

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE

PUBLIC HEARING AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Village Hall Auditorium
53 South La Grange Road
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, April 8, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.

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

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange public hearing and 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: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Nowak, and Palermo with President Asperger presiding.

ABSENT: None

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

2. PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2013-14 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget: Referred to President Asperger

President Asperger indicated that notice of this Public Hearing had been posted and published according to State Statute and that the budget document has been available for inspection at the Village Hall and the La Grange Public Library as well as posted on the Village website. President Asperger noted the public hearing represents the conclusion of the process by which public input has been solicited throughout the development of the budget document and asked if anyone in the audience had any oral or written comments or questions on the FY 2013-14 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget. There being none, President Asperger inquired of Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn if any written comments had been received and was informed none.

At 7:35 p.m. with no additional oral or written comments President Asperger closed the public hearing. The regular Village Board meeting was convened, with the same Village Officials as the Public Hearing being in attendance.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Appointment – Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

President Asperger announced that a recent resignation has created a vacancy on the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. President Asperger requested approval to appoint Mr. Paul Kerpan as a member of the Board of Fire and Police Commission for a term to expire in 2015. Trustee Langan moved to approve the appointment, seconded by Trustee Holder. Approved by voice vote.

B. Proclamation – Arbor Day in La Grange, Thursday, April 25, 2013

President Asperger stated that the Village of La Grange has been named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 30 consecutive years and proclaimed April 25, 2013 as Arbor Day. President Asperger invited the public to celebrate Arbor Day with the planting of a tree at St. Cletus School. Trustee Langan moved to approve the Proclamation, seconded by Trustee Holder. Approved by voice vote.

President Asperger acknowledged the Village's first responders for their professional manner and quick response to the recent home fire and life-saving emergency at Lyons Township High School.

Announcing the opening of several new businesses, President Asperger encouraged residents to shop and dine locally.

In order to address citizen concerns related to the intersection of 47th Street and East Avenue, President Asperger provided clarification regarding traffic management and proposed improvements to the corridor. President Asperger detailed information on the issues and difference in the CREATE (Chicago Region Environmental And Transportation Efficiency) project and the proposed IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) signalization improvements for 47th Street and East Avenue.

President Asperger reiterated the Village Board's commitment and strategic priority for pedestrian safety throughout the Village and explained that the Board has in the past and continues to communicate with legislators and IDOT in reference to this corridor. Finally, President Asperger assured residents that the Board is unfavourable to any increase in traffic or any alteration to the current configuration which would be disadvantageous to the character of the residential area. To maintain communication and transparency, President Asperger encouraged residents to contact the Village Board of Trustees or members of Village staff with any questions.

Lastly, President Asperger referenced the upcoming consolidated election and requested individuals refrain from any political comments during tonight's meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Budget Amendments (#R-13-05) – Fiscal year Ending April 30, 2013
- B. Professional Services Agreement – Employee Benefit Consulting Services
- C. Professional Services Agreement – Firefighter / Paramedic Testing Service for the La Grange Fire Department
- D. Open Meetings Act – Review of Closed Session Minutes
- E. Consolidated Voucher 130325 (\$599,633.45)
- F. Consolidated Voucher 130408 (\$546,255.15)
- G. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Special Meeting, Saturday, March 9, 2013 – Budget Workshop
- H. Minutes of the Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Monday, March 11, 2013

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

Approved by roll call vote.

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

6. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Resolution (#R-13-06) – Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Village of La Grange and the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council (Police Officers): Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Trustee Kuchler explained that the current collective bargaining agreement between the Village of La Grange and the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police expired on April 30, 2011 and negotiations have recently concluded through an arbitration proceeding. Trustee Kuchler provided information related to the only changes to the current contract involving wages and the grievance procedure.

Trustee Kuchler moved to adopt the resolution for the Police Union Contract and approve the Police Union Collective Bargaining Agreement from May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2014, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Nowak expressed his gratitude to staff and union members for their professionalism and for the positive working relationship between labor and management.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

B. Award of Contract – Village Hall Roof Replacement Project: Referred to Trustee Horvath

Trustee Horvath explained that several factors including an inspection report determined the need for a replacement of the roof on the Village Hall. Providing information on the bidding process utilized and the unique circumstances working at the Village Hall, Trustee Horvath noted that all four of the bids received exceeded the amount provided in the Village budget, however All American Exterior Solutions was the lowest bid of those submitted. Trustee Horvath added that in order to reduce costs materials would be purchased through a national cooperative purchasing program.

