

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

TOWN OF ONALASKA

August 9, 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the Town of Onalaska on August 9, 2016, the following proposed Resolution of the Town Board will be submitted to a vote of the people:

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-5-24
THE TOWN OF ONALASKA
LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN
RESOLUTION APPROVING FEES FOR GARBAGE COLLECTION
WITHOUT REDUCING THE LEVY LIMIT

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 66.0602(2m)(b) provides that if a municipality begins charging fees for an applicable covered service, such as garbage collection, the municipality must then reduce its levy limit by an amount equal to the estimated amount of fee revenue collected for providing the covered service;

WHEREAS, the Town of Onalaska may nonetheless begin charging fees for garbage collection and not reduce its levy limit if the town board adopts a resolution that the levy limit should not be reduced and if the resolution is approved in a referendum;

WHEREAS, the town board believes that adopting a fee for garbage collection while maintaining the town levy at its current level is in the best interests of the Town and its residents and in accordance with the public purposes and conditions of applicable State and local laws;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin that the Town hereby adopts the following:

1. That the Town shall charge fees for garbage collection beginning in 2017, provided that this resolution is approved by referendum;

2. The following referendum question shall appear on the ballot of the next succeeding partisan primary:

"Under state law, if the Town of Onalaska begins charging fees for garbage collection in 2017 it must reduce its levy limit for 2017 by an amount equal to the estimated amount of fee revenue collected for providing the garbage collection, except that the fee can be charged and the levy limit not reduced if that is approved by referendum. Shall the Town of Onalaska begin charging fees for garbage collection and not reduce its levy limit?"

3. The Town Chairperson and Town Clerk are hereby authorized to duly execute actions necessary to complete the conclusions of this resolution as the official acts of the Town of Onalaska.

Adopted and approved this 24th day of May, 2016.

The question will appear on the ballot as follows:

Under state law, if the Town of Onalaska begins charging fees for garbage collection in 2017 it must reduce its levy limit for 2017 by an amount equal to the estimated amount of fee revenue

collected for providing the garbage collection, except that the fee can be charged and the levy limit not reduced if that is approved by referendum. Shall the Town of Onalaska begin charging fees for garbage collection and not reduce its levy limit?

EXPLANATION

A yes vote will allow the Town to charge a fee for garbage collection without reducing the levy limit just as it can already for recycling collection. This would allow the fees for garbage collection to pay for the garbage collection itself while freeing up money in the current levy for other things such as road repairs. A no vote will not allow this.

Done in the Town of Onalaska on May 25, 2016.

Mary Rinehart, Interim Clerk