



For Immediate Release: 05.02.01

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### **Picketing Unrelated to Village Hall Labor Organizations**

The picketers on Madison Street in front of Village Hall Wednesday were not associated with any labor organizations representing Village employees.

“The Village has very good relations with the various labor organizations that represent our employees,” said Village Manager Carl Swenson. “Everyone – management, union representatives and employees – work very hard to create and maintain a level of trust and cooperation that creates a positive working environment.”

About 75 percent of the Village’s 450 full and part-time employees are represented by labor organizations.

The issue that brought picketers to Village Hall appears to be between the general contractor and a subcontractor working on the Village Hall Courtyard. The Courtyard currently is undergoing refurbishing, including removing all of the brick, creating new landscaped areas, reconstructing the fountain and installing a new drainage system.

While the Village does not require contractors to use union workers, it does require contractors to pay prevailing wages based on guidelines set by the Illinois Department of Labor and approved by the President and Board of Trustees.

Contractors are required to provide the Village with certified payrolls to document their compliance with Village rules. The Village typically receives wage documentation after about 30 days of a project start. Work on the courtyard began in mid-April. The general contractor for the \$905,000 courtyard project is Tri-State Management Co. of Des Plaines.

“Although the Village is not directly involved in the issue that brought the picketers here, we have contacted the general contractor and urged them to resolve this matter in a fair and timely manner. We will continue to monitor the situation until it is resolved.”

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