

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-44

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFERENDUM FOR THE VILLAGE OF MUKWONAGO TO ALLOW THE VILLAGE TO EXCEED THE STATE IMPOSED LEVY LIMIT FOR HIRING ADDITIONAL FULL TIME FIRE FIGHTERS/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDERS WITHIN THE MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT BEGINNING WITH THE 2022 LEVY (COLLECTED IN 2023) AND ON AN ONGOING BASIS

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

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. §66.0602 limits the increase in 2022 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 new construction less improvements removed plus other exceptions like new debt service; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Mukwonago actual levy in 2021 (collected in 2022) was \$ 6,626,921; and, based upon the percentage change in equalized value due to new construction less improvements removed plus new debt service, state law would limit the increase to \$307,242 (estimated) for a total allowable 2022 (collected in 2023) Village tax levy of \$6,934,163 (estimated); and

WHEREAS, the Village of Mukwonago is presently served by seven (7) full-time fire fighter/emergency medical services providers personnel and six (6) additional fire fighters/emergency medical services providers are required to maintain existing levels of fire/emergency medical services and/or enhance future services; and

WHEREAS, the increased costs necessary to add the additional required personnel to support the Village's present and future fire protection needs would exceed the Village's maximum allowable levy; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Mukwonago, Waukesha County, Wisconsin believes it is in the Village's best interest to exceed the state levy limit as described above by a greater percentage than allowed by statute in order to increase the number of Village fire personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Mukwonago and the Village of Mukwonago jointly own and operate the Mukwonago Fire Department, and this increase is also being requested by the Town of Mukwonago contemporaneously with the Village, and both parties intend for this levy increase to take effect only upon the funding for six (6) fire fighters/emergency medical services providers within the Mukwonago Fire Department being approved by both the Town and the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Mukwonago, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, do hereby support an increase in the Village tax levy for 2022 (collected in 2023) to exceed the state levy limit. The Village of Mukwonago intends that the levy increase be applied on an ongoing basis thereafter by including it in the base used to calculate the limit going forward.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village of Mukwonago directs that the question of increasing the Village tax levy for 2022 (to be collected in 2023) by 10.77%, which would increase the Village levy by \$713,590.84 over the past year's levy, for a Village tax levy of \$7,340,511.84 (estimated), shall be submitted to the electors in a referendum election to be held on November 8, 2022, in the following form:

Referendum Question

“Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Village of Mukwonago for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2023, is limited to 4.64% (based on actual data or the Village’s best estimate), which results in a levy of \$6,934,162.79. Shall the Village of Mukwonago be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2023, for the purpose of hiring and retaining additional fire fighter/emergency medical services providers personnel for the Mukwonago fire department, by a total of 10.77% (based on actual data or the Village’s best estimate), which results in a levy of \$7,340,511.84, and on an ongoing basis thereafter.”

The results of the referendum shall be binding upon the Village of Mukwonago and certified to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, as required by Wis. Stat. §66.0602(4)(d); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Board direct that the following Explanatory Statement of the vote be use where required:

Explanatory Statement and Effect of Vote

The Village of Mukwonago is currently served by seven (7) full-time fire fighter/emergency medical services providers personnel by the Mukwonago fire department. In order to add additional full-time staff to maintain existing levels of fire protection/emergency medical services providers services and/or enhance future fire protection/emergency medical services providers services by the Mukwonago fire department, the Village’s costs would exceed the maximum allowable state-imposed levy.

A **“yes”** vote allows the Village Board to exceed the state-imposed levy limits to provide additional funding to pay for six (6) additional fire fighter/emergency medical services providers personnel. The increased levy would apply on an ongoing basis thereafter by including it in the base used to calculate the limit going forward. The increase shall apply only if the Town of Mukwonago also provides its share of funding for six (6) additional fire fighters/emergency medical services providers within the Mukwonago Fire Department.

A **“no”** vote does not allow the Village Board to exceed the state-imposed levy limits to provide additional funding for six (6) additional fire fighter/emergency

medical services personnel. The Mukwonago Fire Department would continue to be staffed in the same manner as presently staffed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Clerk shall provide the County Clerk with a certified copy of this Resolution to ensure that the referendum question can be placed on the November 8, 2022 election ballot for all wards within the Village of Mukwonago.

Passed and adopted this 13th day of June, 2022.




Fred Winchowky, Village President

Attest:


Diana Dykstra, Village Clerk/Treasurer

