

***NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING***

***Tuesday, December 16th, 2014***  
***6:00 P.M.***  
***IN THE GYM OF THE***  
***COMMUNITY CENTER***

Town of Washington  
P.O. Box 220  
Washington Island, WI 54246

Presorted Standard  
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Permit #9

**BOXHOLDER**

|                                 | 2014<br>Adopted<br>Budget | 2014 Amended<br>Budget | 2014 Year End<br>Budget | 2015<br>Proposed<br>Budget | % change    |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>REVENUES</b>                 |                           |                        |                         |                            |             |
| General Property Taxes          | \$ 1,140,130              | \$ 1,140,130           | \$ 1,140,130            | \$ 1,022,990               | -10%        |
| Other Taxes                     | \$ 15,000                 | \$ 15,000              | \$ 15,061               | \$ 15,000                  | 0%          |
| Revenue Intergovernmental       | \$ 5,455,590              | \$ 5,459,561           | \$ 5,468,982            | \$ 277,545                 | -95%        |
| Other Grants                    |                           |                        |                         |                            | 0%          |
| Licenses and Permits            | \$ 4,360                  | \$ 4,360               | \$ 4,935                | \$ 4,360                   | 0%          |
| Fines, Forfeits & Penalties     | \$ 200                    | \$ 200                 | \$ 200                  | \$ 200                     | 0%          |
| Public Payments for Services    | \$ 75,840                 | \$ 75,840              | \$ 79,655               | \$ 75,840                  | 0%          |
| Culture, Recreation & Education | \$ 284,000                | \$ 284,000             | \$ 287,904              | \$ 294,170                 | 4%          |
| Miscellaneous/including loan    | \$ 145,168                | \$ 145,168             | \$ 150,946              | \$ 133,692                 | -8%         |
| Fund Balance Applied            | \$ 106,140                |                        | \$ -                    | \$ 121,424.00              | 0%          |
| <b>Revenues Total</b>           | <b>\$ 7,226,428</b>       | <b>\$ 7,124,259</b>    | <b>\$ 7,147,813</b>     | <b>\$ 1,945,221</b>        | <b>-74%</b> |

|                                 | 2014<br>Adopted<br>Budget | 2014 Amended<br>Budget | 2014 Year End<br>Budget | 2015<br>Proposed<br>Budget | % change    |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>EXPENDITURES</b>             |                           |                        |                         |                            |             |
| General Government              | \$ 235,629                | \$ 235,629             | \$ 241,992              | \$ 237,429                 | 1%          |
| Public Safety                   | \$ 318,020                | \$ 322,819             | \$ 331,288              | \$ 319,358                 | 0%          |
| Public Works                    | \$ 5,355,884              | \$ 5,355,884           | \$ 5,365,165            | \$ 679,086                 | -87%        |
| Health & Human Services         | \$ 135,700                | \$ 135,700             | \$ 135,700              | \$ 135,700                 | 0%          |
| Culture, Recreation & Education | \$ 489,268                | \$ 489,268             | \$ 503,145              | \$ 498,362                 | 2%          |
| Capital Outlay/PD               | \$ -                      |                        | \$ -                    | \$ -                       |             |
| Capital Outlay - General        | \$ 500,000                | \$ 500,000             | \$ 500,000              |                            |             |
| Debt                            | \$ 1,085,787              | \$ 1,096,287           | \$ 1,085,786            | \$ 75,286                  | -93%        |
| <b>Expenditure Total</b>        | <b>\$ 8,120,288</b>       | <b>\$ 8,135,587</b>    | <b>\$ 8,163,075</b>     | <b>\$ 1,945,221</b>        | <b>-76%</b> |

| Funds                              | Estimated<br>Fund Balance<br>1 January<br>2015 | Projected<br>Revenues | Projected<br>Expenditures | Estimated<br>Fund Balance<br>31, Dec 2015 | Property Tax<br>Contribution to<br>be APPLIED to<br>2015 Budget |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| General Fund (Town)                | \$369,364                                      | \$1,860,937           | \$1,945,221               | \$285,080                                 | \$1,022,990   |
| Debt Service (Town)                |  |                       |                           |   |   |
| Enterprise Fund (Utility District) | \$ 70,000                                      | \$ 33,015             | \$ 40,708                 | \$ 62,307                                 | \$ -  |

**OUTSTANDING TOTAL DEBT**  
as of 1/1/2015

**\$454,299**

Road Improvement Loan \$454,299

# **Notice of Special Town Meeting Of the Electors of the Town of Washington**

Notice is hereby given of a special Town meeting of the electors of the Town of Washington on **Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.** This special Town meeting of the electors is called pursuant to Sec 60.12(1)(c) of Wis. Statutes by the town board for the following purpose:

1. To approve the year 2015 highway expenditures in excess of \$10,000 pursuant to Section 82.03(2) of Wisconsin Statutes.
2. To consider the adoption of a resolution to endorse the Town Board's resolution to exceed the state levy limits under Sec. 66.0602 of Wis. Statutes; specifically by keeping the same Levy as 2012 (collected in 2013) for year 2014 (collected in 2015) which is 6% increase as set by the State, which would be a dollar increase of \$53,353.
3. To adopt the 2014 Town Tax Levy to be paid in 2015 pursuant to Sec 60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Statutes.

