

MINUTES

LA GRANGE 2020 TASK FORCE

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

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A meeting of the La Grange 2020 Task Force was held on January 15, 2014 in the Auditorium of the Village Hall at 53 South La Grange Road, La Grange, IL, beginning at 7:08 p.m.

Present and Constituting a Quorum: Chairperson Michael Kotynek, Vice Chair Katie Justak, Jim Arnold, Laura Blentlinger, John Boehms, David Bucaro, Michael Cameron, Karen Deane, Clayton Edwards, Diane Gormely-Barnes, Michelle Halm, Jimmy Janevski, Wayne Kardatzke, Bridget Lacey, Karrie Lange, Anthony Lewandowski, John Lorenzen, Ellen MacEntee, Caitlin Malloy-Marcon, Scott McPherson, Suzie Mosher, Mark Nelson, John Pappas, Russ Riberto, Lisa Sagami, David Schwartz, Elizabeth Stiles, Jeremy Strayer, Ray Swiatek, Laura Tussing, Glen Wentink, and David Wilkinson.

Absent: Ellen Brewin, Julie Bunnell, Margaret Carlson, Ken Eastman, Elyse Hoffenberg, Richard Holly, Bill Johnson, Meg LeFavre, Mark A. Lies II, Steve Palmer, Mark Reich, Sherry Robinson, Lester Williams, and Rebecca Wimbush.

Also Present: President Tom Livingston, Village Clerk John Burns, Village Attorney Mark Burkland, Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn, Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson, Finance Director Lou Cipparrone, Director of Public Works Ryan Gillingham, Assistant Director of Public Works, Mike Bojovic.

II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW TASK FORCE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Mr. Pilipiszyn welcomed Task Force members and introduced Michael Kotynek as the new Chair and Katie Justak as the new Vice Chair. Mr. Pilipiszyn also thanked Diane Gormely-Barnes for her service to the Task Force.

Chairperson Kotynek echoed Mr. Pilipiszyn's sentiments and thanked Diane Gormely-Barnes and Task Force members for their participation. Chairperson Kotynek provided a presentation describing the Task Force: 1) accomplishments to date; 2) objectives; 3) timelines; and 4) expectations. Chairperson Kotynek noted

that the February meeting of the Task Force will include a presentation regarding service based organizations. Starting at the February meeting, Task Force members will be grouped into topical teams that will focus on reviewing the Village's Strategic Planning "Pillars" and areas of opportunity within each identified main sphere. A report from the Task Force as a result of this effort is expected to be transmitted to the Village Board in June.

Task Force members provided comments regarding how the individuals assigned to each work group will be selected. Chairperson Kotynek indicated that while some weight will be given to an individual's background, group diversity is also desired.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on December 18, 2013 were presented for approval. David Wilkinson made a motion which was seconded by Wayne Kardatzke to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

IV. INFRASTRUCTURE – PRESENTATION

Vice-Chairperson Katie Justak introduced Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham, who will provide a presentation on the topic of Village infrastructure. At the conclusion of the presentation, task force members will be asked to participate in a small group discussion.

Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham provided an overview of the responsibilities of the Public Works Department. The Department is responsible for maintaining and improving the Village's infrastructure and assets including transportation (streets, alleys, and sidewalks); potable water system; sewer system; street lighting; urban forest; municipal buildings; and equipment.

The Public Works Department is a twenty-four hour operation maintaining 53 miles of public streets and alleys; three state routes (La Grange Road, Ogden Avenue and 47th Street); 100 miles of sidewalk; almost 4,000 signs, thirteen traffic signals; lane markings and crosswalks; and ten municipal parking lots. In addition to maintaining the water system (which includes the pumping station, water mains, meters, hydrants and valves), Public Works is also responsible for the primarily combined sewer system, street lighting system, urban forest and municipal buildings.

The Village prepares a five year Capital Improvements budget annually which plans for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the Village's infrastructure. Funded through various sources including available grants, the Capital Improvements budget provides for projects such as street resurfacing; upgrades to the water distribution system and pumping station; additional sewer capacity to connect to the Deep Tunnel system; and replacement of trees lost to the Emerald Ash Borer.

At the conclusion of the presentations, Task Force members asked several questions regarding: 1) capacity and cost of the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer; 2) overhead sewers; 3) IDOT road maintenance agreements; 4) Emerald Ash Borer; 5) employee work allocation; 6) drainage requirements for new construction; 7) combined sewer replacement; 8) downspout disconnection programs; 9) road resurfacing program and materials; 10) LED street lighting replacement; and 11) water pump station renovations. Village staff provided responses as appropriate.

V. DISCUSSION

Chairperson Kotynek referred to a handout which included questions for small group discussion. Each small group was asked to look ahead and determine what the highest priority projects are that need attention in order to maintain the quality of life in La Grange; if there are projects that were not mentioned that are important for the Village to consider; how to rank the projects in order of importance; what the main challenges are in undertaking any of the projects; and how the projects will impact the annual operating budget of the Village, if at all.

The results of these discussions are attached.

Chairperson Kotynek thanked the Task Force members for their input and asked members to think long term, strategically and realistically when considering the Village's future priorities. Recommendations should be actionable and in service of an identified goal. Task Force members commented that it would be helpful to receive a break-down of the topics that fall under each existing "Pillar" in order to assist with developing the goals and priorities. It was agreed that a survey would be sent out to Task Force members gauging their interest in serving on a particular work group topic.

President Livingston thanked Chairperson Kotynek, Vice-Chairperson Justak and Diane Gormely-Barnes for their assistance in leading the Task Force. He noted that he would be reporting the progress of the Task Force to the Village Board.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the La Grange 2020 Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Andrianna Peterson
Assistant Village Manager