

**OPPOSITION TO PENSION BENEFIT CHANGES  
BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
BEFORE PENSION REFORMS**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Barrington Hills has adopted the provisions of the Downstate Police Pension Fund and its residents through their residency in various Fire Districts financially support as well the Downstate Fire Pension Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, changes to retirement and disability benefits by the Illinois General Assembly have caused said funds to incur escalating debt that threatens their long-term sustainability; and

**WHEREAS**, benefit increases in recent years have contributed to a doubling of the debt carried by police and fire pension funds from 1999-2004; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount of debt carried by police pension funds as of 2004 reached \$179,958 per active police officer and the amount of debt carried by firefighter pension funds reached \$176,845 per active firefighter; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no certainty that the current benefit levels are sustainable by municipalities for the existing benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois General Assembly continue to add to the growing costs of these pension funds through increasing benefits without providing additional revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, municipal taxpayers are ultimately financially responsible for the growing pension obligations and will invariably be expected to pay those costs;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Barrington Hills, located in the Counties of Cook, Kane, Lake and McHenry in the State of Illinois, as a home rule municipality the following:

**Section 1.** The General Assembly is urged to stop approving new and increased pension benefits for the police and fire pension funds, until the adoption of sensible pension reform.

**Section 2.** The General Assembly should adopt said reform in the areas of ethics reform, professionalism of fund management, public sunshine and disclosure of pension board activity, conflict-of-interest restrictions, accountability measures, improved cost impact analysis, meaningful regulation and enhanced local government funding authority.

**Resolution 08-05**

Passed this 25<sup>TH</sup> day of February, 2008.

AYES: 7


NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Village Clerk

  
Village President