

MINUTES

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

Monday, May 8, 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 7:33 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were:

PRESENT: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann, and Wolf with President Asperger presiding.

ABSENT: Trustee Cremieux

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Village Attorney Mark Burkland
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Village Planner Angela Mesaros
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Public Works Director Ken Watkins
Police Chief Mike Holub
Fire Chief David Fleege
Suburban Life Reporter Tara Alexander

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger recognized Mr. Bob Foskett from LTTV who has faithfully served the Village by televising and taping Village Board meetings and special events for many years. On behalf of the Village Board, President Asperger expressed sincere thanks to Mr. Foskett who will be retiring in June.

President Asperger indicated that Arbor Day was celebrated on April 28 with the planting of a New Bradford pear tree at St. Cletus School and thanked Village Forester Don Wachter for conducting this event.

Kiwanis Park was the new location for the La Grange Garden Club's annual plant sale last Saturday, May 6. President Asperger expressed appreciation to the Garden Club for a delightful event.

President Asperger noted that residents who utilize Parking Lot #2 located on the northeast corner of Harris Avenue and Sixth Avenue, were invited to attend a neighborhood meeting on Thursday, May 4, in order to advise them of the potential development of the lot, present alternate parking options and discuss related issues. Staff was directed by the Village Board to engage residents in this manner before any further consideration would be given to the potential development of this site.

New "Ahhh! La Grange" street banners have been installed along La Grange Road depicting the diverse shopping, dining and entertainment experience in the Village.

President Asperger announced that the State has reviewed and approved the Village's non-Home Rule Sales Tax Ordinance which imposes a ¼ of 1% increase on sales tax for general merchandise and was approved by referendum in 2004. This increase, which becomes effective July 1, 2006, will be used for maintenance of the Central Business District including the new parking structure.

The Zoning Code Review Committee will meet again on Tuesday, May 16 to further discuss bulk yard and space requirements. President Asperger noted this committee has worked very hard and hopes to complete its review and forward a set of recommendations to the Plan Commission thereafter.

Lastly, President Asperger introduced and welcomed the Village's newest Part-time Police Officers, Adam Kalar and Jorge Gonzalez.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee Pann stated that he would recuse himself from item 4 E of the Omnibus due to his ownership of property in the Central Business District.

Trustee Pann also requested that item 4 C of the Omnibus be changed to extend the parking restrictions to Gilbert Avenue in place of Peck Avenue.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Ordinance (#O-06-07) Variation – Front Yard Setback / Vytas Balciunas, 79 Bluff Avenue
- B. Ordinance (#O-06-08) Consolidation of Lots / Paul A. Paul on Behalf of Brandon Mines, 220 Sawyer

- C. Ordinance (#O-06-09) Creation of Parking Restrictions / Bell Avenue Between Drexel Avenue and Peck Avenue (Gilbert Avenue)
- D. Ordinance (#O-06-10) Abatement of 2005 Tax Levy / 2005 Street Light Refunding Bonds
- E. Ordinance (#O-06-11) Partial Abatement of 2005 Tax Levy / Special Service Area No 7: Central Business District Maintenance
- F. Award of Contract – Sewer Televising (Resolution #R-06-12 and Budget Amendment) – Visu-Sewer, Bridgeview, Illinois - \$88,189.
- G. Award of Contract – 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program – M & A Cement Works, Inc., Bensenville, Illinois \$50,000 for 2006 & 2007
- H. Award of Contract – Public Works Department / Update to Water System Telemetry Equipment – SPD Industries, Schaumburg, Illinois - \$16,047.46
- I. Purchase – Public Works Department / Replacement of Aerial Lift Bucket Truck – Prairie International under State contract cab and chassis \$46,274 / Dueco Equipment, Waukesha, Wisconsin chipper box and aerial lift \$63,550, less trade-in of \$13,500 for a net total cost of \$50,050
- J. Purchase Public Works Department / Sub-Compact Sweeper – Atlas Companies, Schiller Park, Illinois \$67,186
- K. Purchase – Police Department / Replacement of Parking Enforcement Vehicle - Voss Equipment, Harvey, Illinois \$22,959
- L. Ordinance (#O-06-12) – Disposal of Surplus Property
- M. Resolution (#R-06-13) Request to Close La Grange Road / Pet Parade
- N. Consolidated Voucher 0602424 - \$527,953.41
- O. Consolidated Voucher 060508 - \$563,217.24
- P. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, April 10, 2006
- Q. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, April 24, 2006

