

1. What is occurring under this agreement?

In effort to support and protect all Village and Town Residents, effective January 1, 2025, the Town will transfer nearly all its territory to the Village of Lac la Belle. The area being transferred is depicted in green on the map below (Exhibit 1).

The Town board in addition to the Town Staff will assume all the duties under the newly combined Village of Lac La belle. Town and Village residents will continue to receive all the services that they currently receive under the combined new Village of Lac La Belle.

2. Why are we combining the Village and Town?

The Village and Town both benefit from the agreement. These benefits are described below:

- a. Village: The Village is limited in its ability to provide the services that its residents deserve. Over the last several years, the Village and Town have entered into several agreements in which the Town provides critical services to all Village residents, such as police, public works, and clerk services. Also, both communities utilize the same engineer, assessor, building inspector, garbage collection, and fire and emergency medical services. This agreement solidifies these services for all residents under one community.
- b. Town: Will no longer be subject to annexation or zoning by surrounding cities and villages, which negatively impacts its borders and long-term tax revenue. The new Village will not be subject to Waukesha County's approval for use, activity, or permits therefore allowing the new Village to directly decide what's best for the community and residents, without outside influences.

3. Will this affect my Taxes?

- a. Properties currently in the Village will see a decrease to the 2025 tax rate.
- b. Properties currently in the Town will see very slight increase to the 2025 tax rate. For property currently assessed at \$500,000 there will be an approximately \$50 increase per year. Property currently assessed at \$1 million there will be an approximately \$100 increase per year.
- c. Because this agreement provides overall cost savings, the new Village will be eligible for State grants. These grants would reduce the slight increase.

d. Please note that your tax bill has many components: (County, State, WCTC, School District, Town/Village, garbage, Lake Management Districts, etc.). As is always the case, we can only indicate what will happen with the Town and Village tax rate.

4. What will happen to unincorporated areas (such as Okauchee Lake, Monterey, and Mapleton) within the Town of Oconomowoc?

We plan to continue to recognize these areas as we do today, in addition to the Historic Village of Lac La Belle.

5. Why was January 1st, 2025, picked as the effective date?

The date was picked based on advice from the State of Wisconsin Dept of Revenue

6. Will my property's assessed valuation change due to this agreement?

There will be no changes to assessed values because of this agreement.

7. Will the agreement require additional public service expenditures?

There will be no additional expenditures because of this agreement.

8. Does the agreement affect the scheduled election process or number of board positions?

No, elections for the newly formed Village will continue to follow the same election process and schedule currently being used by the Village of Lac La Belle.

9. Will any of my current Municipal Services Change?

All services currently provided to both the Village and Town will stay the same. There will be no lapse in services.

10. What does this mean for Sewer Service?

Properties served by Mary Lane Sanitary Commission and Blackhawk Sanitary District will be absorbed by the Village, and the Village will become the sewer service provider. There are no expected changes to sewer rates for these properties.

For properties served by Town of Oconomowoc Utility District No. 1, you will continue receiving sewer service in the same manner as presently provided. There are no expected changes to sewer rates for these properties.

Sewer service to the current Village will continue as planned for 2025.

11. What ordinances will apply to my property?

One of the many goals of this agreement was to create predictability for the residents. Therefore, after the agreement becomes effective, the ordinances that apply to your property will be familiar:

For Town territory transferring to the Village, the Town's current ordinances will continue to apply to this territory until the Village can update its code for the long-term.

For current Village Territory, the Village current ordinances will continue to apply. There will be no changes to the Village's existing Code that affect this territory.

Please note that the Town and Village Codes are substantively very similar.

12. Will any property remain in the Town after the agreement becomes effective?

Yes, two areas consisting of 17 properties are surrounded by the City of Oconomowoc. These areas are known as Town remnants. These remnants will continue to receive all services that they currently receive. These properties may be charged a fee for the services, but the fee will not exceed the real estate tax that would have otherwise been paid by those properties if the agreement was not been in place.

These 17 properties are shown on the below Map (Exhibit 1) as "Town Island Oconomowoc A" and "Town Oconomowoc Island B."

13. Will my School District Boundaries change?

There will be no changes to current school district boundaries.

14. Will my current licenses or permits change?

Any license, permit, or other approval issued by the Town or Village will remain in effect.

15. Will my address change?

There are no plans to change any property mailing address in the Village or the Town.

16. Where will the Village and Town Hall's be located?

In the same location that Village and Town meetings presently occur, which is Oconomowoc Town Hall, W359N6812 Brown Street, Oconomowoc, WI 53066.

17. Where will I vote?

You will continue to vote at Crosspoint Community Church, W380N6931 N Lake Rd, Oconomowoc, WI 53066.

18. I still have more questions. How do I find out more information about this agreement?

You have several options. You can submit written comments or questions to the following email addresses: clerkoffice@townoconomowoc-wi.gov or clerk@townoconomowoc-wi.gov.

Or by mail at W359 N6812 Brown Street, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066.

On November 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., a public hearing will also be held at Crosspoint Community Church. You are welcome to provide a comment during the public hearing.

At the public hearing, please provide your questions upon arrival to avoid duplicative questions. You will not be restricted from asking additional questions if they arise during the public hearing.

Exhibit 1

