
Edwin P. Hettermann
Village President

Claudett Sofiakis
Village Administrator



1515 Channel Beach Avenue
Johnsburg, IL 60051
Village Hall 815.385.6023
www.johnsburg.org

February 27, 2024

Dear Johnsburg Residents and Business Owners,

In relation to a lawsuit initiated by the Pistakee Yacht Club against the Village, I became aware of an incident from last week's Board meeting where a Community Sailing School supporter intimidated a community resident by verbally assaulting her to the point where a male bystander felt obligated to intervene. This conduct has no place in our community.

I want to correct the record regarding the Yacht Club's lawsuit against the Village. In association with their lawsuit, several allegations have been made that the Village is trying to shut down the Pistakee Yacht Club and Community Sailing School. Those statements are false. The Village has always been and continues to be supportive of both organizations however, the Village received complaints regarding junk and boats, some of which were dilapidated and abandoned, being stored on a lot owned by the Yacht Club. The Village made extensive attempts in good faith to work with the Yacht Club to clean up the property and amicably resolve the matter. Although Club representatives have acknowledged that junk and inoperable boats were being stored on the property, the Club maintains that it is allowed to utilize the property for unlimited open boat storage and elected to bring litigation against the Village. We have reviewed the documents related to the matter and disagree with the Club's position.

The Village has a responsibility to enforce ordinances and protect all of its residents from being adversely impacted by the misuse of property. We have repeatedly expressed our willingness to work with the Yacht Club. In the last two weeks, I have met with three Yacht Club members in an effort to develop a proposal to be considered by their board at a meeting on February 17th. I am hopeful that the Yacht Club will respond with a proposal for the board's consideration and that an amicable resolution can be reached.

I ask that as we work towards resolution, people are treated decently, with dignity, without resorting to intimidation or being verbally blasted because they may have a different view point.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edwin P. Hettermann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Edwin P. Hettermann
Village President

Beth Foreman

Mike Fouke

Joshua Hagen

Greg Klemstein

Scott Letzter

Jamie Morris

A Hometown with Spirit