

MINUTES

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

Monday, June 9, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.

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

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Livingston. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk John Burns, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Kuchler, Langan, Mc Carty (arrived at 7:20 p.m.) and Nowak (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)

ABSENT: Trustee Palermo

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

President Livingston requested that Village Clerk Burns lead the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Livingston explained that this evening's meeting would consist of recognition of citizen volunteers and a report from the La Grange 2020 Task Force. Noting the recent Memorial Day services and annual Pet Parade, President Livingston acknowledged all who participated in the success of these events.

President Livingston provided information on tomorrow evening's Plan Commission meeting which will include business regarding the development of the former YMCA property.

Acknowledging the presence of Senator Chris Radogno, former Village President Liz Asperger, and Executive Director of the Park District Dean Bissias, President Livingston thanked them for helping to cultivate what La Grange represents today.

3. RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS

In appreciation for the citizen volunteers who have rendered thoughtful and dedicated service to the Village by participating on various advisory boards and commissions over the past year, President Livingston stated that each Trustee along with Village staff would give a brief synopsis of the functions of each advisory board and commission, and announce the names of the members along with their years of service.

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners (3-year term, 3 members)

Police Chief Mike Holub stated that in accordance with State Statute, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners oversee certain personnel matters within the Fire and Police Departments. They are responsible for the initial appointment of all full-time firefighters/paramedics and police officers; they make promotional appointments; and administer disciplinary action. The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners recently hired one new firefighter/paramedic as a result of receiving a federal grant through the Department of Homeland Security. Members are: Elyse Hoffenberg – recently appointed; Paul Kerpan – 1 year of service, and Mark A. Lies, II, Chair – 15 years of service.

Design Review Commission (3-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Kuchler explained that the Design Review Commission reviews matters related to the Central Business District Façade Renovation/Restoration Program. The commission also reviews and offers recommendations to the Village Board on design review applications within the Design Overlay District and reviews appeals regarding the denial of sign permits. Trustee Kuchler added that the commission's responsibilities have been expanded to include public art and the proposed establishment of a Public Art Commission.

Members are: Troy Pavelka – 4 years of service; Michael Thuma and Carol Vizek – both serving for 5 years; Tim Reardon – 7 years of service; Mark Ozer – 12 years of service; Andrea Barnish, Chair – 22 years of service; and Regina McClinton – 23 years of service.

Environmental Quality Control Commission – (2-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Langan explained that this commission continues to evaluate environmental issues and “green” initiatives which have been annotated in the Village budget. The Commission has offered recommendations relating to the Emerald Ash Borer, quarry blasting, recycling and refuse disposal along with energy efficiencies.

Members are: Rebecca Davies – 1 year of service; Linda Christianson – 5 years of service; F. Peter Gabrek – 15 years of service; Richard Battistoni – 24 years of service; Glenn Wentink, Chair – 26 years of service; Patty Weber – 34 years of service; and Harlan Hirt – 40 years of service.

Zoning Board of Appeals – (5-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Holder stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals reviews applications for relief from one or more requirements of the Village's Zoning Code, conducts public hearings and makes recommendations to the Village Board regarding those applications for zoning variations. Trustee Holder noted some typical requests discussed and reviewed by the Zoning Board of Appeals include front, side and rear yard setbacks for single-family homes; building coverage for single-family homes; building coverage and setbacks for the replacement of detached garages.

Members are: Michael Finder and Jeff Hoffenberg both serving for 4 years; Peter O'Connor – 5 years of service; Rosemary Naseef – 7 years of service; Ian Brenson – 8 years of service; Ellen Brewin Chair – 20 years of service; and David Schwartz newly appointed.

Plan Commission – (3-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Holder explained that the Plan Commission reviews and recommends applications for special use permits, planned development approval, site plan approval, amendments to the Zoning Code and official map, vacation of public-rights-of-way, and subdivision plats.

Trustee Holder introduced members: Julie Egan newly appointed; Jay Stewart – 3 years of service; Greg Paice – 6 years of service; Laura Weyrauch and Tom Williams both serving for 7 years; Jerry Reich – 14 years of service; and Wayne Kardatzke, Chair – 19 years of service.

Community & Economic Development Commission (3-year term, 9 members)

Trustee Langan noted that this commission considers and makes recommendations to the Village Board regarding economic development issues and matters related to the relationships between residential neighborhoods and commercial business districts. Trustee Langan advised that the CEDC has offered guidance to the La Grange 2020 Task Force on numerous topics relevant to Village Government.

Members are: David Schwartz and Rebecca Wimbush – both serving for 3 years; Richard Holly – 5 years of service; Margaret Carlson, Mark Reich, Elizabeth Stiles and Lester Williams all serving for 7 years; and Steve Palmer 14 years of service.

President Livingston announced that the Village Board would also like to thank several citizen volunteers who hold appointed positions and requested members of staff to recognize these individuals.

