

## MINUTES

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

Monday, February 25, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 Thomas Morsch, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Nowak and Palermo

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn  
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson  
Village Attorney Mark Burkland  
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone  
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin  
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham  
Fire Chief William Bryzgalski  
Police Chief Michael Holub

President Asperger requested Clerk Morsch to lead the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger invited residents to attend a Budget Workshop scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 9 at 8:00 a.m. in the lower level conference room of the Village Hall. Explaining that this is the final component of the Board's comprehensive review of the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14, President Asperger encouraged residents to review the proposed budget, specifically the Village Manager's message, which will be posted on the Village's website and available at the Village Hall and La Grange Public Library.

President Asperger provided details regarding voter registration; early voting; absentee voting; and referenced the Cook County Clerk's website for additional information on the upcoming Consolidated Election on April 9, 2013.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Award of Contract – FY 2013-2014 & FY 2014-2015 Tree Removal Program
- B. Contract – Village Fountain Installation
- C. Purchase – Public Works Department / Replacement of General Utility Van
- D. For-Profit Solicitation – Everdry Waterproofing
- E. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Public Hearing Electric Aggregation and Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Monday, February 11, 2013
- F. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Village board of Trustees – Capital Projects Workshop, Monday, January 28, 2013
- G. Consolidated Voucher 130225 – (\$468,732.)

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve items A, B, C, D, E, F, and G of the Omnibus Agenda, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee Holder commended staff on the recommendation for the installation of the Village Fountain.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Nowak and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Resolution (#R-13-04) Adopting a Plan of Operation and Governance for Electric Aggregation Program Pursuant to Public Act 96-0176:: Referred to Trustee Palermo

Trustee Palermo provided detailed background information on the process by which the Electric Aggregation Program has evolved, which included voter approval of a referendum question asking whether the Village should seek to create an electricity aggregation program; Village Board adopting an ordinance authorizing an opt-out electricity aggregation program; entering into a contract with the Illinois Community Choice Aggregation Network for electric aggregation consulting services;

advertising and conducting two public hearings on January 28, 2013 and February 11, 2013; and providing direction to staff on preparing a Plan of Operation and Governance for the Electric Aggregation Program.

Notable changes to the final Plan of Operation and Governance for the Electric Aggregation Program before the Board this evening were annotated by Trustee Palermo. Those changes being the supplier's term of the agreement; options for residents related to renewable energy; no additional administrative costs; negotiating a fixed price for all participants during years contracted; no enrollment, termination, or switching fees; and the supplier would maintain customer service throughout the term of the contract.

Upon approval of the Plan of Operation and Governance, Trustee Palermo explained that the next step is to issue the request for qualifications from licensed alternative retail electricity suppliers as determined by the Illinois Commerce Commission whereby the Village would make a selection. From that selection process, a pool of qualified bidders would be created. Providing additional details in the bid evaluation and selection process, Trustee Palermo noted that a decision on the selection of a supplier is required prior to the end of each business day in order to achieve the most advantageous market price for electricity supply. In order to be advantageous with this process, Trustee Palermo referenced the recommendation to authorize the Village President and Village Manager or their designee to accept the power supply bid most favorable to the Village in order to execute a contract with the electricity supplier. It was also noted that the consultant would be available in an advisory capacity.

It was moved by Trustee Palermo to approve the Resolution adopting the Plan of Operation and Governance for the Electric Aggregation Program, and authorizing Village representatives to accept an electricity supply bid in order to execute an electricity supply contract, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee Palermo inquired about conducting a conference call to provide the Board's input on the decision making process for contracting an electricity supplier. As the Village has not adopted an electronic communications / meeting attendance policy, Village Attorney Burkland responded that such a conference would not comport with the requirements of The Open Meetings Act. The alternative would be to conduct a special meeting and four members of the Village Board would need to be present.

Trustee Horvath requested information about the criteria on reviewing electricity supplier bids. Village consultant Mr. Mark Pruitt responded explaining that the selection of suppliers would be based on qualifications and pricing. Adding that market conditions are currently indicating a 12 month term would be the most competitive.

Trustee Palermo asked if there is a price available for electricity going forward in negotiating a longer term contract. Mr. Pruitt responded affirmatively, but added that accepting a longer term contract may inflate unit pricing as vendors adjust for risk.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Palermo, Horvath, Langan, Nowak and Kuchler  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

B. Request to Purchase – Police Department / Replacement of Squad Cars: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan noted this item was presented and discussed by the Board at several prior meetings. Annotating detailed background information of those discussions, Trustee Langan explained the Board's concerns related to their fiduciary responsibility in the purchase of police squad cars; retention for a longer replacement cycle; maintenance and repair costs associated with retention; depreciation in value; manufacturer warranties; and utilization of the State Purchasing Contract.