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that immediately following the Special Town Meeting the Washington Island Town Board will meet for the following purpose:

1. Call to Order, Roll Call
2. Board action to adopt proposed 2015 Summary Budget as presented.  
Discussion/Motion
3. Adjournment - Motion

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of November, 2014  
Valerie M. Carpenter, Clerk/Treasurer

Note: A copy of the detailed proposed 2015 Budget is available in the Clerk's Office. Monday – Friday 8:00am until Noon.

# Resolution 2014-16 to Exceed State Levy Limit 2014 (collected in 2015)

Whereas the State of Wisconsin has imposed levy limits under Sec. 66.0602 of Wis. Statutes for the tax levies in 2014 and 2015; and

Whereas the levy limit set for the Town of Washington for the 2014 tax levy is \$969,637; and

Whereas the town board has adopted a resolution supporting an increase in the town tax levy which would exceed the state levy limit for the Town of Washington; and

Whereas this Special Town Meeting of the electors has been called and noticed to consider the adoption of a resolution to endorse the town board's resolution to exceed the state levy limits; specifically by keeping the same Levy as 2012 (collected in 2013) for year 2014 (collected in 2015) which is a 6% increase as set by the State which would be a increase of \$53,353;

Now, therefore, the special town meeting of the Town of Washington, Door County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote of the eligible electors voting on this 16th day of December, 2014 duly assembled and voting resolves and orders as follows:

The town electors of the Town of Washington, Door County, Wisconsin endorse the town board resolution to increase the town tax levy by 6% over the levy cap, which is an increase of \$53,353 over the 2014 tax levy set by the state for a total town tax levy of \$1,022,990.

The town clerk shall properly post or publish this resolution as required by law under Sec. 60.80 of Wis. Statutes within 30 days of the below noted adoption date.

Adopted the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014 at a Special Town Meeting

Number of town electors voting aye \_\_\_\_\_

Number of town electors voting nay \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Town Meeting Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_  
Joel Gunnlaugsson

Signature of Town Clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Carpenter

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**  
**TOWN BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**  
**and**  
**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING of the ELECTORS**  
**Minutes**

November 17, 2014  
Monday, 6:00 p.m.  
Gymnasium, Community Center

Town Budget Public Hearing

1. Chairman Joel Gunnlaugsson called the Town Budget Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Board members present by roll call: Chairman Joel Gunnlaugsson and Supervisors Liz Holmes, Randy Sorenson and John Rader. In addition to the Town Board and Clerk, 62 citizens signed the sign-in sheet as attending.
3. Chairman Gunnlaugsson led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Motion by Alan Schaffmeyer, second by Gloria Small to approve the minutes from the Town Budget Public Hearing and Special Town Meeting of the Electors, November 20th, 2013. Motion was carried.
5. Motion by Louis Munao, second by Vicki Fuller to bring the 2015 proposed budget to the floor. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Statements, comments and questions from electors:  
Eric Greenfeldt inquired about differences between January 1, 2014 expenditures and 2014 year-end anticipated expenditures – Fire department pay and Community Van expenses were two examples Mr. Greenfeldt cited. Louis Munao questioned if fund balance would be applied to the 2015 proposed budget: he also asked for further explanation of the requested \$80,000 Capital Outlay.  
Chairman Gunnlaugsson responded by first stating what the following accomplishments of the Town in 2014:
  - Community Center Building: Rutledge Room Renovations and Gymnasium improvements
  - Construction of Schoolhouse Beach Pavilion
  - Fire Department – Turn-out gear
  - Town Shop – Maintenance at the shop as well as major road work

Gunnlaugsson moved on to what the Town Board hopes to accomplish in 2015:

Projects not completed in 2014; the septic system for the Community Center Building; a well at the Washington Island Landfill, and pit toilets at Mountain

Tower Park. Gunnlaugsson explained the anticipated capital outlay expenditures of \$80,000 in proposed 2015 budget was to continue maintaining the infrastructure of the Town.

Louis Munao questioned why the Other Transportation Aids line item is not higher than anticipated. He also questioned the revenue decrease of \$10,000 in rent for the Clinic. Mr. Munao went on to ask if the Town anticipates requesting more monies from the County to continue current operations of the Police Department. Currently the County reimburses the Town \$100,000 for Police Department costs, approximately one-half the amount needed to fund the Police Department.

