

**What type of fire and police cooperation do we have with surrounding communities?  
What efforts have been made to combine police and fire services?**

**Police Department**

The City of Delafield Police Department has been in the forefront of shared services since 1981. In 1981 the City of Delafield along with the Villages of Hartland and Chenequa formed a tactical unit (Lake Area Critical Incident Team) to serve all three communities. At that time this was a new concept in the nation and we were subsequently featured in a national law enforcement publication. Since that time many other departments have followed suit creating similar units.

Currently, three members of this agency are assigned to the Lake Area Critical Incident Team (CIT). The CIT has expanded since its inception and is now a tactical team comprised of officers and staff from the Cities of Delafield and Brookfield and the Villages of Hartland, Chenequa and Pewaukee. These communities provide a total of three administrators, 17 tactical officers, one trauma nurse and seven negotiators. There are also three professional psychologists assigned to the team. The trauma nurse and psychologist donate their time, and in return the unit funds ongoing training for them in their respective fields. Our team is currently considered to be one of the best tactical teams in the state. This service is available to all participating communities and is funded by a small \$2500 fee per year per community. This covers all the necessary purchases of equipment for the team.

**Major Investigation Unit (MIU)**



The MIU (Major Investigation Unit) was formed in the spring of 2002 as a cooperative effort between the City of Delafield, Village of Hartland and Village of Chenequa Police Departments. The purpose of this unit's formation was to provide member departments with a resource they could utilize for significant investigations which could otherwise overwhelm their individual department's abilities to conduct them. Each department contributes to a shared joint budget and provides four officers who have developed skills in four different areas: investigator,

evidence technician, accident reconstruction and photography. Since its inception, it has been used successfully in dozens of investigations including several suspicious sudden death investigations and a homicide. This unit is also funded with a small \$2000 fee per municipality. In mid-2002 a trailer was purchased with funds obtained from a grant through the Office of Justice Assistance, Department of Justice. This trailer is used at crime scenes to provide equipment necessary at the scene. The trailer can also be used as a "command post" at the scene. As the first investigative unit in the state, the Department of Justice used our model to encourage development of similar units statewide. They released additional grants to purchase trailers and provided them to seven agencies that also formed investigative units.

**Joint Purchases**

The City of Delafield, Villages of Hartland and Chenequa have combined funds to purchase a variety of equipment. The first item a number of years ago was a speed monitoring trailer. The agencies share the use of this trailer in the spring, summer and fall. Since that time we have purchased a wide variety of investigative items, such as specialized video and surveillance equipment and audio recording equipment to name a few. Recently we have obtained a FEMA trailer that we have equipped to operate as a mobile command post.

### Drug Enforcement

Our department currently has an officer assigned as a liaison to the Waukesha County Metro Drug Unit. His responsibilities with the unit are to relay information between the unit and the patrol officers. Additionally, he is involved in the drug investigations which take place within this community. This has proven to be a valuable resource in handling the drug issues that affect our community.

Our police department has a long history of looking into areas that we can work with other departments to provide professional, efficient law enforcement services to our community. Through our regional involvement we are able to draw on the resources of over 70 highly trained law enforcement professionals that supplement our 15 sworn officers in a very cost effective manner.

### Fire Department

We have an excellent relationship with the fire departments of our surrounding communities. We have an automatic mutual aid agreement with Lake Country and the Town of Delafield fire departments for any structure related fire calls. What this means is that any time a call comes in for a house fire in any of these three communities, all three departments are dispatched at the same time to the same address. This brings in needed manpower and equipment to fight the fire at the start of the event to reduce the amount of time to call for additional departments. Along with this automatic mutual aid we have a Rapid Intervention Team that is made up of the personnel from Oconomowoc, Dousman and the City of Delafield fire departments. This team responds to all structure related fire calls and acts solely as a safety team for the firefighters. If at these fire calls, a firefighter would become lost or trapped in the fire building this team stands ready for immediate action to find and rescue the firefighter. These teams train and work together frequently and have a great working relationship.

