

Allouez Village Board

11/06/2013

This is a request for the Village Board to put this communication and the topic of Village Board compensation on the next agenda. Consideration should be given at budget time for the savings this would create. Money could be better spent keeping recreational programs vibrant.

While Allouez Board members are paid similar salaries as other local municipalities. It is important to note that when reversing the decision to reduce the Village Board size they indicated that they were not in it for the money, but just wanted to serve, and that 10 residents ran for office in the last election. Many Allouez Citizens serve on Boards and Committees, without compensation. Crossing guards who go out in the rain and snow are paid less than Elected Trustees who sit in warm rooms.

Overall Elected Officials are paid at a higher rate than they deserve. This is due to voting for their own raises, without citizen input. As was said on the meeting of November 5, 2013 concerning a referendum on Board size, (paraphrase) the people of Allouez have no idea of what the Board does and they are not educated enough to vote on a referendum. We the Board know what is best for them.

As a side note: in a September meeting the Board Trustees voted unanimously to put the topic of Board size to a referendum because they thought this should be decided by the citizens and it was too important of an issue for them to decide; but at the past meeting they figured they know best and voted to not have a referendum. Again, (paraphrase) the people of Allouez have no idea of what the Board does and they are not educated enough to vote on a referendum. We the Board know what is best for them. How arrogant!

Important note: Trustees voting to not have a referendum were Penny Dart, Lynn Green, Jim Genrich, Randy Gast, and Steve Vanden Avond. Shame on them for putting their self-interest first.

Trustees voting to let the citizens decide were Ray Kopish and Paul Zeller. My thanks to those two for putting the citizens first and voting to let them decide what is best for the Village.

I believe in times when taxes and fees are going up that it is incumbent on the Village Board to do the right thing, and vote to cut their compensation in half. This includes the Village President.

Thanks for your cooperation;

Pat J. Collins

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