It was moved by Trustee Langan and seconded by Trustee Pann to amend item 4 C of the Omnibus that if granted, the parking restrictions be

extended to Gilbert Avenue. Police Chief Holub explained that the Parking Commission limited its recommendation to the request at hand. Police Chief Holub also stated that extending the parking restriction by one block to Gilbert Avenue would be appropriate.

It was moved by Trustee Pann to approve items A, B, amended C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, and Q of the Omnibus, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann, Wolf and President Asperger
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Cremieux
Abstain: Trustee Pann item 4 E

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Ordinance (#O-06-13) – Sewer Rate Increase: Referred to Trustee Wolf

Trustee Wolf stated that since the inception of the sewer fund, the Village has been striving toward making the fund a viable, self supporting enterprise fund. In addition, the Village has attempted to update and replace sewer infrastructure to coincide with street renovation projects. With over \$1.2 million being invested in repairs and replacement of sewer mains over the past four years along with corrective and preventive maintenance, sewer fund reserves have been significantly reduced. Trustee Wolf explained that in May of 2003 the Village Board approved the first of five annual 5% increases in the sewer rate in order to accumulate funds to continue updating sewer infrastructure. Trustee Wolf noted that this increase is less than \$5 annually for an average La Grange household.

It was moved by Trustee Wolf to approve the ordinance which increases La Grange's existing sewer rate by 5% from \$.662 cents per one hundred cubic feet to \$.695 cents per one hundred cubic feet, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

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

B. Professional Services Agreement – Central Business District Wayfinding Signage System: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan noted the need for wayfinding signage to aid pedestrians and motorists in locating and accessing parking areas as well as shopping and civic destinations throughout the Central Business District. Criteria for consulting services by way of requests for proposals for the wayfinding signage project were reviewed by staff.

Based on project needs, qualifications, references and submittals, Schreiber/Anderson Associates, Inc. from Madison, Wisconsin and Hitchcock Design Group from Naperville, Illinois were invited for an interview with the advisory committee. After significant review and consideration Schreiber/Anderson Associates was the unanimous choice of the advisory committee.

Trustee Langan noted the project would consist of three phases. At this time, the consultant is being engaged to provide planning services for Phases I and II in the amount of \$66,788 or one third of the overall project budget. Trustee Langan added that \$200,000 in TIF Funds have been budgeted for the project.

The professional services agreement between Schreiber/Anderson Associates, Inc. and the Village of La Grange has been reviewed by the Village Attorney and Mr. Gil Jevne from Schreiber/Anderson Associates, Inc. is available to answer any questions.

Trustee Langan moved to approve the professional services agreement with Schreiber/Anderson Associates, Inc. to provide consulting services for a new wayfinding signage system for the Central Business District in an amount not to exceed \$66,788, seconded by Trustee Livingston.

Trustee Livingston feels it is a good process and inquired as to what happens next. Mr. Jevne explained that once the agreement is approved they will begin to observe pedestrian and traffic patterns and collect data. Next they would meet with the advisory committee and staff to present concepts in design to further develop the downtown way finding system.

Trustee Wolf inquired if wayfinding signage could be incorporated throughout the entire Village and was informed that because TIF Funds were being used it is necessary to remain within the TIF District, however the concept could be looked at for other areas.

Trustee Horvath inquired if the budgeted amount would suffice for the project and was informed that would be determined by design.

Trustee Pann recused himself from voting on this issue due to his ownership of property in the TIF District.

Approved by 4 to 0 roll call vote.

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

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Pilipiszyn announced that the annual Farmers' Market is scheduled to begin on Thursday, May 18 from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. through mid-October and will be located on the surface lot north of the parking structure.

