consumer Price Index) as of December 2005.

Trustee Horvath noted that on average, a home with a property value of \$250,000 would only incur an annual increase of \$25.13 from the Village levy and \$1.36 from the Library levy.

Although a Special Service Area levy is filed with Cook County to fund on-going maintenance of the Central Business District, it is not subject to Truth in Taxation requirements. By ordinance the Special Service Area levy is to be adjusted annually by the Consumer Price Index utilized as part of the Property Tax Limitation Act. Trustee Horvath noted the 2006 Special Service Area levy of \$53,406 reflects an increase of 3.4% over last year’s levy of \$51,650.

Although there was no discussion, President Asperger informed the audience that the Board of Trustees has thoroughly reviewed documentation provided to them prior to this meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Horvath to adopt the ordinance requesting a 2006 property tax levy of \$6,479,360, exclusive of debt service, which is a 4.37% increase from the 2005 levy, seconded by Trustee Pann. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann and Wolf
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Cremieux

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn announced the holiday schedule with Village offices being closed at noon on December 22 and 29 and all day on December 25 and January 1, 2007. Police and Fire Departments would remain operative. Public Works would be available for emergency call-backs.

The refuse schedule for pick-up during the holidays for residents north of 47th Street would be Tuesday, December 26 and Tuesday, January 2. For residents south of 47th Street refuse pick-up would be on Friday, December 29 and Friday, January 5.

Beginning Tuesday, December 26 through Thursday, January 11, holiday trees will be picked up at the parkway at no cost to residents.

The next regularly scheduled Village Board meeting will be Monday, January 8, 2007.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

None

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Closed Session – Purchase, Sale or Lease of Real Property

It was moved by Trustee Langan and seconded by Trustee Pann to convene in the lower level conference room for Executive Session to discuss the purchase, sale, or lease of real property. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann and Wolf
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Cremieux

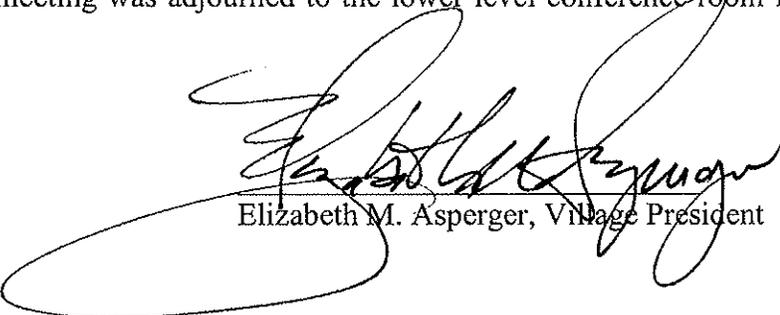
9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Livingston commented on the combined efforts and successful initiative arrived with the developers for La Grange Pointe.

Trustee Langan expressed good wishes for the holidays to all.

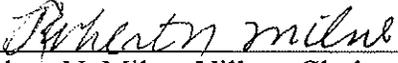
10. ADJOURNMENT

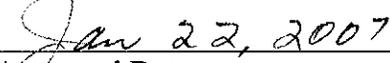
At 8:15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the lower level conference room for closed session.



Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:


Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk


Approved Date