



Meeting Date: 3/12/12
Agenda Item: #7a

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

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: President Burt McIntyre and Village Board of Trustees

REPORT FROM: Paul Evert, Village Administrator

AGENDA ITEM: Review and take action on appointing Geoff Farr to the position of Public Works Director

POLICY ISSUE

Should the Village of Howard appoint Village Engineer Geoff Farr to the position of Public Works Director?

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY VILLAGE BOARD

Village staff recommends the Village Board appoint Geoff Farr to the position of Public Works Director. If the board is in favor, the following motion may be made:

"I move to appoint Geoff Farr to the position of Public Works Director."

POLICY ALTERNATIVE(S)

- Not appoint Geoff Farr to the position and begin the search for a permanent Public Works Director.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Village Board appointed Village Engineer Geoff Farr to the position of Interim Public Works Director in September 2010 when then-Public Works Director Bob Bartelt was appointed as Interim Village Administrator. As you all recall, shortly after I started as Administrator, Bob accepted the position of Administrator for the Town of Lawrence. When this happened, I decided to have Geoff once again serve as Interim Public Works Director until I was familiar enough with Geoff that I felt comfortable with him in that position permanently.

In a weekly update in January 2012, I informed you that I did want to permanently name Geoff as Director of Public Works. Although many of you have refreshingly told me that personnel matters are my decisions and that you will not interfere, the current Village ordinance does indicate that you do have a role to play. According to **Sec. 2-443 Personnel**: "The Village Administrator shall: Recommend to the Village Board the appointment or promotion of an employee of the village." For this reason I am asking for your formal approval to my recommendation to appoint Geoff Farr as Director of Public Works.