

Village of La Grange Park
Village Work Session Minutes
June 11, 2019

A Work Session meeting of the Village Board of the Village of La Grange Park, Illinois was held in the Village Board Room of the La Grange Park Municipal Building on Tuesday, June 11, 2019.

Village President Discipio called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. President Discipio asked all in attendance to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. He then asked Deputy Village Clerk Bakalich to call the roll.

Board Members in attendance unless otherwise noted were:

Trustees:
Scott Mesick
Michael Sheehan
James Kucera (*Absent*)
Robert Lautner
Jamie Zaura
Amanda Seidel

Village President: James Discipio

Also in Attendance were:

Village Manager:	Julia Cedillo
Assistant Village Manager:	Emily Rodman
Village Attorney:	Cathy Keating
Deputy Village Clerk:	Amanda Seidel
Finance Director:	Larry Noller
Village Engineer:	Paul Flood
Director of Building/Fire:	Dean Maggos
Public Works Director:	Rick Radde
Police Chief:	Tim Contois

Deputy Village Clerk Bakalich informed President Discipio a quorum was present.

Swearing –In of New Police Chief, Timothy D. Contois

President Discipio introduced Chief Contois with a brief summary of his achievements and invited him up for the swearing in of his Oath of Office. Deputy Village Clerk Sandy Bakalich performed the swearing in of Chief Contois. Chief Contois then addressed the room thanking the Police Department, the Village Staff and Board of Trustees, Former Chief Rompa, his family, and the residents.

Public Participation

President Discipio moved on to Public Participation. Pam Podolner addressed the Board speaking in favor of the keeping of chickens. She voiced her hopes that the Board wouldn't go with the majority vote as the survey could be taken more than once and by people who lived outside of La Grange Park. She countered some of the concerns of residents who took the survey. Discussing disease, accidental roosters, and suggested having restrictions similar to the ones imposed on dog owners. The Podolner children also addressed the Board. Roxanne Podolner discussed the benefits to the environment as they eat bugs and small rodents and that they are a good choice as a pet for families with allergies. Lauren Podolner discussed the concern about chickens attracting predators and ways to prevent this from happening. Vivienne Podolner discussed the concern about ugly coops and that there are cute options for coops. Mr. Podolner addressed the Board following his family. He addressed the

June 11, 2019

Village of La Grange Park – Work Session Meeting

concern that chickens would lower property values. He mentioned several other communities that allow the keeping of backyard chickens. He also pointed out that typically it is a very small percentage of residents who keep chickens in communities that allow it. He encouraged the Board to get more information and to look at the issues further before making a decision perhaps by inviting a chicken enthusiasts out, tours of coops in other communities, or looking at Glencoe and their Community Coop.

Leah Lowery of Community Drive then addressed the Board of Trustees thanking them for considering the discussion on the keeping of backyard chickens. She addressed many of the concerns raised by those who took the survey including attracting wildlife and disease. She also spoke on the benefits of keeping backyard chickens such as sustainability and consumption and thanked the Board again for considering the discussion.

Administrative Committee Items

Trustee Seidel read the Agenda Memo Item - Discussion – Keeping of Chickens – Community Survey Results. The survey results indicate that the majority of the community does not support the overturning of the ordinance against keeping backyard chickens. During the discussion, the possibility of allowing a trial was discussed. Another concern was that typical La Grange Park lots were not large enough. It was also noted that there are a small number of people interested in keeping chickens and historically, there has not been a lot of interest. The discussion mentioned that if allowed it would have to be tightly regulated.

At the end of the discussion with several concerns noted, including that it would set a precedence, the Board was open to keeping the discussion active and receiving additional information. Village Manager Cedillo mentioned that Staff has collected a lot of information from other communities including permit processes, regulations, and zoning codes and would gather more information. It was decided that Staff would continue to gather information for the Board by looking at other communities such as Western Springs which allow the keeping of backyard chickens and reaching out to those communities that may have had trials prior to allowing the keeping of chickens in the code.

Building & Zoning Committee Items

Trustee Zaura read the Agenda Memo Item for discussion – Zoning Application No. 2019-01, 340 N. Spring – Zoning Variations. During discussion it was mentioned that the original measurement was a mathematical error with the eave measurement being taken from the wrong point originally, that the drawings didn't change. The PZC was unanimous in their decision as well. It was noted that the application met the "hardship" requirement. At the end of the discussion *there was a consensus to place the motion to Approve An Ordinance Granting Certain Variations for 340 N. Spring (Public Hearing No. 2019-01) on the Consent Agenda at the June Village Board Meeting.*

Public Works Committee Items

Trustee Sheehan read the Agenda Memo Item for discussion – 2019 Alley and Beach Off Street Parking Engineering Agreements. At the end of the discussion *there was a consensus to place the motion to Approve and Authorize the Village Manager to Execute Agreements Between the Village of La Grange Park and Edwin Hancock Engineering for Engineering Services in an Amount Not to Exceed, as Follows: (1) \$33,400 for Design and Construction Engineering – 2019 Alley Reconstruction Project (2) \$5,300 for Design and Construction Engineering – 2019 Beach Off Street Parking Project on the Consent Agenda at the June Village Board Meeting.*

Other Reports

No reports

Village President

President Discipio read the Agenda Memo Item for discussion and action – Appointment to the Sustainability Commission – and summarized his application. After the discussion, *Trustee Mesick made a motion to Appoint Bill Withrow to the Sustainability Commission to Serve a Three Year Term Expiring in May, 2022. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lautner*

June 11, 2019
Village of La Grange Park – Work Session Meeting

and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. Mr. Withrow was in attendance and was welcomed by the Board and introduced himself.

Commercial Revitalization Committee

In the absence of Trustee Kucera, Trustee Zaura read the Agenda Memo Item for discussion and action – 1201 Barnsdale – Economic Incentive Agreement – Second Amendment. It was noted in the discussion that all legal costs for amendments are born by the applicant. It was also mentioned that the owners have had some issues with the building internally which has delayed the process. At the end of the discussion Trustee Zaura made a motion to Approve An Ordinance Approving A Second Amendment to 1201 Barnsdale Agreement Between the Village of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois and 1201 Barnsdale, LLC. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mesick and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

New Business

There was none.

Adjourn

Since there was no further business to be brought before the Village Board Meeting, President Discipio said he would entertain a motion to adjourn into Executive Session. Trustee Mesick made a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of 1. To Discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The motion to adjourn into Executive Session was seconded by Trustee Sheehan and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandy Bakalich
Deputy Village Clerk