

Village of Tinley Park

News Release



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Village selects Reeder as new fire chief

The Village of Tinley Park has selected Forest F. Reeder Jr. as the new chief of the Tinley Park Fire Department. Reeder will be appointed at the March 21 Village Board meeting and will start April 10.

Reeder, of Palos Heights, has been in fire service for 38 years and is currently division chief for the Des Plaines Fire Department. He also served as the director of training for the Southwest United Fire Districts, a battalion chief for the Pleasantview Fire Protection District, and as a captain/shift commander for the Palos Fire Protection District.

“Forest brings a wealth of experience to this job,” said Trustee T.J. Grady, Chairman of the Village’s Public Safety Committee. “I’m confident he’ll be a great fit for both the fire department and the Village as a whole.”

Reeder has an associate’s degree in fire science technology from Moraine Valley community College, a bachelor’s degree in fire science management from Southern Illinois University, and a master’s degree in public safety administration from Lewis University.

Reeder won the George D. Post Instructor of the Year award by the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, as well as another Instructor of the Year award by the Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors. He also is a lecturer and consultant throughout North America on fire service training, safety and educational programs, and co-authored and was supervising editor of a fire service textbook.

Reeder will take on the job formerly held by longtime fire chief Kenneth Dunn, who retired last June. Steve Klotz and Dan Riordan have each served as Interim Fire Chief while the Village searched for Dunn’s replacement.

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