Manager Pilipiszyn added that the Village of La Grange Department of Public Works will begin its annual Hydrant Flushing Program the week of May 15 and continuing through the end of June. Mr. Pilipiszyn explained that crews will work at night between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and signage would be posted notifying residents that crews will be working in their neighborhood. Residents are advised to run their tap should they experience "rusty water" and if they need additional information or have questions to contact the Public Works Department at 579-2328.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Mony Chabria, 911 S. Stone expressed concerns with the Zoning Code Review Committee's proceedings. Specifically, with regards to height allowances and floor area ratio. Mr. Chabria also stated that the Village needs to protect existing homes and neighborhoods with different zoning restrictions, and that overbuilding in La Grange continues. Mr. Chabria feels that the committee is valuing input from builders over residents.

Trustee Langan noted the Zoning Code Review Committee being fair and impartial and taking all aspects into consideration for the entire Village before making recommendations to the Plan Commission. Trustee Langan explained that the process and substance for reviewing potential amendments to the Village Code was an outgrowth of the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan. The proposed height and bulk amendments, which are more restrictive, accomplishes the same goal as a floor area ratio requirement. The Commission also considered separate zoning districts, but concluded that it would be too complicated to administer and may create unintended consequences.

Village Attorney Burkland was in agreement with Trustee Langan and added that the Committee has been responsive to citizen concerns and input.

President Asperger noted that the Plan Commission will receive a complete report and comprehensive summary.

Jeannine McLaughlin, 242 S. Peck Avenue complimented the Village on the improvements and beautification along Hillgrove Avenue. Ms. McLaughlin also publicly thanked Mr. Bob Foskett for his work in televising events on the local cable channel and wished him well in his retirement.

Reverend Debra Williams inquired what the impact on each household is for increases such as sales tax and sewer rate and could the Village provide a summary of all such increases. President Asperger explained that the ¼ of 1% increase on sales tax is for items purchased in the Village and the sewer rate is approximately \$5 additional per year. President Asperger added that although the Village incurred an increase in water rates, it did not pass that on to residents.

Reverend Williams inquired how the contract bidding process works. Village Attorney Burkland explained that the Village is required to publish request for bids in a local publication or publication specific to the project. Sealed bids are opened and read aloud at a designated time and place and the Village accepts the low bid.

Mike La Pidus, Vice President of the La Grange Business Association commented on upcoming events including Ahhh La Grange Weekend on June 2 the Craft Fair in July; the West End Art Fair in September; the Halloween Walk in October; the Christmas Walk in December and special activities on Thursday evenings during the summer months.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Closed Session – Personnel Matters and the Purchase, Sale or Lease of Real Property

It was moved by Trustee Langan and seconded by Trustee Horvath to convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and the purchase, sale of 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

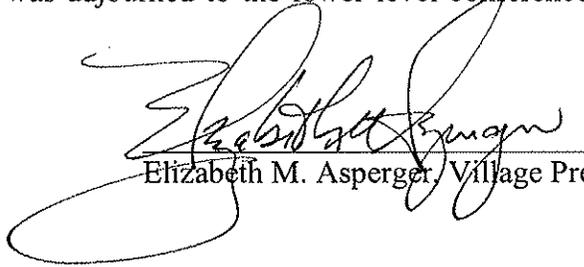
Trustee Livingston complimented all who took part in the review of the zoning code and encouraged continued questions and input from residents.

Trustee Wolf noted that the Village is only a small part of taxes implemented on residents reminding the audience that the Park District and Public Library have had referendums approved by the voters. Reverend Williams hoped the Village Board would take into consideration the total tax impact on residents.

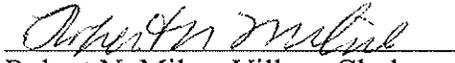
Trustee Langan publicly thanked Trustee Pann for his part in the new "Ahhh! La Grange" banners. Trustee Langan also expressed his thanks to Bob Foskett of LTTV for his years of televising for the Village.

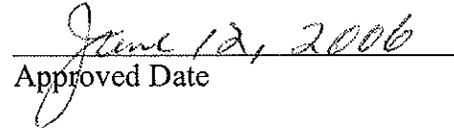
10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:40 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