

MINUTES

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

Monday, September 26, 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 7:32 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were:

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

ABSENT: Trustee Pann

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Assistant Village Manager Sharon Peterson
Village Attorney Maureen Browne
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
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

A. Recognition – Police Department Employees and Others Involved in the Bank Robert Incident

President Asperger remarked that previously the Village Board expressed their gratitude to several members of the Police Department who performed in an exemplarily manner on August 25, 2005 when an armed robbery occurred. President Asperger requested Police Chief Michael Holub to individually identify those employees so that they could be recognized before the public.

Chief Holub noted the significance of team work throughout the department along with assistance given by Mr. Robert Urso who was presented with the La Grange Police Department's Citizen's Award.

The Village Board presented the Chief's Award of Valor to Sergeant Andy Peters, Officer Russ Chorley and Officer Ken Cozen; a Meritorious Service Award to Lieutenant Chris Noel; and Unit Citations to Sergeant Renee Strasser, Sergeant Tom Cimbalista, Investigative Officer Rob Wardlaw, and Telecommunications Operators Holly Seymour and Kathy Lockwood.

B. Proclamation – Community Memorial Foundation Day

President Asperger announced that the non-for-profit Community Memorial Foundation is celebrating their 10th anniversary this year and have requested the Village Board adopt a proclamation announcing local support for the important services they provide. It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve the Proclamation declaring October 3, 2005 to be "Community Memorial Foundation Day" in La Grange, seconded by Trustee Horvath. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

President Asperger reminded the audience that the Plan Commission would be meeting tomorrow evening in follow-up to the workshop regarding the proposal submitted by the Library.

The Zoning Code Review Committee conducted its first of three meetings at Gurrie Jr. High School this past week. Residents are encouraged to submit suggestions regarding the review of the zoning code and attend the next meeting to be held at Cossitt School on October 13.

President Asperger announced that Congressman Dan Lipinski presented Palmer Place with the National Restaurant Association's 2005 Restaurant Neighbor Award in the small business category.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

A. Consolidated Voucher 050926 - \$504,286.81

B. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, September 12, 2005

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

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

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance (O-05-31) – Creating An Additional Class C-1 Liquor License, Emilio’s Sunflower Bistro, 30 S. La Grange Road: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan presented an ordinance creating a Class C-1 liquor license for MECA Group, Inc. d/b/a Emilio’s Sunflower Bistro located at 30 South La Grange Road. A Class C license authorizes the licensee to sell alcoholic liquor by the drink at retail for consumption on the licensed premises on which food is also sold for consumption. A C-1 license expands upon the base license to authorize the licensee to have a bar or lounge area. In controlling the dispensing of alcohol, applicants and licensees of a Class C license must prove to the satisfaction of the Village that more than 60% of the gross annual revenue of the dining establishment has resulted from the sale of food. Alcoholic liquor may be served at either the bar and lounge area or in the general seating area.

After a meeting of the Liquor Commission to review the application submitted by Emilio’s Sunflower Bistro, it is their recommendation that an additional Class C-1 liquor license be created. It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve the ordinance authorizing the creation of a Class C-1 liquor license for Emilio’s Sunflower Bistro, seconded by Trustee Cremieux. Approved by roll call vote.

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

President Asperger invited the owners of Emilio’s Sunflower Bistro to elaborate on their restaurant. Mr. Christopher Spagnola and Ms. Mary Libsch indicated they hope to open in two to three weeks and will offer a tasty yet healthy menu which focuses on organic ingredients.

- B. Resolution (R-05-15 - Authorizing Study of Vacation of Public Right-Of-Way Located South of 9601 Ogden Avenue: Referred to Trustee Livingston

Trustee Livingston stated that for several years this area has been considered for various projects without success. Recently an opportunity presented itself to develop a strip shopping center. The stated policy of the Village is that vacations of public rights-of-way should be considered when there is no public benefit to maintaining the dedicated right-of-way; such a vacation will eliminate an existing burden on the Village; and/or a public hearing has been conducted and recommendation received by the La Grange Plan Commission.

