

## **SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

NOVEMBER 2, 2020

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING – 6:30pm

**CALL TO ORDER at 7:50 PM/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL:** Present: Trustees Barb Andres, Sharon Bower, Kevin Fitzgerald, Aaron Karow, Bill Kaskin, Jeremy Knoll. Absent: President Howard Skinner. Also Present: Administrator Laura Roesslein, Clerk Sabrina Waswo.

### **Discussion and possible action regarding the Families First Policy.**

Discussion on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act which allows paid leave for employees for reasons relating to COVID-19. Village can decide to exempt emergency responders from the leave entirely or exempt them from leave for caring for a family member, but choose to provide them paid sick leave in the case of their own COVID-19 illness. The act is only in effect until the end of the year.

Board discussed who should be exempted and considered essential employees. The consensus was if they were to exempt employees it would be all employees or no employees. The Police Chief and Public Works Director were both in favor of exempting employees from their departments.

Board felt employees would take advantage of the program. Trustee Karow said the bigger concern is the red tape involved with participating in a federal program. The policy is more far reaching than what the village wants. It could be handled at the board level on a case by case basis. Trustee Andres said all village employees are essential otherwise we would not have them and agreed with the village creating a policy.

Questions arose if the board can exempt all employees and still get reimbursement of federal funds. Administrator Roesslein stated she spoke with Kenosha County Finance Director who said we can claim public safety employee wages under the Routes to Recovery Grant from March to November.

Board consensus was to handle issues as they arise in house, deem all employees essential, and exempt their eligibility to participate in the federal act.

*Motion by Karow, Andres to deem all village employees as essential and exempt them from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Motion carried 6 to 0.*

### **Adjourn**

*Motion by Bower, Fitzgerald, Carried, to adjourn at 8:25 pm.*