

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

TOWN OF DELAFIELD

APRIL 4, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the Town of Delafield on April 4, 2023, the following proposed Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Delafield will be submitted to a vote of the people:

RESOLUTION NO. 23-660

**A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION TO REFERENDUM
FOR THE APRIL 4, 2023 ELECTION, A RESOLUTION FOR
EXCEEDING THE STATE IMPOSED LEVY FOR THE TOWN OF
DELAFIELD**

WHEREAS, since 2005 the State of Wisconsin has imposed limits on town, village, city and county property tax levies under Wis. Stat. sec. 66.0602; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. sec. 66.0602 limits the increase in 2023 to the local property tax levy to no more than the greater of (a) 0% of last year's actual levy or (b) a percentage equal to the percentage change in equalized value due to net new construction less improvements removed; which for the Town of Delafield is 1.314% percent in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Delafield, Waukesha County believes it is in the Town's best interest to exceed the state levy limit as described above by a greater percentage than the expected 1.314%.

WHEREAS, the Town of Delafield actual tax levy in 2022 (collected in 2023) was \$2,382,082; and state law limits the increase based on net new construction plus debt service adjustment of \$511,582, for a total estimated allowable 2023 (collected in 2024) Town tax levy of \$2,469,375.

WHEREAS, the Town of Delafield Town Board is significantly concerned about the Lake Country Fire and Rescue staffing levels, and response times for fire and EMS calls that are below the national requirements, and the quality of fire and EMS services declining, if the tax levy is not increased; and

WHEREAS, by increasing the Town tax levy by \$470,000, Lake Country Fire and Rescue can retain 7 employees hired in 2023, and hire 7 additional staff in 2024 to decrease response times and transition from part time/paid on call, to full time staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Delafield, Waukesha County as follows:

The Town board hereby supports an increase in the Town tax levy for the 2024 fiscal year (levied in 2023) to exceed the state levy limit. **The Town board intends that the levy increase be applied on an ongoing basis by including it in the base used to calculate the limit for the 2025 fiscal year as well, and ongoing thereafter.** The purpose for the increased levy is to retain 7 full time firefighter/paramedics and to hire 7 additional full-time staff for the Lake Country Fire and Rescue fire consortium that services the Town.

The Town board directs that a referendum be held on April 4, 2023 on the question: "Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Town of Delafield for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2024, is limited to 1.314%, which results in a levy of \$2,469,375. Shall the Town of Delafield be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2024, for the purpose of retaining 7 full-time firefighter/paramedics and to hire 7 additional full-time staff for the Lake Country Fire and Rescue fire consortium that services the Town, by a total of 19.033%, which results in a levy of \$2,939,375 and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$470,000 for each fiscal year going forward?"

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Board of the Town of Delafield, Waukesha County, Wisconsin this 10 day of January, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town staff submit this resolution and proposed referendum question to the Waukesha County Clerk for the April 4, 2023 Election.

The question will appear on the ballot as follows:

"Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Town of Delafield for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2024, is limited to 1.314%, which results in a levy of \$2,469,375. Shall the Town of Delafield be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2024, for the purpose of retaining 7 full-time firefighter/paramedics and to hire 7 additional full-time staff for the Lake Country Fire and Rescue fire consortium that services the Town, by a total of 19.033%, which results in a levy of \$2,939,375 and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$470,000 for each fiscal year going forward?"

- Yes
- No

EXPLANATION

A “yes” vote means that the elector favors allowing the Town of Delafield Town Board to exceed the state-imposed levy increase limit and increase the Town of Delafield tax levy by a total of 19.033% to pay the Town’s share of the cost of the Lake Country Fire and Rescue to retain 7 employees hired in 2023, and to hire 7 additional staff in 2024. The increased levy would apply on an ongoing basis thereafter by including it in the base used to calculate the limit going forward.

A “no” vote means that the elector does not favor allowing the Town of Delafield Town Board to exceed the state-imposed levy increase limit to pay the Town’s share of the cost of the Lake Country Fire and Rescue to retain 7 employees hired in 2023, and to hire 7 additional staff in 2024.

Done in the Town of Delafield,
On January 17, 2023.

DAN GREEN
Town of Delafield Administrator-
Clerk/Treasurer

(NOTE: THE TYPE C NOTICE OF REFERENDUM IS PUBLISHED BY THE CLERK RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REFERENDUM ON THE DAY PRECEDING THE REFERENDUM ELECTION. IF A WEEKLY PAPER IS USED FOR PUBLICATION, THE NOTICE IS PUBLISHED IN THE CLOSEST PRECEDING ISSUE TO THE DAY BEFORE THE REFERENDUM ELECTION. IF A JURISDICTION CHOOSES TO POST THIS NOTICE IN LIEU OF PUBLICATION, THE NOTICE MUST BE POSTED NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK BEFORE THE ELECTION.)