

# **WESTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**

FEBRUARY 08, 2022  
MINUTES OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Westville Town Council was held at the Westville Town Complex Community Room, 100 Setser Drive at 7:00 p.m. Present: Michael Albert, James Bechinske, Olga Pothorski, Lori Mercer, Clerk; Town Attorney, Doug Biege.

Absent: Deborah Kelly

A motion was made by James Bechinske to approve minutes of the January, 2022 meeting. Olga Pothorski, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

A motion was made by Michael Albert to approve claims for the month of January, 2022. Olga Pothorski, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

## **UTILITIES**

Nathan Howell gave a brief summary of the MCO report for the month of January. It is attached.

Michael Albert read Resolution 2022-2, Uncollectible Utility Accounts, in its entirety. Michael Albert made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-2. James Bechinske, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

## **STREETS**

James Bechinske reported that the streets for the Community Crossings Grant have been submitted to INDOT.

## **PARKS**

Jamie Vales, who represents the Birchfield Foundation, was in attendance to ask permission to use Prairie Meadow Park (PMP) to hold the annual Birchfield Festival during Memorial Day weekend. Michael Albert made a motion to allow the Birchfield Foundation to hold the annual Birchfield Festival on May 28, 29 and 30. Olga Pothorski, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Michael Albert reported, in Marshal Hynek's absence, that the water pump on one of the squads went out and they will be getting it repaired.

## **FINANCE**

Michael Albert made a motion to cancel the outstanding warrants from the water and sewage deposit accounts that are over two (2) years old and deposit them back into the operating account. Olga Pothorski, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.



## **FINANCE (CON'T)**

Sheriff John Boyd, Police Chief Paul Brettin, and Fire Chief Andy Snyder gave a brief presentation of the proposed LaPorte County Public Safety Local Income Tax and asked the Council for their support.

Michael Albert read Resolution 2022-3, A Resolution Supporting the LaPorte County Common Council Establishing a Public Safety Local Income tax, by title only. Michael Albert made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-3. James Bechinske, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

There was no representative from the WVFD was in attendance to report their monthly activity.

Michael Albert explained that our current contract with Waste Management expires on April 30, 2022 and they have submitted a proposal for a two (2) year extension with a first-year rate of \$14.25 per can per month and the second year at \$15.25 per can per month. Michael Albert made a motion to approve the two (2) year extension with Waste Management. James Bechinske, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

Jennie McBride from Tri-Kappa was in attendance to ask the council permission to use PMP on May 5, 2022 for their annual flower sale and on Sep. 30, Oct. 1, and 2 for the Pumpkin Festival. October 2<sup>nd</sup> will be a clean-up day if need by and the festival will only be a one (1) day event which will be on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.

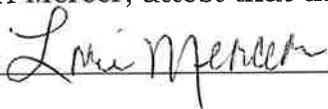
Michael Albert made a motion to allow Tri-Kappa to use PMP free of charge and the Town will provide electric and water during the dates stated above. Olga Pothorski, second. Roll Call: Pothorski, yes; Bechinske, yes; Albert, yes.

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

## **ANY OTHER MATTERS THAT COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

A motion to adjourn was made by Michael Albert at 7:33 PM. Olga Pothorski, second. Motion carried.

I, Lori Mercer, attest that these minutes are true and accurate.

  
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**Town of Westville**  
**January 2022 Monthly Report of Operations**  
**Prepared By: Nathan Howell**  
**February 8, 2022**

