

MINUTES

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

Monday, January 13, 2014 - 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 Livingston. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk John Burns, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Langan, Kuchler, McCarty, 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 Livingston requested Village Clerk John Burns announce who will be leading the Pledge of Allegiance this evening. Clerk Burns indicated that Scoutmaster John Svoboda, Sr., from Troop 66 is providing an official flag ceremony which was initiated by Boy Scouts John Svoboda, Paul Kurtzner, Ryan Oeste, and Peter Schwabe. Upon presentation of the flags they lead the audience in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Livingston welcomed the New Year indicating that La Grange will celebrate 135 years in 2014. Noting attention to development of the annual budget, to be presented for approval in April, President Livingston indicated that public safety, health care costs, and economic expansion will encompass basic funding. President Livingston announced that workshops will be conducted to determine the need for a utility tax increase and/or a food and beverage tax. Indicating that a Capital Projects Workshop is scheduled for February 3, President Livingston expressed commitments for financial stability for future generations.

President Livingston extended his gratitude to the various departments for their professionalism in handling the challenges presented by recent severe weather conditions.

President Livingston indicated that Village finances were discussed by the La Grange 2020 Task Force in December and the next meeting, scheduled for January 15, 2014 will encompass infrastructure. Thanking resigning Chairperson Diane Gormely-Barnes, President Livingston welcomed Michael Kotynek as the new Chairperson and Katie Justak as Vice Chairperson. Adding his thanks to members of the Task Force, President Livingston looks forward to their final findings in June.

Having addressed the La Grange Citizen's Council last week concerning Village government, President Livingston thanked them for their dedication.

Referencing on-going renovation to the Stone Avenue train station, President Livingston advised that Metra is also moving forward with repairs to the La Grange Road train station.

Lastly President Livingston provided updates to the redevelopment of the former YMCA property.

A. Appointment – Plan Commission

With the recent resignation of Nancy Pierson, President Livingston requested approval to appoint Ms. Julie Eagan as a member of the Plan Commission to serve the remaining term. Trustee Langan moved to approve the appointment, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee Langan expressed his thanks to Ms. Pierson for her years of service.

Motion approved by voice vote.

B. Oath of Office – Firefighter / Paramedic Adam VanEvery

As the La Grange Fire Department is a recipient of a grant to fund the hiring of a floater firefighter / paramedic for two years, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have appointed Adam VanEvery to fill the position of Firefighter / Paramedic effective January 2, 2014. Noting his education and experience, President Livingston requested he step forward and Village Clerk Burns to administer the oath.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Ordinance (#O-14-01) – Disposal of Surplus Property – Forfeited Vehicles
- B. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, December 9, 2013
- C. Consolidated Voucher 131223 – (\$547,098.93)
- D. Consolidated Voucher 140113 – (\$1,375,603.41)

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

Approved by roll call vote.

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

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

None

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Pre-Budget Development Workshop – Revenues (Food and Beverage Tax) – Continued Discussion

President Livingston advised that the Village will continue to engage the business community for further discussion on the proposed Food and Beverage Tax. President Livingston opened the floor and welcomed any comments from members of the audience as well as the Board of Trustees. Seeing none, President Livingston requested Village Manager Pilipiszyn to prepare options for reductions in the proposed food and beverage tax and utility tax and/or a combination of both sources of revenue to be considered at the January 27 Village Board of Trustees meeting.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Bridget Erickson, 725 S. 11th Avenue noted her previous request to the Board on November 11 related to issues involving feeding wildlife and feral cats. Ms. Erickson indicated that staff has been helpful however feels this is a public health issue and encourages the adoption of specific regulations and fines relative to this matter. President Livingston indicated that staff has provided the Board with updates and will continue to assess this issue.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION
9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Holder wished to personally thank Fire Chief Bryzgalski, Police Chief Holub, and Public Works Director Gillingham for their efforts in performing their duties during the extreme weather conditions and throughout the holiday season.

Trustee Kuchler added his thanks to staff for their service. Trustee Kuchler wished all a happy new year and congratulated the St. Francis Xavier girls volley ball team.

As the meeting room was occupied to capacity, Trustee Holder respectfully noted the audience having the opportunity to speak.

As no individual came forward, President Livingston clarified that there has been public communications and concerns related to homeless individuals and the programs provided to assist them. President Livingston indicated that all comments and concerns relating to homeless individuals are taken seriously and would be considered to ensure public safety. Indicating that the Village has an anti-loitering ordinance in place, President Livingston assured the audience that these concerns would be resolved in a fact based and respectful manner.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:03 p.m. Trustee Langan moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Holder. Approved by voice vote.



Thomas E. Livingston, Village President

ATTEST:



John Burns, Village Clerk

Approved Date: January 27, 2014