Daniel Gregg requested further information regarding levy limits and how the Town is affected by such limits.

Robert Cornell inquired into the estimated fund balance for the Town.

Tim Jessen questioned the reduction of the Ministry North Shore Medical Clinic Rental (\$10,000) to the Town of Washington.

Sally Schwiekert questioned the Physician Subsidy line item Account Name in the budget.

Donna Breismeister inquired into the status of Mountain Tower ownership and how this works for the Town.

Jerry Rupiper requested clarification on what the electors were actually voting on – the levy or the budget.

Jim Goodwin questioned airport expenses and revenues.

Ron Overdahl inquired into the status of the Recreation Center and the Town of Washington.

Louis Munao inquired if there were any monies in the 2015 for the proposed new Fire/ Police/EMS facility. Chairman responded, "No."

Eric Greenfeldt suggested the Town Board look at increasing fees set by the Town Board.

- Hearing no further questions or comments on the Budget Gunnlaugsson moved to the:

### **Special Town Meeting of the Electors of the Town of Washington**

1. Motion by Bill Schott, second by Don Benson to approve the year 2015 highway expenditures in excess of \$10,000 pursuant to section 82.03(2) of Wisconsin Statutes. Motion carried unanimously.
  
2. Motion by Don Benson second by Jacquelyn Rader to bring the 2014 Town Tax Levy to be paid in 2015 pursuant to Sec 60.10(1)(a) of Wis. Statutes to the floor. There was no discussion and motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion by Bill Schott second by Don Benson to consider the adoption of a resolution to endorse the town board's resolution to exceed the state levy limits under Sec. 66.0602 of Wis. Statutes; specifically by keeping the same Levy as 2013 (collected in 2014) for year 2014 (collected in 2015) which is a 17.5832 percentage increase as set by the State, which would be a dollar increase of \$170,493. The electors requested a paper ballot at 7:02 p.m. Chairman Gunnlaugsson explained a yes vote means electors approve the resolution to permit the Town Board to go over the imposed State Levy limit and a no vote indicates opposition to going above the State limit.

Motion Defeated by paper ballot vote with the Ayes being 27 and the nays being 34.

3. Motion by Robb Carr, second by Ron Overdahl to adjourn the Special Meeting at 7:13 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Carpenter  
Town Clerk  
Town of Washington

**To Town of Washington Taxpayers.** A brief explanation of why the proposed meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled. When the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> was adjourned, the Board was under the impression that the Town would simply “default “to the allowable levy set by the State. The next day, we contacted legal counsel at the Wisconsin Towns Association to verify. They told us that the Town’s electorate had to pass a specific Tax Levy. So naturally, we picked a date and time to make efforts to come back and get the electorate together to vote on a proposed Levy amount. In the meantime, a citizen inquired as to the effect that the meeting was not posted properly and in essence, being done illegally because the original meeting had been adjourned. This prompted another call to the Towns Association and they told us this time that we basically had to start the process over from scratch, which means that a required 15 day public notice be posted in three public places. That is why the meeting was cancelled and pushed back until December 16<sup>th</sup> now, at 6:00 PM in the Gym.

At the Annual Budget hearing on November 17<sup>th</sup>, You, the Electorate of Washington Island Voted against the Levy amount of \$1,140,130 for the 2015 year. This was a 17-½% increase above what the State said we could levy, but was a 0% increase from the 2014 year. Nonetheless, the Town Board by State Statute has to pass a Levy that’s approved by the Electorate. The Town Board is now requesting approval going back to 2013, of \$1,022,990. This is a reduction of \$117,140 in the Levy (10.25%) and a tax rate reduction of 6 % per \$ 1000.00 of assessed value. This is still \$53,353 above what the State says we can Levy. But, you the Electorate have the ability to vote to allow the Town Board to request a different Levy amount.

The Town Board hopes taxpayers feel this is an acceptable number to run the Town for the next 12 months. We, the Board, also pay taxes and understand that we need to live within our means. Let us assure you that this is a tight budget.

The anticipated Fund Balance to be applied of \$121,424.00 listed on the 2015 Proposed Budget does not take into account the \$93,474.00 the Town will be getting from Door County for Aggregate sales from all the road paving. This will go directly into the Town’s unassigned (General Fund). Barring some catastrophic events, the Town will be sitting with a year-end healthy fund balance, no doubt, but we want to reiterate that if the Town keeps using the unassigned fund to balance a budget each year, eventually the Town will have nothing left. The cost of doing business, as you all know, isn’t getting cheaper, and we all feel that we are preparing a budget that is a “keeping us alive budget” without any extras, but is still preserving our unassigned fund.

**From the Town of Washington, Town Board Members**