

Professional Decision

Peter Kampfner <PKampfner@kronenwetter.org>

Fri 7/19/2024 1:15 PM

To:Village Board <VillageBoard@kronenwetter.org>

Cc:Bobbi Birk-LaBarge <bbirklabarge@kronenwetter.org>

Good afternoon,

Last evening, following the APC meeting, it was brought to my attention that Fire Chief O'Brien had threatened her immediate resignation during a prior meeting, a move that could potentially lead to the resignation of half of our village volunteer firefighters. This incident, which occurred on July 11th, following an RDA Committee meeting, as VOK Board President Voll described, is an urgent concern that demands immediate attention. O'Brien's confrontation with Village President Chris Voll and Village Trustee Chris Eiden in the Village Hall parking lot, where she issued explicit demands/ultimatums concerning the new village ambulance service.

From my observation, O'Brien seems to have no professional municipal boundaries. Her intense focus on the ambulance service is so extreme that she is willing to compromise the safety of our community by potentially diminishing our fire protection. The potential consequences of her not getting her way are severe and could have significant implications for our community. This is a serious matter that cannot be overlooked, considering the potential division inside and outside of our Village Hall.

How could the above misbehavior have occurred and not been included in the discussion of the July 17th VOK Special Called Board Meeting? I heard several praises toward the Chief, one admonishment from President Voll, and Trustee Charneski rightly pushed back consistently during deliberation. Do the citizens of Kronenwetter understand what kind of Fire Chief they have? What do you think about the emails (July 9th) she has circulated with the Village Board and Staff?

Besides Chief O'Brien's recent behavior, I found the village staff willing and helpful. These are my words and my words alone. I am not directing my dismay toward any other employees.

Having reviewed the Fire Chief's job description and my own, I am confident in my training and understanding of my role. However, with profound disappointment, I realize I am not the right fit for this municipality. World-class fire protection and ambulance service for the communities I have represented has always been my utmost professional priority, and it pains me to see this community division unfold. I certainly hope the village pursues a professional community ambulance feasibility study.

Therefore, I am resigning from my position as your administrator, effective immediately. My village keys, phone, and credit cards are locked in my village office for your reference. The Village Clerk has my personal contact information. Please don't reply to this email.

Sincerely,

Peter Kampfner, CPM
Village Administrator



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