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Village Selects New Human Resources Director

A human resources professional with more than 20 years of experience has been selected to be the Village's Human Resources Director.

Frank Spataro, currently Assistant Human Resources Director for the City of Cincinnati, is scheduled to assume his new duties with the Village on Mon., Feb. 4.

"I am pleased to announce the selection of a candidate with the training and experience so well suited to managing the human resources needs of the Village," said Village Manager Carl Swenson.

Spataro was one of more than 30 candidates considered for the job left vacant when Rodney Marion resigned in August to accept a new post in Florida with one of the country's largest school districts. A nationwide search for Marion's replacement brought four candidates to Oak Park in December for a full day of comprehensive interviews by Swenson and members of the Village Management Team.

"The role of human resources director is a critical one for a municipal government – especially one of Oak Park's size and complexity," Swenson said, noting that the Village has some 450 full and part time employees, about 75 percent of whom are represented by one of 13 collective bargaining units

"Our criteria when the search began were to find someone with the background to deal with a wide range of personnel issues and continue our labor relations improvements. Frank Spataro offered the best combination of skills, training and experience of all of the candidates considered. I am confident he will be an excellent Human Resources Director for the Village."

A senior human resources executive with the City of Cincinnati since 1980, Spataro assumed the City's number two human resources post in 1993. His duties included managing civil service examinations, labor relations, classification and compensation, employee relations and employee training programs.

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Married with two teenage children, Spataro, 47, is a native Illinoisan with family in the Chicago and Rockford areas. He is a graduate of Illinois State University and has done graduate studies at the University of Cincinnati.

“Opportunities to assume such an important role in a community as vibrant and diverse as Oak Park are rare,” Spataro said. “I am looking forward to joining the management team for the Village and serving its residents and employees.”

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