

## MINUTES

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

Monday, October 10, 2005 - 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 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 Mark Burkland  
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin  
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone  
Assistant Finance Director Joe Muniza  
Public Works Director Ken Watkins  
Assistant Public Works Director Mike Bojovic  
Police Chief Mike Holub  
Fire Chief David Fleege  
Doings Reporter Ken Knutson  
Suburban Life Reporter Sara Luneburg

### 2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger welcomed Public Works Director Ken Watkins who had been off on medical leave.

President Asperger reminded the audience that the Plan Commission would be meeting tomorrow evening in continuance of the public hearings regarding rezoning 137 N. Kensington from institutional to residential and the proposed construction of two 48-unit condominium buildings at 400 E. Elm.

The Zoning Code Review Committee will meet on Thursday, October 13 at Cossitt School and President Asperger encouraged residents to attend and express their thoughts.

President Asperger invited the audience to participate at the Plan Commission's Public Hearing regarding the revisions to the new La Grange Library on Tuesday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Lastly, President Asperger commended the La Grange Fire Department on the success of their Open House on Sunday, October 9 which officially began Fire Prevention Week. An estimated 800 individuals toured the facility. Fire Chief Fleege requested President Asperger to remind residents to change the batteries in their smoke detectors and use caution when burning candles.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Tim Trompeter, 318 S. Ashland indicated he along with Donna and Mike Skonning were in the audience if the Board had any questions regarding their agenda item.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Consolidated Voucher 051010 - \$1,329,595.87
- B. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, September 26, 2005
- C. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, Monday, September 26, 2005

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve items A, B and C of the Omnibus, seconded by Trustee Cremieux. Approved by roll call vote.

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

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Presentation – FY 2004-05 Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports: Referred to Trustee Wolf

Trustee Wolf stated that the Comprehensive Annual Financial report of the Village of La Grange for Fiscal year May 1, 2004 to April 30, 2005 as prepared by the Finance Department has been reviewed by the auditors

Sikich Gardner and Company L.L.P. Copies of the audit report were previously sent to the Board under separate cover and are available for public inspection at the La Grange Public Library, in the Village Clerk's office and in the Finance Department. Trustee Wolf requested Mr. Dan Berg, a partner with Sikich Gardner to give a brief overview of the audit report.

Mr. Berg stated that Sikich Gardner and Company L.L.P. has rendered an unqualified or "clean" opinion stating that the Village financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2005 are prepared and presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Mr. Berg specifically noted attention to the letter of transmittal and management discussion and analysis provided by Sikich Gardner and Company L.L.P. Mr. Berg expressed his availability to answer any questions.

Trustee Pann inquired how many other municipalities Sikich Gardner and Company L.L.P. audit and Mr. Berg responded that including park districts and townships approximately 40 to 50. Trustee Pann asked how La Grange compares to other municipalities. Mr. Berg explained that while his company does not do side-by-side comparisons, the Village of La Grange is recognized for its very conservative debt structure; a well-funded fixed asset program; and capable staff.

Trustee Cremieux indicated his confidence in staff's capable financial management.

Trustee Wolf stated that this item does not require a motion to approve.

On behalf of the Village Board, President Asperger accepted the report and directed staff to submit the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the Government Finance Officers' Association for consideration of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. President Asperger noted the Village has received this prestigious award for nine consecutive years and expressed her gratitude to Finance Director Lou Cipparrone and Assistant Finance Director Joe Muniza for their excellent financial management.

- B. Ordinance (O-05-32) – Variation – Maximum Building Coverage / Donna and Mike Skonning, 342 S. Catherine: Referred to Trustee Livingston

Trustee Livingston noted the petitioners application for the construction of an addition with a wrap-around porch was denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals with three ayes and one nay, because at least four ayes are required to decide in favor of any application.

Trustee Livingston explained that according to the petitioners, construction of the addition would allow them the opportunity to complete a cohesive project with the improvement of an existing one-story addition and enhancement of the character of the historic neighborhood with a wrap-around porch.

Trustee Livingston moved to approve the Ordinance authorizing the variation, seconded by Trustee Horvath.

Trustee Horvath noted his favor to grant the variation expressing the fact that neighbors of the applicant are not opposed.

Trustee Wolf concurred.

Trustee Cremieux expressed his concern that the porch may be enclosed in the future. Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin explained that future improvements would require a building permit. Trustee Cremieux continued to have concerns and requested if a condition could be placed on the variance to prevent future enclosure of the porch.

President Asperger noted a similar case in the past and indicated the applicant had signed a restrictive covenant. Village Attorney Mark Burkland added that the applicant would need to be in agreement to the signing of such a covenant. Mr. Skonning indicated he was agreeable to signing a restrictive covenant.

It was moved by Trustee Cremieux to amend the motion to approve the Ordinance authorizing the variation, that if granted, the front porch remains open and may not be enclosed in the future and a restrictive covenant be added to the Ordinance, seconded by Trustee Horvath. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Trustee Langan made comment that this is one reason the Village is looking to amend the Zoning Code of Ordinances.

