

Town of River Falls Budget Public Hearing & Town Elector Meeting

October 27, 2025



TOWN OF RIVER FALLS
Public Hearing and Special Town Meeting for 2024 Town Budget
Tuesday, November 12, 2024; River Falls Town Hall

The Town of River Falls 2024 Budget Public Hearing was called to order at 7:33 PM by Town Board Chair, Diana Smith. Chair Smith stated that a budget summary was posted and published per state statute. Chair Smith then called on Treasurer Rita Kozak to discuss/review the revenue portion of the budget, and Clerk Sarah Meyer to discuss/review expense portion. The public was allowed to ask questions and obtain clarification.

Joe Mahoney made a motion to close the Public Hearing. John Galgowski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 7:54 PM Chair Smith called a Special Town meeting of the Electors to order.

Joe Mahoney moved, and Rita Kozak seconded that Mary Foster and Greg Smith act as counters for the votes.

Joe Mahoney moved to accept Budget Meeting Resolution #1, a Resolution by Town Electors to Endorse the Town Board's Resolution to Exceed the Levy Limit. Siri Smith seconded. A vote of the electors was conducted. 14 town electors voted in favor of the Resolution, with 0 Nay and 0 Abstentions. Motion Carried.

Joe Mahoney moved to accept Budget Meeting Resolution #2, a Resolution by Town Electors to Use Previous Year's Unused Tax Levy. Rita Kozak seconded. A vote of the electors was conducted. 14 town electors voted in favor of the Resolution, with 0 Nay and 0 Abstentions. Motion Carried.

Joe Mahoney moved to accept Budget Meeting Resolution #3, a Resolution by Town Electors to Establish the Compensation for Elected Town Officers. Rita Kozak seconded. A vote of the electors was conducted. 15 town electors voted in favor of the Resolution, with 0 Nay and 0 Abstentions. Motion Carried.

John Galgowski moved to accept Budget Meeting Resolution #4, a Resolution by Town Electors to Adopt the Total Town Tax Levy. Siri Smith seconded. A vote of the electors was conducted. 15 town electors voted in favor of the Resolution, with 0 Nay and 0 Abstentions. Motion Carried.

Joe Mahoney moved to close the Special Meeting of the Electors. Siri Smith seconded. Motion carried. The Special meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Meyer, Town Clerk

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS

Town of River Falls, Pierce County

Notice is hereby given that a special town meeting of the electors of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin will be held at the town hall located at W9015 770th Avenue, River Falls, Wisconsin, on the 27th day of October 2025, immediately following the completion of the Public Hearing on the proposed 2026 town budget, which begins at 7:00pm, for the following purposes:

1. To consider the adoption of a resolution by the electors at the town meeting endorsing a town board resolution which proposes that the town levy exceed the state allowable levy limit under Wis. Stat. § 66.0602, specifically a proposed tax levy which would exceed the allowable town tax levy for 2025 (to be collected 2026), *after* adjustments, by 12.24%, for a dollar increase of \$109,872.
2. To establish the compensation for elected town officers, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(b)1.
3. To approve the 2025 total town tax levy (to be collected in 2026), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(a).

A special Town Board meeting will be held following the completion of the Special Meeting of the Town Electors to review and approve the 2026 town budget and to set an additional budget hearing and elector meeting if necessary.

Dated this 10th day of October 2025.

By: Sarah Meyer, Town Clerk of the Town of River Falls.

TOWN OF RIVER FALLS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin will hold a public hearing on the town's proposed 2026 budget on Monday, October 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., at the River Falls Town Hall, W9015 770th Avenue, River Falls, WI. Immediately following the public hearing, a Special Town Elector Meeting will be held to approve the 2025 total town tax levy to be collected in 2026. The proposed budget in detail is available for inspection on the town's website at www.riverfallstown.com and at the clerk's office by appointment. The following is a summary of the proposed budget.

