

MINUTES

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

Monday, May 23, 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 7:35 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were:

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

ABSENT: Trustee Livingston

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Assistant Village Manager Sharon Peterson
Village Attorney David Warner
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Public Works Director Ken Watkins
Police Chief Michael Holub
Fire Chief David Fleege
Utilities Superintendent Mike Bojovic
Doings Reporter Ken Knutson

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger noted she would change the order of the agenda by first recognizing General Utility Worker Richard Kucera for his 35 years of service to the Village of La Grange. President Asperger noted Mr. Kucera's outstanding gardening and beautification efforts throughout the Village and with the entire Village Board applauded his years of dedication.

A. Appointment of Village Officials

President Asperger indicated that in accordance with various sections of the Municipal Code, it is necessary to appoint individuals for the positions of Village Attorney, Village Prosecutor, Village Treasurer, Village Collector and Village Comptroller. President Asperger requested approval to the appointments of Holland & Knight as Village Attorney; John M. Kenney, Jr. as Village Prosecutor; Louis Cipparrone as Village Treasurer and Village Collector; and Lawrence Kinports as Village Comptroller. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Appointments – Liquor Commission

President Asperger noted that Trustee Langan has served on the Liquor Commission since January 2002 and Trustee Cremieux since April 2003. President Asperger requested approval to appoint Trustee Richard Cremieux and Trustee Mark Langan to continue to serve on the Liquor Commission. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. Appointment – Emergency Telephone System Board

President Asperger submitted the appointment of Trustee Mark Langan to serve on the Emergency Telephone System Board for a period ending April 30, 2006. President Asperger noted this would be Trustee Langan's fifth term and requested approval. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

D. Trustee Assignments

President Asperger explained that in addition to regular Board duties, the Trustees also serve as liaisons to various Boards and Commissions in the Village and have areas of responsibility that generally relate to the issues that need representing before the Board. President Asperger made the following assignments:

Trustee Cremieux Public Safety and liaison to Plan Commission; Trustee Horvath Public Works and liaison to Environmental Quality Control Commission; Trustee Langan Economic Development and liaison to Zoning Board of Appeals; Trustee Livingston Planning and Zoning and liaison to Design Review Commission; Trustee Pann Community Relations and liaison to Parking Commission; Trustee Wolf Finance and liaison to Economic Development/Redevelopment Commission; and President Asperger assuming intergovernmental relations.

President Asperger commended Fire, Police and Public Works staff for their combined efforts in controlling the recent residential fire at 310 West Calendar.

President Asperger announced that the Library has filed various applications which will be presented at the Plan Commission Public Hearing on June 14, 2005

at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Auditorium. In addition, on June 28, 2005 the Plan Commission will consider the continuation of a proposal to rezone property on Bluff and Elm in order to construct condominiums.

President Asperger indicated that the new property owner of the Hallowell and James building is working with staff in the Community Development Department on a proposal for a mixed use development at that location. Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin indicated a traffic study is scheduled to be conducted within the next couple of weeks.

Lastly, President Asperger announced the ever-popular Pet Parade would be held on June 4, 2005 and encouraged all to attend this annual event.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Jim Palermo, 216 S. Ashland stated his displeasure with the outdoor maintenance at the Hallowell and James property, specifically overgrown grass and snow covered sidewalks in the winter. President Asperger noted his concerns and referred them to Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin.

Mr. Palermo questioned item 4.D on the agenda regarding the Purchase of a replacement command vehicle for the Fire Department, specifically the recommended model. Mr. Palermo also believes the cost would be less if the current warning devices and radio were transferred to the new vehicle. Mr. Palermo further requested an explanation of the MABAS Division.

Fire Chief Fleege explained that the proposed purchase of a Ford Expedition will offer more versatility and functional use than a Ford Econoline since it will have four-wheel drive and towing abilities. Fire Chief Fleege added that the warning lights on the old command vehicle no longer work and the radio is not functional with new frequency requirements. Fire Chief Fleege stated that warning devices on the new vehicle would allow Fire Fighters to move safely through intersections.