Police Chief Holub, on behalf of the Village, expressed his gratitude to the Police Auxiliary Force and Jim Liotta who has served on the Auxiliary Police Force for over 30 years, the last 20 years as Director.

Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson expressed the Village's gratitude to Curtis Linder who has represented the Village of La Grange by serving as a Trustee on the West Suburban Mass Transit District. This organization provides financial assistance to member communities to implement commuter-related improvements. Mr. Linder has served on the Board since 2009.

Fire Chief William Bryzgalski explained that the Firemen's Pension Board was created according to Illinois State Statute to review pension investment activity and evaluate disability claims, fitness for duty and other matters of an operational nature. Colin Robertson is the resident member who was appointed in 2011. Chief Bryzgalski added that in 2012, Mr. Robertson was also appointed to the Police Pension Board as the resident member.

President Livingston offered a public thank you to all and recognized Bill Laipple, President of the La Grange Rotary and State Representative Jim Durkin for their attendance.

4. PRESENTATION – LA GRANGE 2020 TASK FORCE REPORT

President Livingston noted that La Grange is celebrating its 135 year of incorporation. As a new Board convened last year, President Livingston encouraged the establishment of a group of citizens to meet monthly and share their perspective on focused topics. President Livingston noted that the La Grange 2020 Task Force is composed of talented and diversified volunteers who have given their time to discuss and deliberate on the future of La Grange. President Livingston invited Mike Kotynek, Chair of La Grange 2020 to present their report.

Mr. Kotynek stated that the task force set out to build a strategic plan to support the Village's mission statement of "preserving and enhancing the quality of life that is currently enjoyed in La Grange." Mr. Kotynek thanked the Board for the opportunity to present their report and indicated that the five pillars in the report; economic development; community vitality; core services; infrastructure and Village finances would be presented individually.

Pillar Chair of the Economic Development Team, Mr. Russ Riberto noted the team's vision was to strengthen economic vitality by attracting diverse and successful businesses that generate tax revenue. Mr. Riberto provided details outlining the numerous

possibilities and suggestions provided by members of the task force economic development team.

Ms. Katie Justak provided the report on behalf of Mr. Scott McPherson, Pillar Chair of the Community Vitality Team. Ms. Justak noted the team's vision was to re-ignite a sense of community through greater communication and coordination among residents; businesses; government and not-for-profit partners, allowing for growth and prosperity. Ms. Justak elaborated on possible internal and external communication ideas provided by members of the team.

Pillar Chair of the Core Services Team, Ms. Laura Tussing, stated the team's vision statement is to effectively preserve the peace and safety of the community by upholding a fully staffed fire and police department and maintain appropriate levels of necessary services and resources. Providing recommendations for combined dispatch services and priorities, Ms. Tussing noted the team's ideas for implementation.

Pillar Chair of the Infrastructure Team, Mr. David Bucaro, provided information on the current state of the Village's infrastructure and noted the team's recommendation is to provide a proactive approach for improvements. Mr. Bucaro noted actions which included an asset management program to reduce operational expenses.

Pillar Chair of the Finance Team, Mr. Jeremy Strayer, explained the current state of Village finances and provided his team's priorities in developing a financial strategy. Advising on proposed actions and sources of revenue, the finance team supports the continuation of the Village's cost containment efforts while also indicating that it may be a good time to consider revenue options.

Mr. Kotynek thanked all members of the Task Force and each pillar chair for their presentation. Summarizing that the task force members realized that change is inevitable, Mr. Kotynek feels practical recommendations provided will assist in prosperity for the Village.

President Livingston thanked the La Grange 2020 Task Force members for their thoughtful recommendations. Indicating that policy and budget development are important for future leaders, he encouraged Trustee comments.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

None

6. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Holder expressed his thanks to all members of the La Grange 2020 Task Force and noted his appreciation for their thoughtful and fresh approach to priorities for the future of the Village.

Trustee Kuchler added his appreciation for the report and looks forward to further discussion regarding their recommendations.

Indicating his thanks to the talented individuals of the task force, Trustee Langan welcomes future challenges which are similar to those identified by the Board.

Trustee McCarty concurred with the approach that core services are critical for the Village.

Trustee Nowak apologized for arriving late and noted his continued review of the written report provided by the La Grange 2020 Task Force. Trustee Nowak indicated that further discussion and future deliberation would be helpful to develop financial impacts.

President Livingston indicated that there would be continued discussion relative to the report provided by the La Grange 2020 Task Force.

President Livingston requested members of the La Grange 2020 Task Force to come forward for photographs and presented them with a plaque to memorialize their work. President Livingston then requested members of the former Main Street to also come forward for photographs and presented Ms. Jeannine McLaughlin with a plaque to honor the members.

7. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:15 p.m. it was moved by Trustee Langan to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Holder. Motion approved by voice vote.


Thomas Livingston, Village President

ATTEST:


John Burns, Village Clerk

Approved Date: June 23, 2014