



Meeting: Village Board
Meeting Date: 05/13/13
Agenda Item: 5b

Mission Statement

Delivering quality services in a courteous, cost-effective and efficient manner.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: Burt R. McIntyre, President
Village Board of Trustees

REPORT FROM: Paul F. Evert, Village Administrator

AGENDA ITEM: Approve appointments to Legislative Agenda Committee

ACTION REQUESTED: Ordinance Resolution Motion Receive/File

POLICY ISSUE

Should the Village Board approve the appointment President Burt McIntyre, Trustee Widiger and Trustee Steffen to the Legislative Agenda Committee?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the January 28, 2013 Village Board meeting, Trustee Widiger referred the idea of creating a committee to make recommendations to the Board regarding legislative matters. The majority of communities around the state rely on the League of Municipalities to represent their interests on the state level. Previously a separate organization, The Wisconsin Alliance of Cities, represented most of the larger communities in the state.

Over the last two years, the Wisconsin Alliance of Cities was folded into the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and their previous members are part of a subgroup of the League called the Urban Alliance. However, the League does not always champion issues of immediate importance to the Village of Howard. For example, the Village is not allowed to participate in the state's Expenditure Restraint Program because the current mill rate in the Village is under \$4 per \$1,000 of value. The League is in no position to champion a change in that program that would benefit the Village because it would be at the detriment to some of its current members. And in other cases, the League has supported legislation that is of concern to the Village when proposed as a separate piece of legislation, such as the bill last year that would have allowed billboard companies to relocate their signs almost anywhere as part of a highway project, but when the legislation did not move forward there was no follow up to make sure it was not in the recently proposed state budget.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW

Trustee Widiger referred the matter on Jan. 28, 2013.
The Village Board approved the formation of the Legislative Agenda Committee, comprised of the village president and two trustees, at the Feb. 25, 2013 meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

1. Is There A Fiscal Impact? No
2. Is it Currently Budgeted? No
3. If Budgeted, Which Line? No

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Village staff supports the appointments proposed by President McIntyre. The committee's mission would be to make recommendations to the Board on an annual legislative agenda and also make recommendations when legislation appears throughout the course of the year that could impact the Village. It is recommended that this committee be subject to a one-year sunset clause so its effectiveness is reviewed to see if it should be continued after one year.

If the Village Board agreed with this action, the following motion could be used, *“Motion to approve the appointment of President Burt McIntyre, Trustee Jim Widiger, and Trustee David Steffen to the Legislative Agenda Committee.”*

POLICY ALTERNATIVE(S)

The Village Board could take the following actions:

- Approve with revisions
- Deny the suggested motion
- Table the suggested motion and request additional information