Trustee Livingston noted that the Comprehensive Plan of May 2005 included the establishment of "well-designed" gateways into the Village and the subject property has been identified as one that could serve in such a capacity.

Trustee Livingston explained that approval of the resolution would only refer the application to the Plan Commission for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the matter and rendering a recommendation.

It was moved by Trustee Livingston to approve the resolution authorizing a study of vacation of public right-of-way located south of 9601 Ogden Avenue, seconded by Trustee Cremieux.

Trustee Cremieux requested any future design for this area should coordinate with the Triangle project and Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin stated future items would go before the Design Review Commission.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn announced that Hillgrove Avenue is open to local traffic and thanked everyone for their patience during the closure of the Brainard Avenue grade crossing.

Manager Pilipiszyn announced that the La Grange Fire Department will host an Open House on Sunday, October 9 from Noon to 4:00 p.m. and encouraged residents to attend.

Lastly, Manager Pilipiszyn reminded residents that the Fall Leaf Pick-up Program will be on Monday, October 10.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Mark Shure, 334 S. La Grange Road as a member of the Fifth Avenue Preservation Society, who has previously had several meetings with Village President Asperger, Village Manager Pilipiszyn and Police Chief Holub is requesting the Village Board's permission to allow one or more members of the Fifth Avenue Preservation Society to be present at meetings between the Illinois Department of Transportation and Village staff which involves their specific requests regarding truck traffic along La Grange Road. Mr. Shure believes representatives of their group can make a valuable contribution.

Jim Longino, 109 N. Kensington stated that residents on Kensington are equally concerned about traffic on residential streets. He believes Kensington and Ogden Avenue is a dangerous intersection and feels the Illinois Department of Transportation should increase the walk time on the pedestrian crossing signal and reduce the speed limit on Ogden Avenue to 20 mph as a school zone.

President Asperger announced that after the formal Village Board meeting is adjourned, the Board would reassemble in a workshop setting to discuss enhanced staffing for the Police Department which may relate to Mr. Shure and Mr. Longino's concerns.

Rob Wessel, 200 block of South Peck feels the application for federal funding for the parking structure was not an honest proposal. President Asperger noted the history is accurate and the entire process was thoughtful and purposeful.

Kathy Deane, 110 S. Ashland asked if the Village had obtained a letter from Congressman Lipinski stating the federal grant could be used for the parking structure. Village Manager Pilipiszyn indicated the Village has communicated with the Congressman's staff. They will look into the matter and advise the Village with the appropriate course of action, if any is required.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Horvath noted his support for a member of the Fifth Avenue Preservation Society be included in the process, maybe not as participants, but as observers in meetings with the Illinois Department of Transportation.

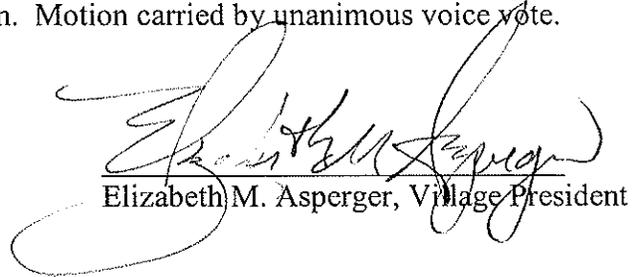
Trustee Cremieux believes there are numerous ideas on how to address traffic issues and the Village has a competent staff to do so. Trustee Cremieux does not believe that individual citizen groups should be allowed to attend or be involved in intergovernmental meetings.

Trustee Langan is confident that Village staff, with years of experience and its relationship with the Illinois Department of Transportation, is capable of resolving challenging situations. Trustee Langan does not believe it would be appropriate to have citizen involvement in such meetings.

10. ADJOURNMENT

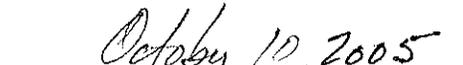
President Asperger invited the audience to stay and participate in the Executive Committee meeting.

At 8:24 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan and seconded by Trustee Cremieux that the Village Board adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.


Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:


Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk


Approved Date