

Referendum to Increase the Levy – August 13, 2024

Town of Minocqua

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is “the levy”?

A: The levy is the dollar amount a municipality needs to collect annually in property taxes to balance its annual budget.

Q: Where will the Referendum question appear and what will it look like?

A: It will appear on the reverse side of the April 2 ballot as follows:

“Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Town of Minocqua for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2025, is limited to 1.353%, which results in a levy of \$4,397,593. Shall the Town of Minocqua be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2025, for the purpose of retaining levels of service for police, fire, public works and library, as well as maintaining public infrastructure, equipment, and facilities by a total of 17.055%, which results in a levy of \$5,147,593, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$750,000 for each fiscal year going forward?”

☐ Yes

☐ No

Q: Does increasing the Town levy by 17.055% mean that my total tax bill will increase by 17.055%?

A: No. The 17.055% increase only refers to the Minocqua portion of your total tax bill. Historically, Minocqua only accounts for about a quarter of your total tax bill; schools and county government make up most of the rest. The effect on your total tax bill would be under 5%.

Q: What, specifically, is Minocqua’s portion of my property tax bill?

A: Minocqua’s portion of your property tax bill is currently \$2.33 per thousand dollars of assessed value (value assigned to your property by the Town Assessor); the levy increase would change it to about \$2.48 per thousand.

Q: Some will interpret the Referendum wording to mean that an additional \$750,000 increase would be added on top of the base levy each year; is this true?

A: Definitely not. It will be a one-time increase that remains as an ongoing part of the yearly tax levy going forward -- it does not add an additional \$750,000 on top of that year over year.

Q: What will the referendum funds be used for?

A: The Town will use the funds in order to retain levels of service for police, fire, public works and library, and maintain public infrastructure, equipment and facilities. **REFERENDUM FUNDS ARE NOT BEING USED TO PURCHASE PROPERTY.**

Q: So, if passed, what effect can I expect the levy increase to have on my property taxes?

A: The increase in the Minocqua portion of your property taxes would be about **\$39.00 per \$100,000 in assessed value**. So, on a home with a \$300,000 assessed value, the increase would be about \$117.00.

VOTE AUGUST 13TH!



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