As the Board continued to have concerns, Trustee Langan noted that staff was directed to provide additional information and research various options for the most cost effective purchase.

Summarizing the type of vehicles, and deadlines offered through the State Purchasing Contract, Trustee Langan stated that a local Chevrolet dealership was contacted as another option. That dealership is able to honor the State purchasing bid price, and deliver the vehicles after the State purchasing contract deadline.

Trustee Langan provided additional information on the cost comparison of various types of vehicles considered over the past year and budget impacts specifically related to repair costs; depreciation in value; and increased purchasing price due to the delay in the purchase of the police squad cars. Trustee Langan also referenced the importance of public safety and keeping the entire fleet operable to avoid downtime associated with vehicles out of service due to maintenance.

Trustee Langan moved to waive the formal bidding process and approve the purchase of seven replacement squad cars for the Police Department's Patrol Division from Advantage Chevrolet of Hodgkins, Illinois using the state bid unit price, in an amount not to exceed \$206,000, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee Kuchler does not believe that public safety is being jeopardized in the delay to purchase new police vehicles. Nor does he advocate patrol officers being utilized to transport vehicles for maintenance. Trustee Kuchler defended the Board's responsibility to request additional details before approving purchases, indicating the

process by which staff prepares reports for purchases to the Board does not always provide adequate information for the Board's thorough evaluation.

Trustee Horvath concurred with Trustee Kuchler with respect to process and believes that more analysis is needed in order to strike a good balance for the most cost-effective purchase and not necessarily using the state bid unit pricing.

Trustee Palermo concurs with Trustees Kuchler and Horvath that a more advantageous bidding process is needed when making decisions on the purchase of police vehicles. Trustee Palermo stated he would be voting no.

Trustee Nowak feels that staff has provided adequate information and the requested clarification. He believes that the State bid process is a best practice. Trustee Nowak commended Chief Holub for identifying a local dealer who is willing to honor the State bid price. Moving forward, Trustee Nowak encouraged staff to look at ways to reduce repair expenses.

Trustee Horvath would like to have seen itemized information on maintenance costs and concurs that they need to be reduced.

Trustee Holder noted the additional costs related to the delay in purchasing vehicles and requested information on the State contract. Police Chief Holub responded that the State uses national specifications promulgated by the Michigan State Police, which is a recognized authority in specifying police cars. Most Illinois municipalities rely on the State contract to purchase their squad cars. Trustee Holder expressed his concern that the Board has been micro-managing staff. He stated that the Village Board should rely on its professional staff which has the operational experience and proven track record of performance. The Village Board's role on the team is to be strategic and directional.

Trustee Kuchler strongly disagrees with that characterization, and feels that the Board is attempting to make cost effective decisions with taxpayer funds.

Trustee Langan is confident that the Police Department has been appropriately managing repairs, and that the State purchasing contract is reliable.

Although there are differences in opinions on the Board, Trustee Horvath noted the main objective is in making hard decisions on problems not on each other. Trustee Horvath believes that moving forward is all about new ideas and efficiency.

President Asperger acknowledged the Board's open discussion. She disagrees that a <sup>new</sup> process is needed. President Asperger noted that the process is to use the State purchasing contract. She added that Chief Holub bettered that process by having a local dealer match that price, thereby saving the Village delivery charges. President Asperger continued that the Village Board, by its own prodding moved away from the Village's process. Finally, President Asperger stated that it is appropriate for the

Village Board to ask questions and suggest improvements. However, Trustees should also respect each other and their professional staff. No one person has all the answers, and so the Village functions best when it operates as a team. That is how residents are served.

Motion approved by a 4 to 3 vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Langan, Nowak and President Asperger  
Nays: Trustees Kuchler, Palermo, and Horvath  
Absent: None

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

None

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

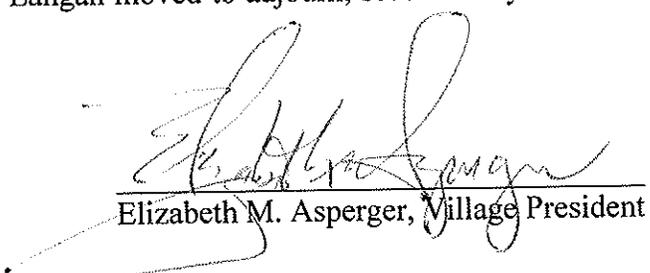
9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

President Asperger acknowledged a Boy Scout in attendance this evening.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 p.m. Trustee Langan moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Holder. Approved by voice vote.

  
Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

  
Thomas Morsch, Village Clerk

Approved Date: March 11, 2013