

RESOLUTION NO. 22-02

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFERENDUM FOR THE
VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE TO ALLOW THE VILLAGE TO EXCEED
THE STATE IMPOSED LEVY LIMIT FOR HIRING ADDITIONAL PUBLIC
SAFETY PERSONNEL 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 Pleasant Prairie actual levy in 2021 (collected in 2022) was \$14,252,940; 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 \$366,787 for a total allowable 2022 (collected in 2023) Village tax levy of V\$14,619,727; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Pleasant Prairie is presently served by thirty-six (36) full-time sworn police officers and four (4) additional police officers are required to maintain existing level of law enforcement services and/or enhance future services; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Pleasant Prairie is presently served by twenty-seven (27) full-time fire and rescue personnel and twelve (12) additional personnel are required to maintain existing level of fire and rescue services and/or enhance future services; and

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

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Pleasant Prairie, Kenosha 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 sworn police officers and fire and rescue personnel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Pleasant Prairie, Kenosha 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 Pleasant Prairie 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 Pleasant Prairie directs that the question of increasing the village tax levy for 2022 (to be collected in 2023) by 10.94 %, which would increase the village levy by \$1,600,000 over the past year's levy, for a Village tax levy of \$16,219,727, shall be submitted to the electors in a referendum election to be held on April 5, 2022, in the following form:

Referendum Question

"Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Village of Pleasant Prairie for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2023, is limited to 2.57%, which results in a levy of \$14,619,727. Shall the Village of Pleasant Prairie be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2023, for the purpose of hiring and retaining additional sworn police officers and fire and rescue personnel, by a total of 10.94%, which results in a levy of \$16,219,727, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$1,600,000 for each fiscal year going forward?"

The results of the referendum shall be binding upon the Village of Pleasant Prairie 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

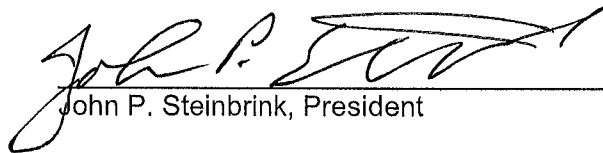
The Village of Pleasant Prairie is currently served by Thirty-six (36) sworn police officers and twenty-seven (27) full-time fire and rescue personnel. In order to add additional full-time staff to maintain existing level of public safety services and/or enhance future services, the Village's costs would 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 four (4) additional police officers and twelve (12) additional fire and rescue personnel. 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 does not allow the Village Board to exceed the state-imposed levy limits to provide additional funding for four (4) additional police officers and twelve (12) additional fire and rescue personnel. The Police and Fire and Rescue Departments 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 April 5, 2022 election ballot for all wards within the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

Passed and adopted this 10th day of January, 2022.


John P. Steinbrink, President

Attest:


Jane C. Snell, Village Clerk