	2025	2026	% Change
REVENUES:			
Taxes:			
General Property Taxes	\$891,306	\$1,007,512	11.53%
Other Taxes	\$5,810	\$800	-626.25%
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$281,016	\$287,269	2.18%
Licenses & Permits	\$22,126	\$15,099	-46.54%
Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties	\$350	\$100	-250.00%
Public Charges for Services	\$107,940	\$93,100	-15.94%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$20,350	\$165,187	87.68%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,328,898	\$1,569,067	7.45%
EXPENDITURES:			
General Government	\$189,049	\$218,817	13.60%
Public Safety	\$142,000	\$146,970	3.38%
Public Works - Highway	\$788,255	\$987,100	20.14%
Public Works - Recycling	\$70,000	\$83,432	16.10%
Health & Human Services	\$3,250	\$6,500	50.00%
Culture & Recreation	\$2,000	\$18,500	89.19%
Conservation & Development	\$11,000	\$12,270	10.35%
Zoning Administrator	\$12,000	\$12,000	0.00%
Capital Outlay	\$15,000	\$0	-100.00%
Future Facilities Fund	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Reserve for Contingencies	\$15,000	\$5,017	-198.98%
Debt Service	\$81,344	\$78,461	-3.67%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,328,898	\$1,569,067	15.31%

Reserve Accounts (Estimated starting balance 1/1/25):

Checking Account	\$10,000
Money Market Account	\$600,000
Highway Equipment Designated Fund	\$44,937
Capital Outlay Designated Fund	\$40,000
Equity Account	\$330,000

Mid-Year Budget Updates Revenues							
7/31/2025	2025 Estimated Budget	2025 Actuals - January 1 - August 31	Projected 2025 Totals	2026 Estimated Budget			
Taxes							
Property Tax Levy ***	\$891,306	\$891,306	\$891,306	\$1,007,512			Settlement amounts plus lottery credit *** Only include the Town's share of property taxes (not all of the property taxes)
Personal Property Taxes (after 2/15)	\$0	\$143	\$143	\$0			
State Forestry Programs (after 2/15)	\$5,000	\$418	\$418	\$0			Only include forestry payments received after the February 15th tax settlement date with the county.
Tax Chargeback/Omitted Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			Forest payments (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) are not included since they are considered part of the tax settlement and not a forestry payment.
Sales Tax	\$10	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Ag Use Penalty Tax	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Special Charges/Interest on the Tax Roll/Delinq PP Tax Collected	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800			
	\$897,116	\$892,667	\$892,667	\$1,008,312			
Intergovernmental Revenue							
Shared Revenue	\$97,509	\$14,577	\$97,509	\$100,024			Estimates released after 9/15
Shared Revenue - Utility Aid	\$522	\$78	\$522	\$335			
General Transportation Aid (estimates arrive ~10/1)	\$164,095	\$123,071	\$164,095	\$176,766			
Shared Bridges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Recycling Grant	\$6,400	\$6,404	\$6,404	\$6,400			
Soldier's Graves	\$15	\$0	\$15	\$15			
TRIP/LRIP	\$0	\$24,623	\$24,623	\$0			
Federal Disaster Aid/Flood Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
State Computer Aids	\$52	\$52	\$52	\$52			
Dog License Refund from Co.	\$550	\$660	\$660	\$660			
Municipal Services Payment	\$45	\$41	\$41	\$41			
Personal Property Aid from the State	\$1,069	\$0	\$1,069	\$1,039			
Intergovernmental Revenue - Other	\$0	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$0			small bridge and culvert
Annexation Payment from City of RF	\$10,760	\$0	\$10,760	\$1,937			
	\$281,016	\$172,105	\$308,349	\$287,269			
Licenses & Permits							
Dog & Kennel Licenses	\$1,500	\$1,229	\$1,229	\$1,300			
Other Licenses & Permits	\$1,500	\$1,420	\$1,420	\$1,400			hauler, alcohol, special event, bartender
Conditional Use Permits	\$300	\$720		\$300			
Building Permits & Land Use Fees	\$10,000	\$8,780		\$10,000			Zoning Fee & Land Use
Impact Fees Collected	\$8,000	\$1,299		\$1,299			
Cable Franchise Fees	\$826	\$756		\$800			
	\$22,126	\$14,203	\$2,649	\$15,099			
Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties							

