

## Crossing Guard Restructuring

The safety of our Middle School children is of extreme importance.

The need for a crossing guard at the Middle School was an issue that the Town took on to assure the safety of the kids was provided for.

The current structure is that the Police Chief vets the employee and oversees finger printing, the Town pays the Crossing Guard on a 1099 and the School District reimburses the Town.

Recently, a very upsetting and confusing situation occurred in the firing of one of our existing crossing guards.

The School district called the Chief and wanted the Crossing Guard relieved of their duties. The Chief thinking that the School District had the final say, let the Crossing Guard go.

However, it was the responsibility of the Town Board to take action, not the school nor the Chief of Police.

Since that occurrence, other issues relative to the legality of the Town paying for these services has come to light.

It is important that a Crossing Guard be legally hired, fired and legally accounted for within a municipal budget.

State law legislates that if a school is located within a Villages geographical boundaries, it is the legal obligation of the Village to pay for those services.

The Town is prepared to continue the cost for the crossing guard until the end of the school year.

However, we are requesting that the Village include in their upcoming budget the cost to provide for the needed crossing guard as per state law.