Chief Fleege added that the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division is designed to respond to the scene in an emergency if the need arises. Fire Chief Fleege noted that MABAS Division 10 is divided into east and west and La Grange is assigned to transport equipment to towns in the east division.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. La Grange Public Library – Temporary Use – 405 Shawmut Avenue
(Ordinance O-05-12)

- B. Easement Agreement – 71-75 S. La Grange Road
- C. Professional Services Agreement – Leak Detection Survey (Severn Trent Services, Chicago, Illinois not to exceed \$7,210 for FY 2005-06)
- D. Purchase – replacement Command Vehicle / Fire Department (West Central Municipal Conference Suburban Purchasing Cooperative Currie Motors, Frankfort, Illinois 2005 Ford Expedition 4x4 \$31,500)
- E. Ordinance (O-05-13) – Disposal of Surplus Property
- F. Consolidated Voucher 050523 - \$576,913.01
- G. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, May 9, 2005

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

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

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance (O-05-14) – Partial Abatement of 2004 Tax Levy / Special Service area No. 7: Central Business district Maintenance: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan stated that the Village Board adopted Ordinance O-04-09 establishing a Special Service Area (SSA) No. 7 tax levy in the amount of \$50,000 in March of 2004 in order to help defray the cost of maintaining the Central Business District. The boundaries of SSA No. 7 are substantially the same as those of the TIF District. Trustee Langan added that because the TIF District and the SSA coincide it is necessary to abate \$31,400 of the 2004 tax levy.

Trustee Langan noted that due to Cook County's method of calculation the abatement, for the time being, is necessary. Finance Director Lou Cipparrone explained that in December 2005 the Village will be able to incorporate abatements as part of the regular tax levy and when TIF ends, abatements will no longer be required.

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve the ordinance abating \$31,400 of the 2004 Special Service Area No. 7 tax levy, seconded by Trustee Cremieux. Approved by roll call vote.

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

B. Special Event – LGBA “Ahhh! La Grange Weekend”: Referred to Trustee Pann

Trustee Pann made known that the La Grange Business Association has requested the Board’s permission to conduct the “Ahhh! La Grange Weekend.” Trustee Pann indicated the “Ahhh! La Grange Weekend” would take place Friday, June 3 through Sunday June 5th, with the Pet Parade being held on Saturday, June 4. Trustee Pann explained the event is made up of carnival rides catering to children, food and beverage vendors and various games of skill. Trustee Pann noted that all expenses would be billed to the LGBA.

It was moved by Trustee Pann to approve the “Ahhh! La Grange Weekend” subject to specific conditions and approve the temporary closure of Harris Avenue from La Grange Road to Ashland Avenue, waive restrictions for the outdoor display and sale of goods and services in the C-1 Zoning District and approve carnival rides as a Temporary Use, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Horvath inquired if costs for extra Police and staff will be reimbursed by the LGBA and was told yes. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. Special Event – La Grange Art & Craft Fair: Referred to Trustee Pann

Trustee Pann noted that the Village has also received a request from the La Grange Business Association (LGBA) to hold the annual art and craft fair on Saturday, July 9 and Sunday July 10, 2005. Due to construction of the parking structure, it will be necessary for the Board to approve various road closures.

It was moved by Trustee Pann to approve the closure of Harris Avenue west of La Grange Road and Madison Avenue from Harris south to just north of the entrance to the parking lot located at Harris and Madison Avenues on July 9 and 10, 2005 for the annual art and craft fair, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

D. Ordinance (O-05-15) – Water Rate Increase: Referred to Trustee Wolf

Trustee Wolf explained that La Grange receives its water from the City of Chicago through the Village of McCook. Trustee Wolf added that on January 1, 2005 Chicago raised its water rates thereby affecting a 1.5% increase from the Village of McCook. The water rate increase was included as part of the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Operating and Capital Improvements budget which was adopted by the Village Board on April 11, 2005.