Building Permit Fines	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Other Fines/Fees/Penalties	\$350	\$131	\$131	\$100			Dog Fines
	\$350	\$131	\$131	\$100			
Public Charges for Service							
Recycling Center Income	\$70,000	\$43,242	\$57,656	\$58,000			
Private Work/Hwy. Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			salt/sand sales, culvert sales, private work
Driveway/Site Inspections/Trans of Dev Site Fee	\$4,640	\$500		\$1,000			Building Inspection Fees
Certified Survey Maps	\$1,700	\$775		\$1,000			
Board of Appeals/Rezoning	\$0	\$700		\$0			
Fence Reviews	\$0	\$0		\$0			
Fire Calls/Inspections	\$13,000	\$11,374	\$15,165	\$13,000			
2% Fire Dues	\$15,000	\$16,818	\$16,818	\$17,000			
Glass Valley Cemetery Plots	\$1,400	\$700		\$1,400			
Land Rental Payment	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200			
Other Public Charges for Services	\$1,000	\$1,244	\$1,244	\$500			unity installation permit, public charges for services- other, mobile home fees
	\$107,940	\$75,353	\$92,083	\$93,100			
Other Revenue							
Interest	\$20,000	\$18,016	\$24,021	\$20,000			
Refunds	\$100	\$1,621	\$6,621	\$0			Tractor parts refund, Election Equipment cost share
Miscellaneous Income/Donations	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250			Donations, insurance payments
Sale of Town Property/Trade-ins	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000			Old Plow Truck sale
BCPL Loan (truck and tractor)	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0			
Transfer from Savings				\$44,937			
	\$20,350	\$319,637	\$330,892	\$165,187			
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,328,898	\$1,474,097	\$1,626,771	\$1,569,067			

