



by Douglas H. Frazer

# The Village's New Administrative Leadership Team

The senior Village staff has undergone some changes in the past 18 months. Here is the rundown.

## VILLAGE MANAGER



On July 29, 2013, **Melissa Bohse** became the new village manager. She succeeded Susan Robertson who held the position for over 17 years.

The village manager is similar to the chief operating officer of a private business – with the Village board serving in the function of the board of directors. The village manager is in charge of the recruitment, selection, retention and supervision of Village employees, overseeing Village services,

construction, and public improvements, preparing the annual budget and the ten year capital improvement program, labor negotiations, intergovernmental matters, and overall Village management.

In her first year on the job, Bohse has been busy with matters big and small – from ordinance recodification, restructuring the pool management, redesigning the website and other communication outlets, overseeing a review of human resource policies, reviewing and revising risk management compliance, assessing investment services, and upgrading the office space.

Bohse came to Fox Point from her position as an assistant city administrator in Mequon. She earned her bachelor's degree from Augustana College with a double major in political science and public administration and her master's degree in public administration from Northern Illinois University.

## CHIEF OF POLICE



On August 21, 2014, the Fox Point police commission appointed **Christopher Freedy** to the position of chief of police. Chief Freedy has been on the Village police force for over 17 years and had served as the acting chief following Chief Thomas Czaja's retirement on August 5, 2014. He is a certified trauma paramedic. Moreover, he successfully completed the two most prestigious police management training programs

in the country: the FBI Academy and the Northwestern University Police Management Program.

Chief Freedy brings experience, commitment, and an

understanding of how village government works to this position; in fact his mother, Susan Freedy, served as Elm Grove Village President where he grew up. He earned a BA from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and then trained as a paramedic, working in Minneapolis providing 911 services. Freedy and his wife moved back to the Milwaukee area to be closer to family. It was in Fox Point where his law enforcement career began. He was attracted to the community and mission of the department. Says Chief Freedy, "I believe that our officers are a part of the make-up for Fox Point and the services we provide go far beyond traditional law enforcement. As the chief, I intend to continue our focus on community policing and keeping the officers on the street and a part of the community. Our collaboration and partnership with the residents is what keeps Fox Point safe and secure. With the changing times we face, the community partnership is more important now than ever."

## VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER



In anticipation of Village Treasurer John George's retirement at the end of 2013, the Village board decided to consolidate the offices of village clerk and village treasurer consistent with Wis. Stat. 61.195 and 66.0101.

This action was not unique since many municipalities across the state have combined these offices. On February 11, 2014, the Village board adopted Charter Ordinance No. 9 authorizing the creation of the combined office. A few months later, the Village board appointed the incumbent Village Clerk, **Tanya O'Malley**, as the new clerk-treasurer.

The key functions of the village clerk include elections administration, agenda and minute preparation for the Village board and subordinate boards and committees, Village record management, and countersigning important Village documents.

The key functions of the village treasurer include accounting for the receipt and payment of all Village funds, keeping detailed accounts of all Village transactions and financial activity, and collecting and accounting for taxes and fees.

O'Malley has been with the Village since 2007. She received her bachelor's degree from Alverno College, serving in municipal government since 1998 starting with the City of Fitchburg in Dane County.

Village administration runs smoothly in no small part due to the dedication of its professional staff – and the feedback each gets from the residents they serve.

*Douglas H. Frazer is a trustee on the Fox Point Village Board. The views expressed are his own and not necessarily those of the Village, the Village Board, other Village Board members, or Best Version Media, LLC.*