

**Village of Niles  
General Government / IT Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2020**

The following Voting Persons were in attendance: Chair Craig Niedermaier, Village Manager Steven Vinezeano, IT Director Bill Shaw, and Resident Jeff David. Staff present: Hadley Skeffington-Vos, Kathy Thake, Evangeline Alpogianis, Katie Schneider, Katy Darr, John Melaniphy, Danielle Grcic, Marlene Victorine, and Margaret Keating.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 218 at the Niles Administration Building by Chairman Craig Niedermaier. Roll was taken by Deputy Village Clerk and all Voting Persons were in attendance.

**II. Approve Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2020**

IT Director Bill Shaw made a motion, seconded by Village Manager Steve Vinezeano, to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting. On voice vote, all concurred.

**III. New Business**

- a. Board approval of a resolution authorizing a contractual agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois to provide health insurance for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2020. Katy Darr, Village of Niles Human Resource Specialist, explains that with the renewal of the Village of Niles contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield the last 3 years there has been no increase – which is very rare, and keeps our rates low. Katy Darr continues that the Village would like to offer higher deductible PPO, which is a good option for employees who do not utilize their health plans very often – this new option was brought forth from the HR employee survey. The higher deductible PPO could have potential financial savings for the Village depending on how many employees sign up. Many of the options will be the maintained for employees, including FMLA, COBRA, Dental, and Life insurance. A HSA will be evaluated for next year. Joana Ardelean, Sr. HR Manager, advised the higher deductible PPO may be an attractive offer to certain demographics of the Village employees. Chair Craig Niedermaier asks about the stagnation of the rates and increases, to which John Herr replied that the in-network discounts that the Village has with Blue Cross Blue Shield are very significant and the amount of employees who utilize the in-network providers are close to 99%, so because of the younger demographic who would utilize the new offer and existing HMO, and a combination of luck all help contribute to the stable rate. Chair Craig Niedermaier puts forward motion to bring the resolution authorizing a contractual agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois to provide health insurance for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2020 to the Village Board for ratification, Resident Jeff David seconded. All were in favor.

**IV. Open Discussion / Public Comment**

- a. Village Manager Steven Vinezeano shared a brief update on the CoronaVirus-19 at the Village level. The Village has been very active, especially, Hadley Skeffington-Vos, Deputy Village Manager, and Mary C. Feld, Fire Department Chief, and we have reached out to our regional partners. The Village of Niles Departments heads will be meeting later today to go over options and plans of action. Hadley Skeffington-Vos advises that the Village of Niles' risk is low and to follow guidelines regarding hygiene, more information is posted on the Vniles website and in the Village newsletter which will be updated with information from the CDC, State, and other government resources and information. Village Department heads will work on a plan of action should one of the Village Staff become exposed or infected. The plans will go over essential staff and non-essential staff, working remotely and supplying equipment, union contracts and agreements, and a review of labor laws. The Village is also working on an employee resource with information on Covid19 on the intranet. Chair Craig Niedermaier asks if we have received a lot of inquiries on Covid19, Hadley Skeffington-Vos advised it was generally residents asking at the fitness center. Steve Vinezeano advises if an employee became infected, Village Hall would need to close and a deep clean would be scheduled to happen. Steve Vinezeano also advises the Village will be doing what we can within the guidelines provided by the CDC. We have hand sanitizers and additional cleanings for Village Hall
- b. Reminder from Hadley Skeffington-Vos reminds the committee that electronic recycling is scheduled to happen this weekend at Public works

**V. Adjournment**

On voice vote the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

Drafted on March 13, 2020

Approved on 7-21-20

Signed: Margaret Rose Keating  
Margaret Rose Keating, Deputy Village Clerk/Executive Assistant