



Report to CLIPP

Agenda Item: Review of Wisconsin Constitutional Obligations

Meeting Date: June 2, 2025

Referring Body: CLIPP

Committee Contact: Ken Charneski

Staff Contact:

Report Prepared by: Ken Charneski

AGENDA ITEM: Review of Wisconsin Constitutional Obligations

OBJECTIVE(S): To review the oath of office in light of obligations imposed by key principles of the Wisconsin Constitution.

This is intended to be an educational series discussing the importance of principles that are incumbent on anyone taking an oath of office in Wisconsin, with the aim of making us all better, more conscientious public officials. We will discuss as or if time allows, when Village business has been concluded. It appears to have a pretty long agenda already, so this item may likely be delayed until the next meeting.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

I had written two papers regarding the oath of office and the importance of committees in an open government. The first was presented to APC and the Village Board in 2019, and the second was presented to CLIPP in 2022.

With the past two years or more of what appears to have been growing disregard by public officials for laws, ordinances, policies, and moral obligations to the public, and now an election that has brought basically a new direction for Village government, this might be considered as a good primer to help us to not fall into the same patterns of the past.

We can first review and discuss "The Fundamentals of Village Government" (attached), as that is foundational to "The Fundamentals of Committees in Government", which can be looked at in a future meeting.

Any opinions or other discussion input from the Committee is welcome and beneficial to the subject.

PROPOSAL: Discussion by CLIPP.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion if time allows.

FINANCIAL

Financial Consideration/Action:

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

Account Number/Title: #

Current Adopted Budget: \$
Spent to Date: \$
Remaining Budget: \$
Requested Amount: \$
Remainder of Budgeted Amount, if approved:

ATTACHMENTS: Fundamentals of Village Government