As the anticipated expenses for the project continue to exceed the budget, Trustee Horvath noted that staff recommends to transfer the additional funds needed from General Fund Reserves into the Capital Projects Fund in order to complete the roof replacement.

Trustee Horvath moved to approve staff recommendations that the Village Board award the contract for the FY 2013-14 Village Hall Roof Replacement Project to All American Exterior Solutions in the amount of \$99,700, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee Horvath expressed concerns using General Fund Reserves and inquired if any other alternatives could be had. Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham responded negatively and to delay the project would not be cost effective.

Trustee Palermo inquired if this may have fallen under the grant recently received for the renovation of the Village Hall. Mr. Gillingham responded that the grant was specifically designated for energy saving related to electrical heating and air conditioning, not for the replacement of the roof.

Trustee Horvath inquired about the remaining balance of General Fund Reserves if a transfer to the Capital Projects Fund occurred. Finance Director Lou Cipparrone responded that General Fund Reserve balance would be slightly less than fifty percent.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

C. Award of Contracts – (1) Construction of Maple Avenue Relief Sewer From Bluff Avenue to 7th Avenue: (2) Construction Engineering Services Agreement

Resolution – MFT Expenditure: Referred to Trustee Horvath

Trustee Horvath provided a detailed report on the phases and history of the MARS (Maple Avenue Relief Sewer) project which originated to address flooding through the central portion of the Village. Adding specific information related to the project involvement with connections to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC) regional deep tunnel system, Trustee Horvath elaborated on the next stage of the project. As the engineering contract was awarded to Baxter and Woodman, Trustee Horvath added that the next stage of the MARS project was to have plans and specifications completed and submitted to all of the agencies involved in the project.

As bid documents were prepared to receive separate bids for Option 1 which was for constructing the sewer from Bluff Avenue to 7th Avenue and Option 2 for constructing the sewer from Bluff Avenue to 6th Avenue, Trustee Horvath noted the evaluation of separate bids could provide potential savings. As only two bids were received, Trustee Horvath indicated that A-Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. was the lowest. Trustee Horvath itemized the summary of the bid results along with itemizing costs associated with both options for the engineering; construction; and funding sources available. Trustee Horvath added that General Fund Reserves may be considered for allocation with Option 2.

Trustee Horvath noted that in accordance with the municipal engineering contract with Baxter and Woodman it is recommended that they perform the construction management for this project as well as IDOT mandated documentation. Trustee Horvath explained that as Motor Fuel Tax Funds are proposed to be utilized for the project it is necessary to approve a Resolution for Improvements by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code as required by IDOT.

For discussion purposes, Trustee Horvath moved to approve staff's recommendation of a contract with A-Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$2,007,429 for the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer Project; approval of a task order agreement with Baxter and Woodman for construction engineering services for the MARS project in the amount of \$172,275; and approval of a resolution authorizing the expenditure of MFT Funds in the amount of \$1,400,000.

Trustee Horvath inquired about options related to cost and the use of reserve funds. Finance Director Lou Cipparrone noted that over the five year plan General Fund Reserves with Option 1 are estimated to be at 50% and that over the same five year plan General Fund Reserves with Option 2 are estimated to be at 47%. Trustee Horvath inquired if this fund balance estimate also assumed an increase in the Village's utility tax and Mr. Cipparrone responded affirmatively.

Trustee Holder inquired if Option 2 would provide a greater reduction in flooding. Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham explained that greater ability to handle a rain event benefits everyone.

Trustee Horvath inquired about the difference in staging between both options. Mr. Gillingham responded that from an engineering standpoint it would be beneficial to extend the project to 6th Avenue as noted in Option 2.

Trustee Horvath asked Mr. Cipparrone how comfortable he was with the level of risk to achieve the estimated General Fund balance at the end of the five-year period if Option 2 was selected. Finance Director Cipparrone responded that the Village would strive to get back to the minimum of the target range over that period of time.

