MINUTES

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

Monday, January 23, 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 7:30 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were:

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Assistant Village Manager Sharon Peterson
Village Attorney Maureen Brown
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Public Works Director Ken Watkins
Police Chief Mike Holub
Fire Chief David Fleege
Doings Reporter Ken Knutson
Suburban Life Reporter Sara Luneburg

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger began the meeting with the recognition of four employees who have served the Village for numerous years. After giving a brief history of their background, President Asperger requested Fire Chief David Fleege and Police Chief Mike Holub respectively to introduce the employees and invite them forward to receive recognition and congratulations from the Village Board.

A. Employee Recognition – Firefighter Ken Straube – 45 Years of Service

B. Employee Recognition Firefighter John Kurtz – 27 Years of Service

C. Employee Recognition – Police Officer Duane Murray – 25 Years of Service

D. Employee Recognition – Police Sergeant Marge Kielczynski – 25 Years of Service

President Asperger announced that on Monday, January 30 the Village Board would meet in the lower level conference room as an Executive Committee to conduct a workshop discussing capital projects as part of the Village's 5-year financial plan. President Asperger explained that this is the beginning of the Village's budget development process.

President Asperger indicated that the Ad-Hoc Zoning Code Review Committee has received many comments and staff, along with the Village Attorney are in the process of reviewing the information received in order to present recommendations to the committee. A February meeting is being considered and notification will be given when the exact date and time are confirmed.

Redevelopment of the property at 9601 E. Ogden Avenue is being considered. President Asperger noted that the Plan Commission has recommended the vacation of an adjacent public alley in order to facilitate redevelopment. The property owner will need to obtain a Design Review Permit prior to this matter coming before the Village Board.

Lastly, President Asperger noted that the Final Development Plan for La Grange Pointe, which is the three-story mixed use development on the former International House of Pancake (IHOP) restaurant property, has been recommended for approval by the Plan Commission contingent upon compliance of certain criteria. This item should come before the Village Board in the near future. In the interim, the developer has agreed for the Village to continue to utilize the property as a public parking lot.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Rob Wessel, 223 S. Peck noted he had previously made a freedom of information (FOI) request for minutes listed as item H under the Omnibus Agenda and was denied them because they were in draft form. President Asperger indicated that minutes remain as a draft until they are approved by the Board and then are made public.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

A. Easement Agreement – 90 S. Sixth Avenue, Utility System Relocation Project (Carriage Place Condominium Association)

B. Amendment - Engineering Services Agreement, Utility System Relocation Project – Heuer and Associates, Westchester, Illinois - $17,194.65

C. Resolution (#R-06-01) Comcast Settlement Agreement

D. For – Profit Solicitation (Nielsen TV Ratings – Michael J. Widrlechner Applicant)

E. Consolidated Voucher 051226 - $1,732,917.91

F. Consolidated Voucher 060109 - $562,455.91

G. Consolidated Voucher 060123 - $451,780.30

H. Minutes of the Special Village Board Meeting on Friday, October 14, 2005 and Saturday, October 15, 2005

I. Minutes of The Executive Committee Workshop on Monday, November 14, 2005

J. Minutes of the Executive Committee workshop on Monday, November 28, 2005

K. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2005

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

Ayes:	Trustees Cremieux (only items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, J) Horvath, Langan, Livingston, Pann, Wolf and President Asperger
Nays:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	Trustee Cremieux items H and K when he was absent.

President Asperger noted she would sign the 90 S. Sixth Avenue Easement Agreement after some typographical errors are corrected.

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn indicated that the developer for La Grange Pointe has agreed to allow the Village to continue to use the former IHOP property as a temporary parking lot until submittal of a Final Development Plan. Mr. Pilipiszyn noted this as a desirable usage until the developer is ready to break ground in the spring.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Paul Kerpan, 7 N. Spring Avenue, referring to a previous Village Board meeting regarding the new condominium project at Bluff Avenue and Elm Avenue was glad to be able to express his comments, however, would like the Board to consider revising the agenda to allow rebuttal comments from the audience after the item is presented. Mr. Kerpan believes by allowing the audience to openly participate during the Trustee's discussion would benefit the process.

President Asperger thanked Mr. Kerpan for his ideas and indicated that the Board revisits the structure of the agenda from time to time to evaluate if changes would be beneficial.

Mr. Kerpan noted his surprise that the condominium project was not sent back to the Plan Commission due to varied and wide opinions. Mr. Kerpan feels that the Board and Plan Commission should meet to work out issues prior to voting.

President Asperger again thanked Mr. Kerpan for his suggestions, however noted that it is not the role of the Village Board to work out design issues, but would take his suggestions under advisement.

Gloria Beasley, expressed her disappointment in the elimination of several programs at the Senior Center. President Asperger attempted to clarify rumors explaining that although the Village Board leases the building to the Senior Center, it does not have any governing powers nor does the Village Board have any plans to demolish the building. Trustee Langan explained that some of the services offered by the Senior Center are being relocated in order to provide an effective outreach to all seniors in surrounding areas.

Kathy Deane, 110 S. Ashland referred to opposing letters published in the Suburban Life newspaper regarding the parking structure. Ms. Deane stated her observations that a minimum number of vehicles are utilizing the structure.

Bob Reichl, 641 S. Waiola indicated his concerns with tear downs and long term vacant buildings. Mr. Reichl stated that although the Building Department has been responsive, he is appealing to the Village Board for some action on maintaining safety, eliminating visible neglect, and enforcing the rights of existing property owners. President Asperger noted the Zoning Code Review Committee is in the process of addressing such concerns.

Julie Serrano, 104 S. Ashland expressed concerns with the safety of school children and traffic at Cossitt School. She has spoken to Police Chief Holub and feels something proactive must be done.

Chris Baker, 240 S. Kensington Avenue stated her frustration in not being able to comply with the Village Ordinance which prohibits vehicles from parking across sidewalks. Ms. Baker explained in detail the happenings leading to her appeal to the Village Board and presented Trustees with documentation and research she had compiled. Ms. Baker provided photos along with a copy of La Grange Park's ordinance in hopes the Trustees would consider a resolution or amending the Village's current ordinance similar to that of La Grange Park, whereby residents would be allowed to park across sidewalks overnight. President Asperger noted that the Village Board would take this matter under consideration and respond within the next couple of weeks.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Langan informed the audience of the passing of Jimmy Reynolds, a long time volunteer in the Village of La Grange and number one fan of Lyons Township High School.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:28 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Pann and seconded by Trustee Cremieux to adjourn.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

Feb 13, 2006
Approved Date