The City of Delafield fire department has tried to merge with many other departments in the area. Several years ago when the City and Town of Delafield were working on a border agreement combining the fire departments was discussed and worked on but these discussions did not lead to a merger. The merger meetings with the City of Oconomowoc were one of the most in depth merger talks that have taken place so far. These meetings included city administrators from both municipalities as well as elected officials. There was a lot of hard work put into these talks but in the end no merger occurred. Since the Oconomowoc merger talks ended Delafield again tried to combine our department with Chenequa (which would be separate from Lake Country) but this did not seem to get very far. We have talked with Lake Country/Nashotah recently and hope that this will go farther than we have in the past. Our paramedic partnership with Merton and Sussex has the potential to expand into more opportunities for all of these departments as we work closer with each other. The efforts from the Delafield Fire Department to combine or merge with another department have been an ongoing project, but in the end Delafield has never been the one to turn down this opportunity.

**According to the tax rate impact analysis, the total taxes on a \$300,000 home to cover both Referendum questions #1 and #2 will be \$405 in 2011. If that home is re-appraised at a value of \$400,000 before 2011, will the total taxes be  $\frac{4}{3} \times \$405 = \$540$ ?**

The impact analysis was based on a very conservative equalized valuation increase of 4% annually, (appreciation & new construction), except in 2009 when the equalized valuation increased by an additional \$55M due to the closeout of TID #3 in 2008. If we see equalization growth of larger than 4% the debt payment would be less than the \$405. If your home appreciated at a rate greater than or less than the equalized value, you could see an increase or decrease in the \$405 in 2011; what that exact amount is can not be determined at this time. Per the City's audited financial statements for year end December 31, 2006, our average equalized value over the last 10 years was 9%. In 2007 our equalized value increased by 5%.

**Why does the library need to be expanded one single square foot? Why can't the library stay the size it is, especially considering that it is already costing us \$343,869 in taxes?**

Short answer: The Library budget has a large operational cost offset from Waukesha Library System and operational costs will not go up due to the larger space. Without a library in Delafield a \$400,000 homeowner in Delafield would "save" \$19 per year in taxes but still pay \$92 for the libraries in other cities. It is arguable that City of Delafield is a more desirable place to live because we house and maintain lakes, rivers, parks, library, downtown streets, historical sites, and trails. We are currently third lowest in our city mill rate in Waukesha County and will stay in that place after the referendums pass.

**Longer Answers and Facts:**

Delafield taxpayer contribution to the Delafield Library operating budget is \$344,000. (28 cents per \$1000 assessed value. The balance of the operating budget comes from TNR (true non-residents) that use our library, funded by Waukesha County. Based on a historical, increasing circulation the TNR contribution is expected to increase.

If we could snap our fingers and make the Library disappear (no demolition costs), for just being a landowner and taxpayer in Waukesha County your new tax rate would drop by between only 3-5 cents per \$1000 assessed value.

The current 3156 square foot library is operating at costs (including staffing levels) consistent with other libraries in Waukesha County that are between 9000 and 11,000 square feet. The Library Board is committed to keeping operating costs consistent with this level. While the City Library is not a business, it does get funds like one. A newer facility is very likely to encourage more TNR visitation to come from other neighboring communities as well as keep more of our library going residents here. This circulation increases Delafield's piece of the County distribution as well as keeping Delafield consumers in Delafield for lunch, dinner, shopping.

**Why did the Delafield City Library/St. Johns Northwestern Military Academy Library on a site north of the Bark River not work out for the City?**

This opportunity was discussed at great length by the Plan B Committee. They filed a report with the City on October 15, 2007 with their findings. A copy of the report can be found on the website. Plan B Report to the Common Council (SJNMA) dated October 15, 2007.

**After reviewing the 2008 Referendum Financing Options (prepared by Ehlers), what is the cost per \$1,000?**

Option 1 (Question 1) Public Works, Police & Fire Project: The project would be 25 cents per \$1,000. Option 2 (Question 2) Library and City Hall Project: The project would be 21 cents per \$1,000. If both projects were approved the increase would be 46 cents per \$1,000.

