



# TOWN HALL MEETING

# Critical Need



The residents of Twin Lakes have long relied on EMS volunteers to respond to emergency medical calls. Like many other communities throughout the state, the number of EMS volunteers are drastically declining while the volume of calls continues to rise. The additional funding will allow the Village to be serviced by full-time, paid, professional personnel which will ensure a high quality of care and a quick response to calls.



# Referendum Ballot Question



“Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Village of Twin Lakes for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2025, is limited to 1.577%, which results in a levy of \$4,506,342. Shall the Village of Twin Lakes be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2025, for the purpose of providing funding for four (4) emergency medical service positions, by a total of 11.682%, which results in a levy of \$5,032,778, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$526,436 for each fiscal year going forward?”

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_





# What is EMS?

Emergency Medical Service, or EMS, primarily respond to 9-1-1 calls requiring emergency medical treatment and ambulance transportation to definitive care. All EMS personnel are certified by the State of Wisconsin and required to pass written and practical exams to become licensed and required to attend continued education to maintain their certification.



# Why Now?

The number of emergency calls has increased over the years while the number of EMS volunteers who are able to respond to calls are drastically decreasing. Twin Lakes is challenged with increased response times that put residents at risk. In 2021, the P.O.P. (paid on premises) program started. This program was successful for the first few years but has not corrected the need for 24-hour coverage, the increased call volume, the decrease in volunteers, or time volunteers can give. This is why we are advancing to the next step of providing 24-hour coverage with full-time staff to provide medical professionals for our citizens.

# What will the tax increase pay for?



The tax increase will provide enough revenue to fund up to 4 full-time, paid, emergency medical service positions.

# How Much Will This Cost Me?

The levy increase will be approximately \$54 for each \$100,000 of assessed property value. For example, if your property is assessed at \$300,000 then your tax increase would be about \$162 per year or \$.44 per day.



Property Value  
Per \$100,000



Per Year  
\$54.00



Per Day  
\$.15



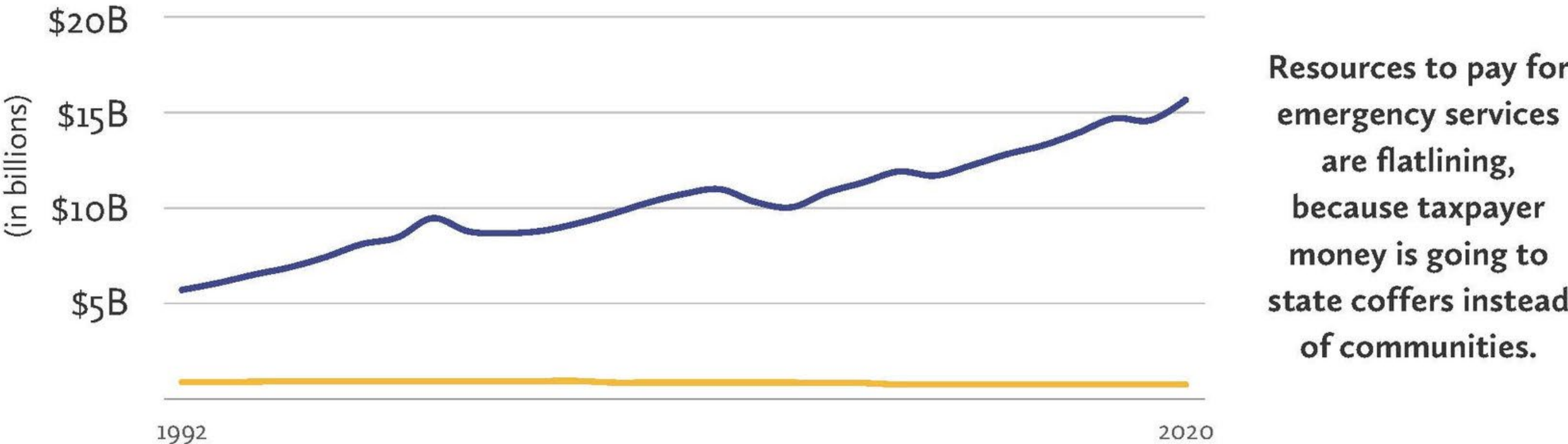
# Any other options?



Wisconsin is the only state in the country that funds critical first responder services largely from property taxes. Municipal revenue is tightly controlled by the state and have not experienced steady and dependable growth. Municipalities in Wisconsin do not receive a share of sales tax, are unable to create taxing districts for Fire or EMS services and have continued to receive the same or reduced amount of state shared revenue for more than a decade.



# State Support of First Responders is Flatlining



Resources to pay for emergency services are flatlining, because taxpayer money is going to state coffers instead of communities.

■ State Income and Sales Tax Collections

■ State Support of Critical Local Services

Data Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau

# What if it fails?

The Twin Lakes Fire and Rescue Department will then continue to rely largely on volunteers and paid-on-call part-time employees. This will keep response times higher and run the risk of reduced services as call volumes continue to rise.



Please Remember  
to Vote!

Tuesday, August 13

Polling Place:  
Village Hall | 105 E. Main St.

Polls open at 7:00 a.m.  
and close at 8:00 p.m