It was moved by Trustee Wolf to approve the ordinance which increases La Grange's existing water rates by 1.5% from \$3.913 per one hundred cubic feet to \$3.972 per one hundred cubic feet, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Horvath inquired what the annual increase would be for the average homeowner and Finance Director Lou Cipparrone stated it is estimated to be less than \$10. Approved by roll call vote.

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

E. Ordinance (O-05-16) – 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 and approximately \$850,000 is budgeted for sewer repairs and replacement over the next five years. Trustee Wolf explained that in May of 2003 the Village Board approved five annual 5% increases in order to continue updating the 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 \$.630 cents per one hundred cubic feet to \$.662 cents per one hundred cubic feet, seconded by Trustee Pann.

Trustee Cremieux requested a definition of the term "enterprise fund." Finance Director Lou Cipparrone indicated it is a specialized fund in government accounting which operates similar to a business rather than a municipality.

Trustee Horvath inquired what the five year infrastructure program covers and Public Works Director Ken Watkins explained the Village replaces sections of sewer depending on wear and age with average replacement of four to eight blocks per year.

Trustee Cremieux inquired about the use of special cameras to view problem water and sewer lines and was informed the Village has some cameras and has rented main line cameras when necessary. Approved by roll call vote.

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

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn reported that the West Suburban Mass Transit District has jointly awarded to the Villages of La Grange and Western Springs grant funds in the amount of \$44,000 to install pedestrian gates at the Gilbert Avenue grade crossing. The overall project cost is estimated at \$68,000. The remaining balance of \$24,000 will be divided equally between the two Villages. Manager Pilipiszyn credited Assistant Village Manager Sharon Peterson for her endeavors in applying for this grant.

Manager Pilipiszyn announced that Village offices would be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day. The next regularly scheduled Village Board Meeting would be on Monday, June 13.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Jeannine McLaughlin, 242 S. Peck elaborated on the historic preservation of La Grange and remarked about her admiration of families engaged in the revitalization of single family homes. Ms. McLaughlin credited former Village Presidents Thomas Brown and Lee Burkey for their perseverance in the transformation and the establishment of the Historic District in 1979. Ms. McLaughlin wished to publicly honor Mr. Lee Burkey for his endeavors for the growth of La Grange.

President Asperger concurred with Ms. McLaughlin's comments and remarks honoring the leadership exercised by President Brown and President Burkey.

Ken Eastman, 66 S. Bluff requested clarification as to the date when the Plan Commission would continue their consideration of a proposal to rezone property on Bluff and Elm in order to construct condominiums and was informed June 28.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

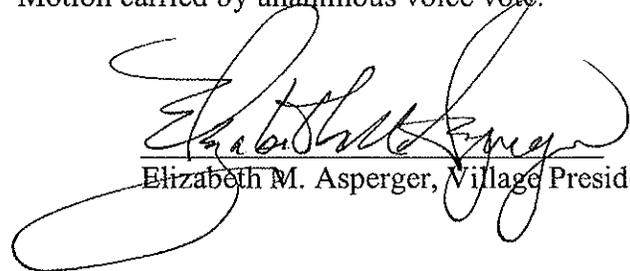
9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Cremieux complimented President Asperger on conducting her first Village Board meeting.

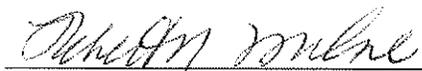
Trustee Horvath noted his agreement with Ms. McLaughlin's comments on the preservation of homes in La Grange.

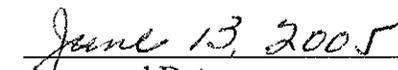
10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:28 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Pann and seconded by Trustee Langan that the Village Board adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.


Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:


Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk


Approved Date