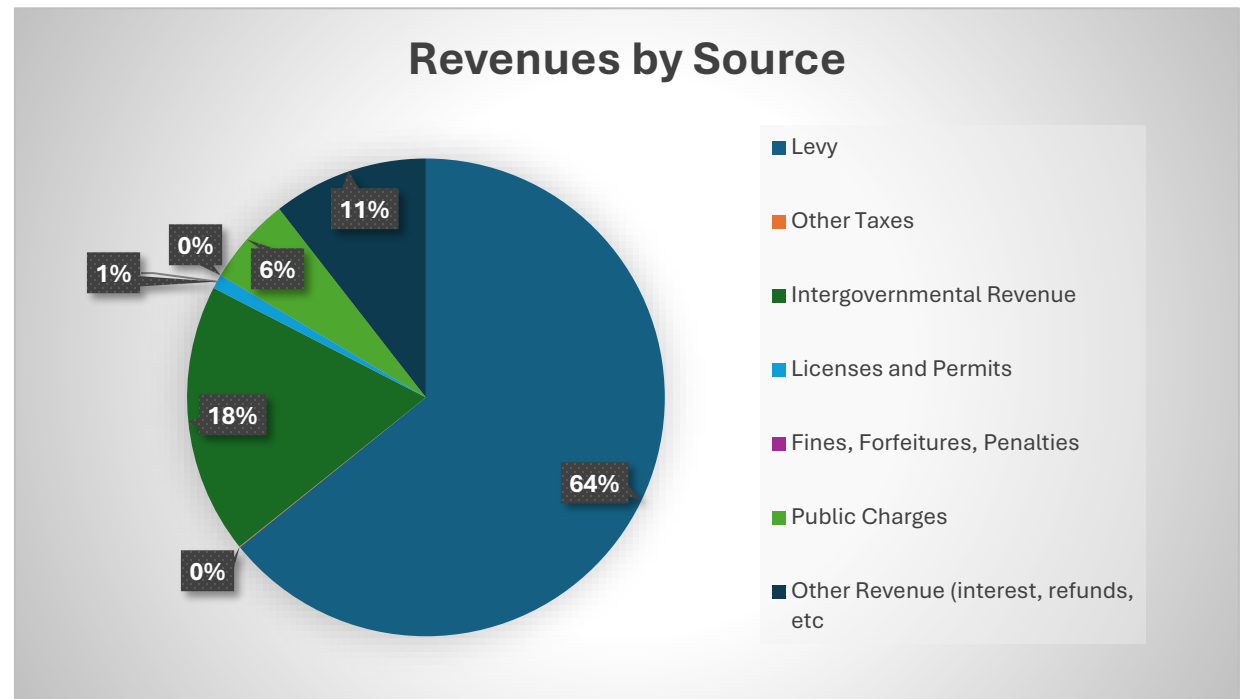
2026 Budget Expense - Workshop

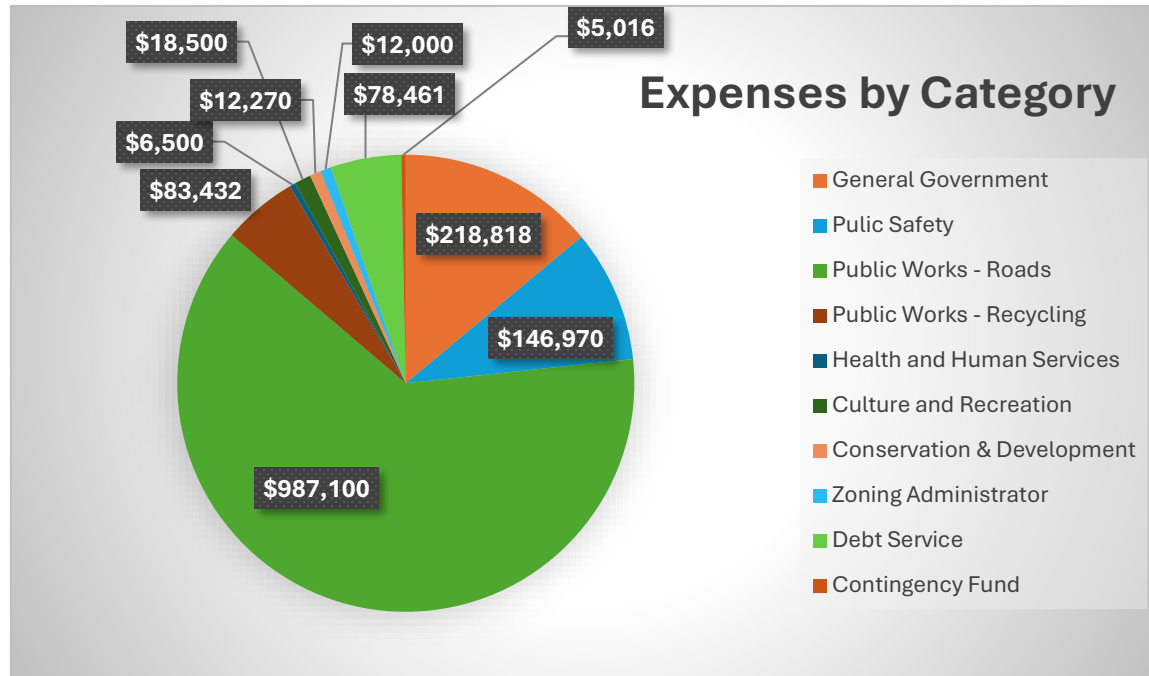
10/8/2025	2024 Year End Actuals	2025 Estimated Budget	Aug 31Actuals	Projected 2025 Totals	2026 Estimated Budget	
General Government						
Board-salary	\$41,460	\$39,725	\$28,064	\$37,419	\$50,000	
Printing/Publication	\$1,878	\$2,000	\$3,870	\$5,160	\$4,000	copy machine and publications
Dues/ Workshops/Memorials/Mileage	\$2,066	\$3,000	\$3,463	\$3,710	\$3,800	
Legal	\$900	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	
Engineer (non-road)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,700	
Insurance	\$14,158	\$20,000	\$16,410	\$18,000	\$22,000	
Clerk Salary & Retirement	\$47,910	\$55,588	\$38,030	\$50,707	\$55,000	
Office/Website/Postage/Internet	\$4,665	\$8,000	\$7,563	\$11,196	\$11,607	
Elections	\$10,065	\$15,000	\$11,793	\$11,793	\$10,000	
Treasurer Salary	\$15,454	\$15,000	\$10,079	\$13,439	\$15,000	
Pierce Co. Tax Collections	\$2,619	\$2,236	\$2,118	\$2,118	\$2,200	
Dog Licensing	\$947	\$1,000	\$598	\$598	\$750	
Assessing - Maintenance	\$8,400	\$8,500	\$6,375	\$8,500	\$8,600	Contract ends 2026
Assessing - Revaluation	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Town Hall	\$4,439	\$6,000	\$4,787	\$11,729	\$17,160	
	\$164,961	\$189,049	\$133,149	\$187,369	\$218,817	
Public Safety						
Law Enforcement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
2% Fire Dues	\$15,007	\$15,000	\$16,719	\$16,719	\$17,000	
Fire calls/equip./inspections	\$70,166	\$100,000	\$68,499	\$71,499	\$99,970	
Ambulance	\$26,015	\$27,000	\$26,604	\$26,604	\$30,000	Don't currently have contract ###s for 2026
	\$111,188	\$142,000	\$111,821	\$114,822	\$146,970	
Public Works - Highway						
Road Materials	\$513,227	\$384,655	\$124,012	\$348,247	\$422,000	Saddle Club, cold patch, dust control, Hubbell, sealcoating
Salt/Sand Expense	\$14,919	\$25,000	\$6,941	\$10,000	\$19,000	
Misc. Hwy.	\$334	\$1,000	\$240	\$250	\$0	
Bridges	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$0	2025 Bridge and Culvert program
Signs/Culverts	\$5,502	\$10,000	\$10,386	\$13,886	\$17,000	
Fuel & Oil	\$20,291	\$50,000	\$19,213	\$25,617	\$25,000	
Supplies & Repairs	\$56,819	\$50,000	\$50,025	\$65,000	\$61,500	