In order to maintain cost containment, Village Manager Pilipiszyn indicated that staff's recommendation is Option 1, however staff also notes that capital projects is a strategic priority for the Village Board and thus additional information is presented as an alternative with Option 2 for the Board's consideration in the decision making process.

Trustee Palermo questioned the revenue derived from the Motor Fuel Tax and its sustainability. Mr. Cipparrone noted that revenues from this fund have been relatively consistent.

Trustee Kuchler inquired about extending the sewer project to La Grange Road. Mr. Gillingham responded that would incur additional impacts on the Capital Projects Fund. Trustee Kuchler asked if any future grants may be available to help fund the project. Mr. Gillingham noted this is difficult to predict as recent trends have indicated a change toward less grant money and more loans. Trustee Kuchler believes the sewer should extend as far west as possible.

Trustee Nowak supports Option 2. Explaining that he does not take lightly the use of reserve funds, however the Village's aging infrastructure is a priority and improvements to the sewer system are necessary.

Trustee Langan expressed concerns with reserve funds being at a level less than 50%, however concurs with Trustee Nowak that this is a priority.

Trustee Horvath also concurs that Option 2 is the more sensible approach.

Trustee Palermo concurs that Option 2 is best for residents.

Trustee Holder is in favor of the additional relief sewer and will vote favorably for Option 2.

Trustee Horvath moved to approve a contract with A-Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$2,474,139 Option 2 for the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer Project, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Trustee Langan moved to approve the task order agreement with Baxter and Woodman for construction engineering services for the MARS Project in the amount of \$172,275, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Trustee Holder moved to approve the resolution authorizing the expenditure of MFT funds in the amount of \$1,400,000, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

D. Proposed Increase In Parking Fines and Parking Decals: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan noted that the current budget includes scheduled increases for parking fines, commuter decals and residential parking decals. Describing what each fee is designated for, Trustee Langan noted that these items were last increased in 2008. Trustee Langan added that the increase would be an additional \$5 for parking fines and a \$5 increase per month for both commuter and residential decal parking permits.

Although parking fines and decal rates are regulated by schedules within Village ordinance, Trustee Langan indicated that rate schedules can be updated with the approval of the Village Board without making changes to the actual ordinance.

Trustee Langan moved to approve scheduled increases in parking fines and parking decal rates effective May 1, 2013, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

E. Ordinance (#O-13-08) Proposed Increase in the Village's Water Rate: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan provided information related to the establishment and use of the Village's Water Fund and noted that the Village receives Lake Michigan water from the City of Chicago through the Village of McCook. As the City of Chicago announced its four year rate increase beginning January 1, 2012 and in order to continue to fund ongoing operations including the rate increases from Chicago, Trustee Langan noted recommended percentages over a four fiscal year period. Trustee Langan indicated that Village water rate increases are significantly less than the City of Chicago rate increases. Also noted by Trustee Langan was that it is anticipated that the new water meters will provide more accountability and as a result should revenues increase, future water rate increases could be reduced or eliminated. Water rates will continue to be monitored on an annual basis.

Trustee Langan moved to approve an ordinance increasing existing water rates by 6.0% from \$6.687 per one hundred cubic feet to \$7.088 per one hundred cubic feet, effective May 1, 2013, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

F. Ordinance (#O-13-09) Proposed Increase in the Village's Sewer Rate: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan provided information related to the establishment and use of the Village's Sewer Fund. Adding that sewer fees are the sole source of revenue in this fund, rate increases are needed to maintain the cost of operations. In order to provide funding for future projected operations and to rebuild sewer reserves, Trustee Langan noted staff's recommendation to increase sewer rates by 10% each year for three consecutive years which equates to approximately fifteen dollars for an average household.

Trustee Langan noted that sewer rates would continue to be monitored on an annual basis and should water accountability be improved through the water meter replacement project possible reductions may be incurred.

Trustee Langan moved to approve an ordinance increasing existing sewer rates by 10% from \$.730 per one hundred cubic feet to \$.803 per one hundred cubic feet, effective May 1, 2013, seconded by Trustee Holder.

For clarification, Trustee Kuchler noted that these sewer fees are for sewer maintenance and not major sewer repairs which are taken out of the Motor Fuel Tax Fund.

Trustee Horvath noted that sewer rates are low in comparison with higher water rates and would like to see more of a balance in the future.

