



**VILLAGE OF WESTON, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-047**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SB 340 AND RESTORING \$2.3 MILLION TO THE STATE RECYCLING GRANT PROGRAM IN 2016**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has a history of strong leadership regarding recycling and sustainable practices; and

**WHEREAS**, recycling extends the life of landfills in Wisconsin, conserves Wisconsin's natural resources and helps sustain the environment for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, research completed by the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection Agency shows recycling protects and expands U.S. manufacturing jobs and increases U.S. competitiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Wisconsin Survey Center, commissioned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (2006), demonstrated that 93% of Wisconsin residents favor or strongly favor the Recycling Law and 96% of Wisconsin households are "committed" to recycling; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin mandated recycling in 1990 under 1989 Wisconsin Act 335 and Administrative Code NR 544; and

**WHEREAS**, Towns, Villages, Cities and Counties responded by becoming Responsible Units for Recycling and as such, invested millions of dollars in education, collection and processing infrastructure for Effective Recycling Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin originally proposed to cost share 66% of the Municipalities' costs for establishing and maintaining Effective Recycling Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1990, the State has taken over one hundred forty million dollars (\$140,000,000) away from the Recycling and Renewable Energy Segregated Fund to pay for other State programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Weston and other local units of government pay tipping fees to the State of Wisconsin to fund the recycling grant program; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent budget bill, 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, decreased the annual recycling grants administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WIDNR) by \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2015-16 as compared to previous fiscal years; and

**WHEREAS**, with this planned decrease, the Village of Weston alone, will lose \$16,520 out of the typical \$78,680 of typical grant funding in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, this decrease of \$16,520 will most likely result in less recycling education efforts being done for our residents and recycling enforcement efforts being done within the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has imposed levy limits on municipalities putting many under severe financial constraints; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the successful recycling programs will be eliminated if funding is not continued.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees for the Village of Weston strongly urges the Wisconsin State Legislature to restore the recycling grants to the 2016 Budget.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to State Senator Jerry Petrowski, State Representative John Spiros, Senator Robert Cowles Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and Governor Scott Walker.

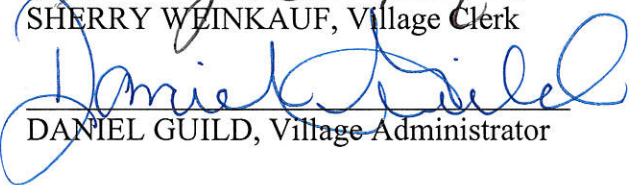
**PASSED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTON**, at a regular meeting thereof, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of the month of December, 2015.

VILLAGE OF WESTON, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Wisconsin.

By:   
BARBARA ERMELING, Village President

ATTEST:

By:   
SHERRY WEINKAUF, Village Clerk

By:   
DANIEL GUILD, Village Administrator