Highway Dept. Labor & Uniforms	\$118,960	\$200,000	\$165,269	\$220,359	\$226,000	
Town Shop	\$4,203	\$10,000	\$2,682	\$7,576	\$11,600	
Highway Equipment	\$16,215	\$15,000	\$310,085	\$310,085	\$165,000	
Roads Engineering	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Tree Removal	\$40,529	\$40,000	\$28,010	\$28,010	\$40,000	
Set Aside for 2027						
	\$790,998	\$787,655	\$719,462	\$1,031,630	\$987,100	
Public Works - Recycling						
Recycling Dept. Labor	\$28,491	\$30,000	\$19,637	\$26,483	\$33,000	
Recycling			\$7,204	\$9,605	\$9,500	
Recycling Container Rental			\$253	\$361	\$432	
Other Related Recycling Expenses	\$5,574	\$10,000	\$7,457	\$9,943	\$12,900	
Solid Waste	\$27,691	\$30,000	\$15,744	\$20,992	\$27,600	
	\$61,756	\$70,000	\$50,295	\$67,384	\$83,432	
Health & Human Services						
Animal Control	\$1,338	\$2,500	\$659	\$900	\$1,000	
Cemetery	\$539	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$5,500	2025 Lawn tractor paid for out of DF
	\$1,877	\$3,250	\$659	\$1,650	\$6,500	
Culture & Recreation						
Parks Labor, Fuel, Basic Expenses					\$5,500	
Parks Special Project					\$7,500	Halverson Park Bridge
	\$1,842	\$2,000	\$1,360	\$1,813	\$18,500	2025 Lawn tractor paid for out of DF
Conservation & Development						
	\$10,638	\$11,000	\$1,575	\$10,450	\$12,270	celebrations and committee pay
Zoning Administrator (& Assistant)						
	\$11,641	\$12,000	\$7,042	\$11,000	\$12,000	
Debt Service						
BCPL Loan Repayment - Grader	\$81,344	\$81,944	\$81,344	\$81,344	\$9,698	principal + interest
BCPL Loan Repayment - Truck & Tractor	-	-	-	-	\$68,763	
	\$81,344	\$81,944	\$81,344	\$81,344	\$78,461	
Capital Outlay						
	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	

Future Facilities						
\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Contingency Fund						
\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$5,016		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,271,244	\$1,328,898	\$1,106,707	\$1,537,462	\$1,569,067	

<u>Revenues by Source</u>		
Source	Amount	
Levy	\$1,007,512	64.21%
Other Taxes	\$800	0.05%
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$287,269	18.31%
Licenses and Permits	\$15,099	0.96%
Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties	\$100	0.01%
Public Charges	\$93,100	5.93%
Other Revenue (interest, refunds, etc)	\$165,187	10.53%
	\$1,569,067	100.00%





Expenses by Category

Category	Amount	
General Government	\$218,818	13.95%
Public Safety	\$146,970	9.37%
Public Works - Roads	\$987,100	62.91%
Public Works - Recycling	\$83,432	5.32%
Health and Human Services	\$6,500	0.41%
Culture and Recreation	\$18,500	1.18%
Conservation & Development	\$12,270	0.78%
Zoning Administrator	\$12,000	0.76%
Debt Service	\$78,461	5.00%
Contingency Fund	\$5,016	0.32%
	<u>\$1,569,067</u>	100.00%

