



# Village of River Hills Tax Levy Referendum

## What It Means to You

**On November 8, 2022** you will be asked to vote on whether the Village of River Hills should be allowed to exceed its tax levy limit by a fixed amount for the next 5 years.

The purpose of exceeding the levy limit is to maintain the existing level of services provided by our Police, Public Works and Administration. To maintain the current level of services to our residents, the Village will need more revenue.

Since 2010, the State mandates constraints on the Village's levy limit, which is the amount by which the Village can increase its annual budget. The Village was only able to increase the 2022 budget by \$8,200 and the 2023 budget is limited to an increase of \$20,197. This increase is well below most inflationary factors. The actual increase in fixed costs for the 2023 budget is estimated at over \$250,000. If approved, the referendum would allow the Village to exceed its tax levy limit by \$300,000 in each of the next five years, which the Village Board believes is sufficient to close the budget deficit in each of those years.

**The Village is only permitted to exceed its levy limit if approved by the majority of the voters via a referendum.**

This referendum is asking for your support and permission to increase taxes to finance the current level of Village services.

## IMPACT ON TAXES if the Referendum Passes

Your annual property taxes will increase by \$57.23 per \$100,000 of property value.

## **CONSEQUENCES of a Failed Referendum**

- **POLICE** – **Loss of a police officer position** – Would result in – Inability to staff 2 officers per shift in a 24-hour period leading to Single officer shifts, a less safe community, less traffic enforcement, less traffic violation revenue, increase in response times, higher overtime costs. Reduced programs – Home checks, traffic enforcement, school traffic and patrols.
- **PUBLIC WORKS** – **Loss of one position** – Reduction in services provided such as brush collection, tree maintenance, landscape maintenance, roadside mowing and special projects.
- **ADMINISTRATION** – There are 2 employees in this department – the Village Manager/Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

## **For More Information**

- Visit our website [www.riverhillswi.com](http://www.riverhillswi.com) – select “Village Hall”, then “Referendum” for additional information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s)
- **Direct all questions** to [tlaborde@vil.river-hills.wi.us](mailto:tlaborde@vil.river-hills.wi.us) for a reply to concerns. Resident “Questions and Answers” will be posted to the website.
- **Attend an Open House Q&A with Village Officials on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at Village Hall, 7650 N. Pheasant Lane.**

## **Ways to Vote**

- Request an Absentee ballot by mail at ***myvote.wi.gov***
- In-person absentee at Village Hall from Oct. 25-Nov. 4
- In-person on election day – Tuesday, November 8