Trustee Palermo inquired as to the amount of extra revenue may be had with the new water meter replacement project. Finance Director Cipparrone responded that the new

water meters are projected to provide an additional 5% accountability or approximately \$20,000 savings.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

G. Resolution (#R-13-09) – Approving the FY 2013-14 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan explained the importance of the Village's budget document adding that this item has evolved over numerous pre-budget development workshops which were conducted over the last eight months and a public hearing which was conducted earlier this evening to accept any oral or written public comments. Trustee Langan identified the budgetary issues and individual trustee concerns regarding Village finances over the long term. Trustee Langan noted that the budget is used as a guideline for financial, administrative and operational purposes, however only the FY2013-14 operating and capital improvement budget is required to be adopted.

Trustee Langan noted that the Village has taken steps to reduce operating and personnel expenses and continues to observe conservative financial management practices, recognizing the downward pressure on its financial means, while being sensitive to financial challenges being experienced by taxpayers, yet at the same time maintaining community vitality.

Trustee Langan detailed the Village's changes in funding and financial assumptions reflected in the FY2013-14 budget and noted financial discipline by adhering closely to its five-year financial and cost containment plan.

It was moved by Trustee Langan to adopt the Resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Approved by a 4 to 2 roll call vote.

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

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn provided information on an upcoming Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, indicating the La Grange Police Department will serve as a regional drop off facility. Mr. Pilipiszyn also provided information on an upcoming Electronics Recycling event to be conducted at Lyons Township High School South Campus.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Matthew Barrette, 513 S. 10th Avenue expressed numerous comments and resident concerns regarding the proposed improvements to the intersection at 47th Street and East Avenue. Mr. Barrette noted resident's opposition to an overpass at the intersection. Mr. Barrette added that the public is not being advised and are concerned that Congressman Lipinski's has proposed funding for improvements.

President Asperger indicated that Congressman Lipinski is always open to citizen's concerns and explained the differences between the CREATE project and IDOT improvement for signalization. President Asperger noted the Village's working with local legislators regarding improvements for traffic and pedestrian safety throughout the community. Adding that the Village has and will continue to provide dialog and communication on any upcoming public hearings via the Village's website, newsletter, President Asperger invited residents to contact any of the Board or staff at any time.

Carrie Prystalski, 517 S. 10th Avenue feels that the process should allow for more public transparency and the Village should provide written communication to legislators regarding their discontent with any overpass at the intersection of 47th Street and East Avenue. President Asperger noted that the Village maintains open communication with local legislators and that information is being provided to the public.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Kuchler is in favor of written communication to local legislators stating objections to an overpass at the intersection of 47th Street and East Avenue. Trustee Kuchler does not believe that signalization would be an improvement to the intersection.

Trustee Langan expressed his thanks to Matt and Carrie for bringing their concerns to the Board. Trustee Langan agrees with President Asperger that staff maintains open communication with local legislators and continues to provide information to the public.

Trustee Horvath is in agreement with Trustee Kuchler that the Board should provide written documentation to local legislators of the concerns of local residents.

Trustee Palermo also agrees that written documentation to legislators is appropriate as social media only provides mixed opinion.

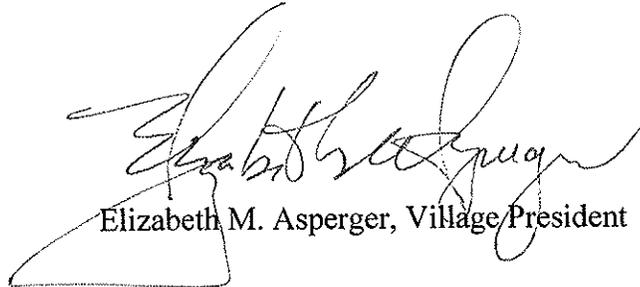
Trustee Nowak agrees that social media provides mixed opinion, however also believes the Village President's process is the proper mechanism.

President Asperger believes that actions taken to elevate the level of concern with this issue are not founded, however thanked residents for their comments.

Trustee Holder expressed his gratitude to the La Grange Fire Department for their response in the recent emergencies.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:10 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Holder.
Approved by voice vote.



Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:



Thomas Morsch, Village Clerk

Approved Date: May 13, 2013