**Water**

1. GIS –Adam has the notebook operational and has completed the verification of Water Tower Place. We are planning to have him go to Hebron a couple of days to work with their staff. They have the same system.
2. The small tower demolition has been postponed until spring due to the weather.
3. IDEM has scheduled a Sanitary Survey for the water utility for Wednesday. We are certain they will be requiring the backflow program to be completed. We have completed a list of all the backflow preventers in the Town and which businesses who need to be contacted to determine if they have one. We will need to start tracking them and making sure they are tested annually. The Use Ordinance will need to be modified to reflect this. We had also spent considerable time compiling the information they have requested for the inspection.
4. The Surf Air fiber optic project has been postponed until March. Unfortunately, Adam had finished marking locates for all of Water Tower Place before we were notified of the schedule change.
5. There was a water main leak on Highway 6. Bowen assisted with the repair. We removed part of the pipe due to heavy pitting. This is a great cause for concern since it could be a huge problem and require the Town to replace a large portion of the system.
6. We installed a containment area for the fluoride storage at the water plant.
7. We received quotes for pump and motor work at the water plant. The work is quite expensive, so we have contacted McMahon about bidding the work.

**Wastewater**

1. The Nash Finch Lift Station still needs a flow meter installed. We have had Bowen on site to look at it and determine a price to do the work. We will also have them install a concrete slab to install a generator. We think we may have a solution for the flow meter installation. We believe we can install it on the force main entering the manhole. If we can do this, we will save thousands of dollars.
2. The Westville Estates pump station is deteriorating rapidly. We have spoken with McMahon and Superior Pumping to renovate the station. We are considering installing the used system from the old WWTP.
3. We continue to spend much of our time on the DOC WWTP renovation project. The new lift station at the WCC has had most of the underground structures installed. About 90% of the force main has been installed. The solids handling building has undergone much demolition and is being rebuilt. The south clarifier has had

the current baffles installed and will have the new drive installed soon. There were several water leaks during the force main installation on Main Street. These were difficult to deal with but we worked with Bowen and got them repaired.

4. We will need to have liquid sludge hauled and disposed of. We will contact Johnson's Septic to do this. We estimate the cost to be about \$18,000.
5. We were told by G.E. Marshal that they will not be able to repair the broken casting on the manhole on US 421 north of McDonald's. Another cover is now loose, which will need to be corrected. We have discussed this with Bowen.

**Town of Westville - Operational Summary for the Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**Influent**

2022	Total Gallons	Flow			BOD		TSS		Ammonia		Phosphorus	
		Max. Daily	Min. Daily	Monthly Avg.	mg/l	#'s	mg/l	#'s	mg/l	#'s	mg/l	#'s
January	5,902,400	241,900	156,400	190,400	139	216.3	316	494.6	28.8	45.7	5.1	8.1
February												
March												
April												
May												
June												
July												
August												
September												
October												
November												
December												

**Effluent**

2022	Total Gallons	Flow			BOD		TSS		Phosphorus		Ammonia	
		Max. Daily	Min. Daily	Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.	% Removed	Monthly Avg.	% Removed	mg/l	% Removed	mg/l	% Removed
January	5,821,000	242,100	155,300	187,800	3	97.8	7.3	97.7	.3	94.1	1.25	95.7
February												
March												
April												
May												
June												
July												
August												
September												
October												
November												
December												

**Town of Westville – Operational Summary for the Water Treatment Plant**

Month Ending	Total Monthly Flow	Maximum Daily Flow	Minimum Daily Flow	Average Daily Flow	Chlorine Usage (lbs.)	Fluoride Usage (lbs.)
01/31/22	4,401,000	233,700	0	141,400	73	51
02/28/22						
03/31/22						
04/30/22						
05/31/22						
06/30/22						
07/31/22						
08/31/22						
09/30/22						
10/31/22						
11/30/22						
12/31/22						

RESOLUTION 2022-2

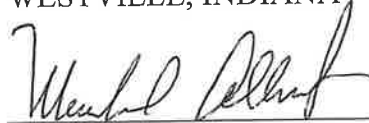
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Town of Westville deem the following utility accounts uncollectible:

ACCOUNT #1016005      \$181.65 (All Water)

ACCOUNT #2199001      \$108.83 (All Water)

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022.

WESTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
WESTVILLE, INDIANA



Michael Albert

Deborah Kelly



James Bechinske



Olga Pothorski

Vacant

ATTEST:



Lori Mercer, IAMC Clerk-Treasurer

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TOWN OF WESTVILLE  
100 SETSER DRIVE  
WESTVILLE, INDIANA 46391

PHONE: (219) 785-2123

LIST OF OLD WARRANTS PROCESSED IN 2022:

WATER DEPOSIT

08/21/2019 – WATER DEPOSIT – ANDREW NORRIS - \$80.00

TOTAL WATER DEPOSIT OUTSTANDING CHECKS - \$80.00

SEWAGE DEPOSIT

01/17/2019 – SEWAGE DEPOSIT – SEAN SMITH - \$5.17

08/21/2019 – SEWAGE DEPOSIT – JESSICA SLADE - \$4.25

08/21/2019 – SEWAGE DEPOSIT – ANDREW NORRIS - \$80.00

TOTAL SEWAGE DEPOSIT OUTSTANDING CHECKS - \$89.42

LORI MERCER, IAMC  
CLERK-TREASURER  
02/08/2022

**Depository Statement and Cash Reconciliation**

Date : 01/03/2022 11:57:35 AM

BANK\_REC\_STMT.FRX

User ID: LORI

Bank Rec. Batch - 5

Bank - 5-1ST SOURCE | SEWAGE DEP  
FOR THE MONTH ENDING DECEMBER, 2021

Depository Balance:

43693.97

Deduct Outstanding  
Warrants/Deposits:

DATE	WARRANT #	NAME	CK=WARRANT DEP=DEPOSIT	AMOUNT
01/17/2019	1520	SEAN SMITH	CK	5.17
08/21/2019	1560	JESSICA SLADE	CK	4.25
08/21/2019	1563	ANDREW NORRIS	CK	80.00
04/23/2020	1605	BREENS AUTO	CK	26.90
04/23/2020	1608	DAVID YORK	CK	10.49
11/18/2020	1641	MICHAEL GANZ	CK	3.59
12/15/2021	0000001642	Deposit made by COMPUTER	DEP	80.00
12/31/2021	0000001643	Deposit made by COMPUTER	DEP	3.72
02/18/2021	1657	SASHA BETANCOURT	CK	5.06
06/16/2021	1679	JESSICA STREETER	CK	80.00
08/17/2021	1687	AUSTIN STOLL	CK	23.71
10/19/2021	1698	SAVANNAH SALYER	CK	80.00
10/19/2021	1700	MORGAN KNIOLA	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1707	WESTVILLE UTILITIES	CK	74.94
12/21/2021	1708	CHARLES WRIGHT	CK	5.06
12/21/2021	1709	JAMES ROTZIEN	CK	60.00
12/21/2021	1710	WILLIAM KRAUSE	CK	60.00
12/21/2021	1711	EMIL WOLPINK	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1712	CATHERINE O'NEAL	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1713	RHONDA GASS	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1714	AMY OTT-LUTTERMAN	CK	80.00

Total Outstanding Deposits:

83.72

Total Outstanding Warrants:

919.17



Installed by the TOWN OF WESTVILLE-2018  
**Depository Statement and Cash Reconciliation**

Bank Rec. Batch - 2  
Bank - 2-1ST SOURCE | WATER DEP  
FOR THE MONTH ENDING DECEMBER, 2021

Depository Balance:

44999.70

Deduct Outstanding  
Warrants/Deposits:

DATE	WARRANT #	NAME	CK=WARRANT DEP=DEPOSIT	AMOUNT
08/21/2019	1526	ANDREW NORRIS	CK	80.00
04/23/2020	1569	BREENS AUTO	CK	33.52
04/23/2020	1573	DAVID YORK	CK	1.46
06/16/2021	1643	JESSICA STREETER	CK	80.00
08/17/2021	1653	TRAVIS HAMILTON	CK	60.00
10/19/2021	1662	SAVANNAH SALYER	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1673	WILLIAM KRAUSE	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1673	WILLIAM KRAUSE	CK	-80.00
12/21/2021	1674	EMIL WOLPINK	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1676	CATHERINE O'NEAL	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1677	RHONDA GASS	CK	80.00
12/21/2021	1679	WILLIAM KRAUSE	CK	60.00