Ambulance and Fire

Animal Control & Cemetery

celebrations, committee pay

**RESOLUTION BY TOWN ELECTORS TO ENDORSE THE TOWN BOARD'S
RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE LEVY LIMIT**

**Town of River Falls, Pierce County
Budget Meeting Resolution #1**

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin has imposed levy limits on town tax levies for 2025 and thereafter under Wis. Stat. § 66.0602;

Whereas, Wis. Stat. § 66.0602(5) allows the town electors in a town with a population of less than 3,000 to exceed the maximum allowable levy limit by adoption of a resolution at a town meeting of the town electors;

Whereas, the town board has adopted a resolution supporting an increase in the town tax levy which would exceed the maximum allowable state levy limit for the Town of River Falls;

Whereas, a special town meeting of the town electors has been called and properly noticed to consider the adoption of a resolution to endorse a town board resolution to exceed the state levy limits, specifically by increasing the allowable town tax levy for 2025 (to be collected in 2026) by 12.24%;

THEREFORE, the special town meeting of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote of the eligible electors duly assembled and voting on this 27th day of October 2025, hereby resolves and orders as follows:

1. The town electors of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin endorse the town board resolution to increase the town tax levy for 2025 (to be collected in 2026) by 12.24% over the state's allowable 2025 levy limit, for a dollar increase of \$109,872 over the allowable 2025 town tax levy.
2. The town clerk shall post or publish this resolution as required by law under Wis. Stat. § 60.80(1)(a) within 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this 27th day of October 2025 at a Special Town Meeting of the Town Electors.

Number of town electors voting aye _____

Number of town electors voting nay _____

Number abstaining or not voting (if determined) _____

Signature of Town Meeting Chair: _____

Attested by Town Clerk: _____

**RESOLUTION OF TOWN ELECTORS TO ESTABLISH THE COMPENSATION FOR ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS AT
THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF TOWN ELECTORS**

**Town of River Falls, Pierce County
Budget Meeting Resolution #2**

Whereas, the Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(b) authorizes the town electors of a town to establish compensation for elected town officers at a town meeting of the electors;

Whereas, a special town meeting of the town electors has been called and properly noticed to approve elected town officer pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(b);

Whereas, the town electors, after proper notice, have, via a special town meeting vote, authorized the Town of River Falls to establish the compensation for elected town officers at a town meeting of the electors.

THEREFORE, the special town meeting of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote of the eligible electors duly assembled and voting on the 27th day of October 2025 hereby resolved and orders as follows:

1. The town electors of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin, hereby establish elected town officers compensation as follows:
 - a. Town Supervisors #3 and #4 shall each be paid \$6,800/year and \$25 per diem for meetings not including all Board and Special Meetings
2. The town clerk shall properly post or publish this resolution as required by law under Wis. Stat. § 60.80(1)(a) within 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this 27th day of October 27, at a Special Town Meeting of the Town Electors.

Number of town electors voting aye _____

Number of town electors voting nay _____

Number abstaining or not voting (if determined) _____

Signature of Town Chair: _____

Attested by Town Clerk: _____

**RESOLUTION OF TOWN ELECTORS TO ADOPT THE TOTAL TOWN TAX LEVY
AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF TOWN ELECTORS**

**Town of River Falls, Pierce County
Budget Meeting Resolution #3**

Whereas, Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(a) authorizes the town electors of a town to adopt the town tax levy at a town meeting of the electors;

Whereas, a special town meeting of the town electors has been called and properly noticed to approve the 2025 total town tax levy (to be collected in 2026), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.10(1)(a);

Whereas, the town electors, after proper notice, have, via a special town meeting vote, authorized the Town of River Falls, Pierce County to exceed the allowable state levy limit;

THEREFORE, the special town meeting of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote of the eligible electors duly assembled and voting on this 27th day of October 2025, hereby resolves and orders as follows:

1. The town electors of the Town of River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin adopt the total town tax levy for 2025 (to be collected in 2026) in the amount of \$1,007,512.
2. The town clerk shall post or publish this resolution as required by law under Wis. Stat. § 60.80(1)(a) within 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this 27th day of October 2025, at a Special Town Meeting of the Town Electors.

Number of town electors voting aye _____

Number of town electors voting nay _____

Number abstaining or not voting (if determined) _____

Signature of Town Meeting Chair: _____

Attested by Town Clerk: _____