

ELKHORN AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Safety Referendum

The Elkhorn Area Fire Department is going to Referendum on November 3rd, seeking to hire additional full-time staff and upgrade our EMS service to Paramedic level. EAFD responds to 911 calls in the City of Elkhorn, Town of Sugar Creek, Town of LaFayette, and the Town of Geneva. Changing times have forced the department to make changes in how they meet daily requests for Emergency Services.

The issues facing Elkhorn Area Fire Department include:

- Call volume and requests for emergency services has increased 82% since 2010
- Declining applicants for Paid on Call (POC) positions resulting in decrease in POC staff to cover calls; POC staff has decreased by 50% since 2010
- Declining availability of current POC staff due to other jobs/family commitments, etc.
- 11 full-time (Paid on Premise (POP)) staff are currently "leased" from a private vendor and continued availability is not guaranteed
- Increased reliance on mutual aid from neighboring departments to cover certain calls
- Lack of legal authority by Wisconsin law to increase funding without a referendum

Public safety is our number one goal. The current levy limit legislation does not allow for sustained funding of essential services. By increasing the tax levy, EAFD will be able to:

- increase staffing levels necessary to meet the current and anticipated increase in calls for service
- continue to provide the level of service the community has come to expect from the Fire Department
- provide Paramedic level EMS care 24/7/365
- employ all staff, both Paid on Call and Paid on Premise

Volunteer fire and EMS personnel are the backbone of the EAFD. Raising the tax levy will allow us to better train our volunteers and ensure delivery of essential services.



INFORMATION SESSIONS

Tuesday, October 13

6:30 p.m.

EAH Auditorium

Saturday, October 24

9:00 a.m.

EAHS Auditorium

Wednesday, October 28

6:30 p.m.

EAHS Auditorium

VOTE NOV. 3

cityoffelkhorn.org/fire



ELKHORN™

ELKHORN AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Safety Referendum

ESTIMATED TAX IMPACT

ESTIMATED MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX INCREASE
Per \$100,000 of assessed property value

PER YEAR

PER MONTH

City of Elkhorn

**If all three towns continue their contracts with the City to provide Fire/EMS services*

\$182.62

\$15.21

\$106.83

\$8.90

If the \$1,625,902 is paid entirely by the City, the tax bill impact would be \$182.62 per year (\$15.21 per month) on a property assessed at \$100,000. If all three Towns continue their contracts with the City to provide Fire/EMS services, the tax impact in the City would be reduced to \$106.83 per year (\$8.90 per month) on a property assessed at \$100,000.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE ON THE CITY OF ELKHORN BALLOT

"Under State law, the increase in the levy of the City of Elkhorn for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2021, is limited to 2.51%, which results in a levy of \$5,758,109. Shall the City of Elkhorn be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2021, for the purpose of enhanced Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) by a total of 28.22%, which results in a levy of \$7,384,011, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$1,625,902 for each fiscal year going forward?"

Town of Geneva	\$28.90	\$2.41	The Town's share of the additional funding is \$260,144. The tax bill impact will be \$28.90 per year (\$2.41 per month) on a property assessed at \$100,000.
Town of LaFayette	\$99.17	\$8.26	Voters in the Town will not see the question on their ballot; it will be asked of voters at the Town's Special Meeting of the Town Electors in the form of a Resolution. The Town will be asking for additional funding for LaFayette's share of Elkhorn Fire and Rescue needs as well as for Town Road maintenance and repair. The tax impact per \$100,000 assessment for the total amount requested will be \$99.17 per year (\$8.26 per month).
Town of Sugar Creek	\$16.64	\$1.38	The Town's share of the additional funding is \$61,000.00. The tax bill impact will be \$16.64 per year (\$1.38 per month) on a property assessed at \$100,000.

Have Questions?

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SUBMIT YOUR
REFERENDUM QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

cityofelkhorn.org/fire