



TOWN BOARD ELECTION—
 Tuesday, March 8, 2022— 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
 Polling Place—West Lakeland Town Hall

2022 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING —
 Tuesday, March 8, 2022—8:15 PM
 West Lakeland Town Hall

WEST LAKELAND TOWN HALL ADDRESS:

959 Paris Avenue Circle North
 West Lakeland Township, MN 55082

Chairman's Corner

The township board and staff met on Feb. 9th to create a budget for 2023. This budget will be presented at the township's Annual Meeting on March 8, 2022. Unfortunately, these are uncertain times, especially when attempting to predict what services and materials will cost one year from now. By all accounts, the cost to do business is **not** coming down anytime soon. Inflation is at 7%, and rising, and many materials for products are scarce. These facts directly affect township business.



A prime example of this scenario is the 22nd St and 24th St reclamation project off Manning Avenue slated for 2023. Reclamation is a process where the top 8-10 inches of the road is ground up, mixed with asphalt and reapplied to produce a durable and long-lasting surface. Due in part to inflation, the estimated cost to reclaim .75 miles of the 22nd St and 24th St project is nearing \$690,000. In 2019, to put this in perspective, the township reclaimed approximately 1.8 miles of the 4th St/6th St loop for about \$500,000.

There are other road related projects that the township must fund in 2023. Approximately \$124,000 will go towards our portion of a County project involving the installation of traffic lights at the corner of Manning Ave and 30th St. Another \$125,000 will fund our portion of reconstruction costs for the western 1/2 mile of 30th St between Manning Ave and Neal Ave (south of the airport). In addition, we will continue to have our annual road patching costs. **The bottom line is we are forced to do less for more money.**

Other significant cost increases to be aware of include: recycling contract increasing by \$12,400, fire and emergency services up by \$4,800, and a requirement by the State of MN to perform an annual audit of our financials, at a cost of approximately \$14,000, due to our population and budget.

Taking into consideration all these financial pressures, **the township cannot operate at status quo.** The town board desperately looked at all our expenses and tried to cut costs wherever possible, but we are already running very lean without significantly depleting our reserves. **Consequently, the board will be proposing a 16% increase in our levy at the Annual Meeting.**

At present, the township does not assess for road projects and we would like to avoid that path. Other options are to bond (borrow money), cut back on services, (i.e., fewer road improvement projects at a time when our roads are rapidly deteriorating), or increase taxes even higher to keep up with inflation. I'm not particularly crazy about any of our choices. It hits me in the pocket book like everyone else. I've spoken with other municipalities and we are not the only ones experiencing this same problem. These are rocky and uncertain times that may require difficult decisions.

Sincerely,
 Daniel Kylo

Join Us!! **Vote**

West Lakeland Township
Annual Meeting
 Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 8:15 pm
 West Lakeland Town Hall

*******INVITED GUESTS*******

Senator Karin Housely, Representative Shelly Christensen
 Wash. Co. Commissioner Gary Kriesel, Wash. Co. Sheriff Dan Starry, and Bayport Fire Chief Allen Eisinger

The Annual Town Meeting will commence shortly
 after the polls close.

2022 TOWN BOARD ELECTION

If you will be absent on election day, Tuesday, March 8, you may vote by absentee ballot in person at the Stillwater Government Center at 14949 62nd St. N., Stillwater or request an application for an absentee ballot. For more information on receiving an application, please contact Washington County at 651-430-6175 or the Township Clerk at 651-436-4773.

Official Ballot	<p>Town Election Ballot</p> <p>Town of West Lakeland</p> <p>March 8, 2022</p>
Judge _____ Judge _____	<p>Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this ●</p>
<p>Town Offices Town of West Lakeland</p>	
<p>Town Supervisor Vote for One</p>	
<input type="radio"/> Nathan Aamot <input type="radio"/> Daniel Kylo <input type="radio"/> Write In: _____	
SAMPLE	
West Lakeland Township	