It had been moved and seconded to approve the amended ordinance for a variation. Approved by 5 to 1 roll call vote.

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

The Village Attorney was directed to amend the Ordinance and provide for a restrictive covenant.

- C. Ordinance (O-05-33) – Amending the La Grange Code of Ordinances to Establish Standards for Part-time Police Officers, and Budget Amendment (Resolution R-05-16) – Part-time Police Officer Program: Referred to Trustee Cremieux

Trustee Cremieux explained that a Part-time Police Officer Program would enhance the current full-time force by providing an increased level of service to the community. Trustee Cremieux emphasized that the Police Department is not understaffed but this program would increase the department's ability to address traffic enforcement, foot patrol in the Central Business District and if necessary, as back-up to full-time officers. Trustee Cremieux added that the part-time officers would meet minimum state standards and have graduated from the Basic Recruit Police Academy.

The Village currently has a very dedicated group of Auxiliary Police Officers who volunteer their personal time to serve the community, however, their powers of enforcement are very limited.

An Executive Committee Workshop was previously held to discuss and determine if a Part-time Police Officer Program would be feasible and cost effective for the Village. At the culmination of the workshop it was the consensus of the Executive Committee to recommend the adoption of an Ordinance amending the Village code which provides for the designation of Part-time Police Officers and approval of a Budget Amendment to fund the additional cost.

Police Chief Holub indicated his familiarity with the success of this type of program in other communities and expressed his enthusiasm for the opportunity to establish such a program for La Grange.

Trustee Cremieux stated the estimated cost to fund the program would be \$78,000 which is equivalent to 90 man hours per week at a rate of \$15 per hour. Included in the estimated cost are uniforms, fuel and FICA/Medicare. No other salary, benefit or operational expenses are associated with the program.

It was moved by Trustee Cremieux to approve an Ordinance amending the Village Code which establishes standards for Part-time Police Officers, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

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

It was moved by Trustee Cremieux to approve the Resolution and Budget Amendment to implement the Part-time Police Officer Program, seconded by Trustee Pann. Approved by roll call vote.

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

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn announced that effective immediately, the Village is formally lifting the additional lawn watering restrictions which were implemented in July. Regulations for even-numbered residences to water on Wednesday, Friday, Sunday and odd-numbered residences on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday remain in effect.

Manager Pilipiszyn noted that the former Hallowell & James building will be demolished in the near future. Fencing will be provided to safely secure the area.

A detailed account of the tentative schedule for the projected November 1<sup>st</sup> completion of the Hillgrove Avenue construction project was given by Manager Pilipiszyn.

Manager Pilipiszyn indicated that fall leaf pick-up began today and the last brush pick-up will be the week of November 7.

Lastly, Manager Pilipiszyn announced that a household hazardous waste collection will be held at Brookfield Zoo on Saturday, October 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. This collection is sponsored by the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and residents are encouraged to participate.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Jim Palermo, 216 S. Ashland asked if the Village had received written confirmation from Congressman Lipinski stating the federal grant could be used for the parking structure and if so, could he see the document.

President Asperger indicated that discussions have ensued with the Congressman's staff who have stated that the Transportation Committee defines a commuter as anyone who travels back and forth regularly in any type of vehicle. As a commuter facility, the parking structure is available to anyone frequenting the La Grange Central Business District. President Asperger noted the Village's

request for written confirmation and when it is received will make it available to the public.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

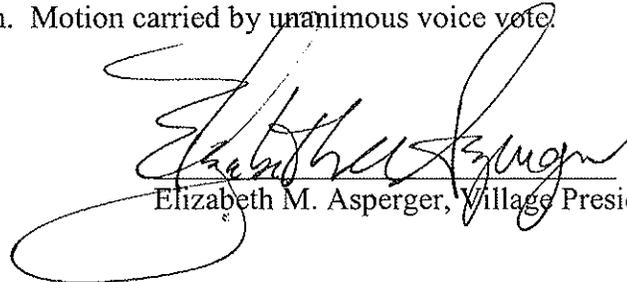
Trustee Livingston stated the Village Board is very grateful to Congressman Lipinski for his endeavors to off-set the cost to La Grange tax payers by recognizing the need for parking.

Trustee Livingston emphasized the need to secure the Hallowell & James site during and after the demolition of the structure.

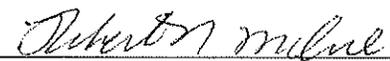
Trustee Horvath noted his appreciation in receiving federal funding, however feels the Village should obtain written documentation for the appropriate use of federal funds. President Asperger indicated written documentation has been requested.

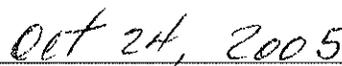
10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:25 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan and seconded by Trustee Pann that the Village Board adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

  
Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

  
Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

  
Approved Date