To: The Honorable Members of the Fox Point Village Board
From: Scott A. Botcher, Village Manager
Date: March 27, 2020
Re: Administrative Report for the Week Ending March 27, 2020

ADMINISTRATION

1. Governor Evers has issued Executive Order #12, a Safer at Home order, that prohibits all nonessential travel, with some exceptions as clarified and defined in the order. The order is in effect until 8 am Friday, April 24, 2020, or until a superseding order is issued.
2. In an attempt to limit staff exposure, Village Hall has been closed to the public since Tuesday morning. Village staff has been directing residents to drop off their water payments, tax installments and applicable voting paperwork in the Village’s drop box. Resident response has been overwhelmingly positive.
3. NEW: Starting April 1, 2020, residents will be able to pay water bills and court citations via credit/debit card on the Village’s website.
4. As of Friday, March 27, 2020, 2,160 absentee ballots have been mailed out.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1. The 2020 Utility Reconstruction Project bid opening (for Barnett, View and Acacia) was held on Thursday. Nine contractors submitted bids for the project ranging between approximately $845,000 and $1,200,000. The apparent low bidder is the same contractor who performed the work on Calumet Road in 2019.
2. Staff participated in a conference call with Wisconsin Emergency Management related to the Presidential Disaster Declaration that was made for the damage to the shoreline the weekend of January 10-12. The Request for Public Assistance (RPA) was submitted to FEMA and we are in the process of gathering all of our costs associated with the debris removal, installation of protective measures and other miscellaneous response costs.
3. The quote opening for the Truck Nos. 7, 19 and 43 will be held next Monday. Truck No. 17, which is proposed to be replaced in 2021, is being repaired (an exhaust/regeneration issue).
4. All DPW and Water Utility staff are maintaining a proper social distance while at the same time continuing to provide services to the Village. Staff have been broken into two groups and are taking staggered breaks and lunch to separate them appropriately.
5. DPW staff continue with normal activities including garbage collection, tree trimming and pruning, doing initial pool preparations.
6. The water utility has postponed gate valve turning due to COVID 19, began acoustic surveys on hydrants and mains, made the decision to relocate a fire hydrant in the 7300 block of Longacre, process diggers hotline tickets, and set up a temporary fill site for a contractor performing sewer work.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. The police department is maintaining regular police services during the COVID Safer at Home period; however, calls for service are significantly decreased due to the limited activity by residents. Officers are engaging in social distancing when engaged with citizens and are working diligently to maintain their personal health to stay on the job.
2. Staff have developed a contingency plan internally, as well as cooperatively with other north shore police agencies, in the event that staff absenteeism increases due to illness.
3. Staff participate in daily conference calls and video conferencing related to the local and state emergency declarations.

NORTH SHORE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

North Shore Health Department Highlights 3/24/20:

In less than two weeks so much of our lives have changed. We are acutely aware of the impacts COVID-19 has had on our community and our daily lives. The seven municipalities of the North Shore are working together through a North Shore Emergency Operations Center to coordinate our response to this pandemic. We are still learning and adapting to this fast pace illness spreading through our communities. Our daily goal is aimed at keeping everyone healthy and safe and to get our lives back to normal as soon as possible.

COVID-19 Cases in the North Shore:

A common question we receive from the public concerns the number of COVID-19 cases in the North Shore. It is important to note that many cases are undocumented because testing is limited, and many cases are asymptomatic. This makes it challenging to understand the true impact of COVID-19 in our community, as positive tests are the only cases that are documented. Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management has created a dashboard map that identifies the positive tests in Milwaukee County. This is a useful resource to directly track confirmed cases on an ongoing basis, but it does not relay the challenges with testing and communal spread. The actual number of positive cases is higher than the confirmed number. The link to the map is here.

Notification of Positive Test Results:

1. NSHD is notified of cases when they present to us either by a provider alerting us a person is being tested or by a confirmed positive test coming to us through the State’s disease reporting system.
2. Unfortunately, with delays in the processing of COVID-19 samples, there are gaps in NSHD being notified. This then feels to the public like the NSHD is slow to notify contacts, but this is the time it takes for the testing and notification process to unfold.

3. To proceed with notification NSHD needs a positive test result and information on the person’s contacts so we can reach out to those exposed. The Health Department takes on the role of notification as we are able to assess the level of risk based on the type of situation where the exposure occurred and give direct guidance to those impacted.

This is a fast-moving disease and the positive test results do not account for the number of people who have the disease but won’t be tested because they don’t meet the criteria. While the positive test cases may appear low, NSHD is confident there are more cases out there.

Our message to the residents of the North Shore to prevent further spread of COVID-19 is:

- Stay home
- Limit outings to essential trips – grocery store, pharmacy, doctor
- Take preventative measures like hand washing and social distancing, even in your own home.

Follow the “Safer at Home” order issued by Governor Evers on March 23rd: Click Here for the full order.