**If the referendum fails, what is the next step?**

The Common Council has taken no action on what will happen if the referendum fails.

**Do we know what the cost is to bring the current facilities up to ADA standards and do delayed maintenance?**

There is a report prepared by Plunkett Raysich Architects in August of 2005 that indicated a cost of \$425,040 for code corrections. Per the report, "Even though the current building is well maintained, its use is compromised by code violations and poor layout. Individually, the efficient operation of each department is reduced and the building as a whole provides inadequate flexibility in use and safety measures."

**If only the smaller referendum question passes, is there money included to refurbish the building for Police and Fire offices?**

If only the Civic Campus was passed and the Police and Fire stay at that site, the City would have to redesign the building within the proposed square footages.

**If only the larger referendum passes, is there money for the library expansion within the existing building?**

Any expansion/construction would have to stay under 1 million dollars. Therefore, improvements and expansion would be very limited.

**How does our current municipal tax rate compare with our incorporated neighbors and how would the passing of both referendum questions affect that standing?**

Municipal Tax Rates as Compared to our Neighbors

We currently rank 3<sup>rd</sup> from the bottom in terms of our City tax rate as compared to our incorporated neighbors.

If we were to pass both referendum questions, our rate would go up to approximately \$4.48 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This would still place us 3<sup>rd</sup> from the bottom of the 8 surrounding cities and villages listed below:

	Pre-Referendum	Post-Referendum
C. Waukesha	8.73	8.73
C. Oconomowoc	5.80	5.80
C. Brookfield	5.15	5.15
C. New Berlin	5.25	5.25
C. Muskego	4.69	4.69
C. Delafield	4.02	4.48
V. Hartland	3.98	3.98
C. Pewaukee	2.46	2.46

**Will the engineering and general contracting for these project be bid out to find the most qualified company to ensure that the city's best interest is protected?**

The City will conduct an open bidding process to select all aspects of any business that results from the passage of either or both referendum questions. This includes project managers, planning, design, and building construction.

**I am concerned about a clause in the last sentence of City Ordinance 3.14 that reads nothing in this provision shall be construed to preclude the City from exercising its role in the planning or design of such publicly financed projects. I interpret this clause to say the City can award planning and design of a project to anyone the Council so desires without going through a formal bidding process.**

The Common Council has gone on record that all aspects of any business with passage of either or both referendum questions will be done in a very open bidding process this includes the planning and design for the project.

**How can you justify that the demolition for the Safety Campus will only be \$10,000?**

There is hardly any demolition cost on the Safety Campus. The only demolition proposed in the cost estimates is for the old wooden shed.

**What is the annual budget for the Library?**

The total 2008 budgeted expenditures for the Library are \$598,303. The general property taxes that support the Library are \$343,869. The Library also receives funds from Waukesha County. The amount for 2008 is \$217,350. The City budget can be found on our website under Financial Information.

**Will the City be able to spend additional funds for non-construction items such as design costs in addition to the amount stated in the referendum?**

It is not the intention of the City to exceed the approved amount. It is the opinion of the City's legal counsel that the City may use additional funds for non-construction items as long as these costs do not exceed \$1,000,000.

**If the referendum does pass, what tax increase per \$100,000 will be assessed yearly to the taxpayers?**

The City had Ehlers & Associates provide a tax rate impact analysis based on a \$300K home. Option 1 (Question 1) Public Works, Police & Fire Project: The project would increase the debt service by \$1,517, an average increase of \$76 per year for 20 year period. Option 2 (Question 2) Library and City Hall Project: The project would increase the debt service by \$1,281, an average increase of \$64 per year for 20 years. If both projects were approved the increase would be \$2,782, an average increase of \$139 per year for 20 years. These figures are based on the closing of the TID #3 in 2008 and a home value of \$300K.

**I question the asbestos remediation for \$15,000 in the Plan B report; it does not seem reasonable.**

The Plan B Committee was furnished the City Hall Hazardous Materials Survey done May 9, 2005 by Environmental Management Consulting, Inc. which showed the total asbestos clean up cost of \$11,900 at that time.