Total Outstanding Deposits:  
Total Outstanding Warrants:

0  
634.98

**RESOLUTION \_\_-2022 - 3**  
**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LA PORTE COUNTY COMMON COUNCIL**  
**ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC SAFETY LOCAL INCOME TAX**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of Westville, Indiana, that a need now exists to modify the local income tax rates imposed within the county. The Town Council of Westville, Indiana supports the La Porte County Common Council passing a resolution establishing a public safety local income tax (herein referred to as "LIT") of 0.5%.

**WHEREAS**, the local governmental units of La Porte County are facing a public safety crisis:

**WHEREAS**, the police departments, fire departments, Sheriff's Department, La Porte County EMS, and first responder departments in La Porte County have lost experienced employees to departments in other counties due to the inability to pay competitive wages and benefits;

**WHEREAS**, first responder calls for service in La Porte County have dramatically increased, including a twenty percent (20%) increase in overdose deaths in La Porte County in 2021;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Michigan City Common Council has identified gun violence as the new health crisis;

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the residents of La Porte County received \$32.6 million in property tax relief from the State of Indiana, and the proposed public safety LIT will generate an estimated \$12.85 million in revenue for public safety in La Porte County to offset the losses from the State of Indiana property tax cap;

**WHEREAS**, the public safety LIT is the only sustainable source of revenue for a promising and secure future to fund public safety in La Porte County;

**WHEREAS**, all ninety-two (92) counties in the State of Indiana have a LIT, and seventy-one (71) of Indiana's ninety-two (92) counties have a public safety LIT, and the State average LIT is 1.7816%;

**WHEREAS**, La Porte County currently has a LIT of 0.95% and with the passage of the public safety LIT at 0.5%, the La Porte County total LIT would be 1.45%, which is below the State average LIT;

**WHEREAS**, approved uses of the public safety LIT (I.C. § 6-3.6-2-14) include police/law enforcement systems to preserve public peace and order, firefighting and fire prevention systems, emergency ambulances and emergency medical services,

emergency action (environmental clean-up), probation department of the courts, community correction programs, juvenile detention centers and facilities, county jail, communications systems or enhanced emergency telephone systems, medical and health care expenses for inmates, and pension payments for: Police officers and other department employees, firefighters and other department employees, sheriff and other members of department, other personnel providing public safety services.

**WHEREAS**, the La Porte County Common Council has requested all local units of government located in La Porte County pass a resolution supporting the passage of a public safety LIT.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Town Council of Westville, Indiana supports the La Porte County Common Council passing a public safety LIT of 0.5% and the need now exists to modify the local income tax rates imposed within the county in the following way:

<u>Local Income Tax Type</u>	<u>Existing Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>
Certified Shares (I.C. § 6.3.6-6)	0.95%	0.95%
Public Safety (I.C. § 6-3.6-6)	0.0%	0.5%

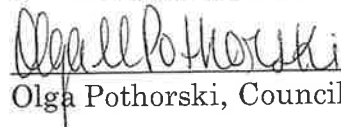
The local income tax rates proposed above will become effective on October 1, 2022, based on the La Porte County Common Council passing the public safety LIT by March 31, 2022. The local income tax rates proposed above will remain in effect until modified or repealed by La Porte County Common Council.

8<sup>th</sup> **PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Town Council of Westville, Indiana, this day of February, 2022.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Michael Albert, President

  
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 James Bechinske, Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Deborah Kelly, Councilmember

  
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 Olga Pothorski, Councilmember

ATTEST:

  
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 Lori Mercer, Clerk-Treasurer

# The Future is Now...

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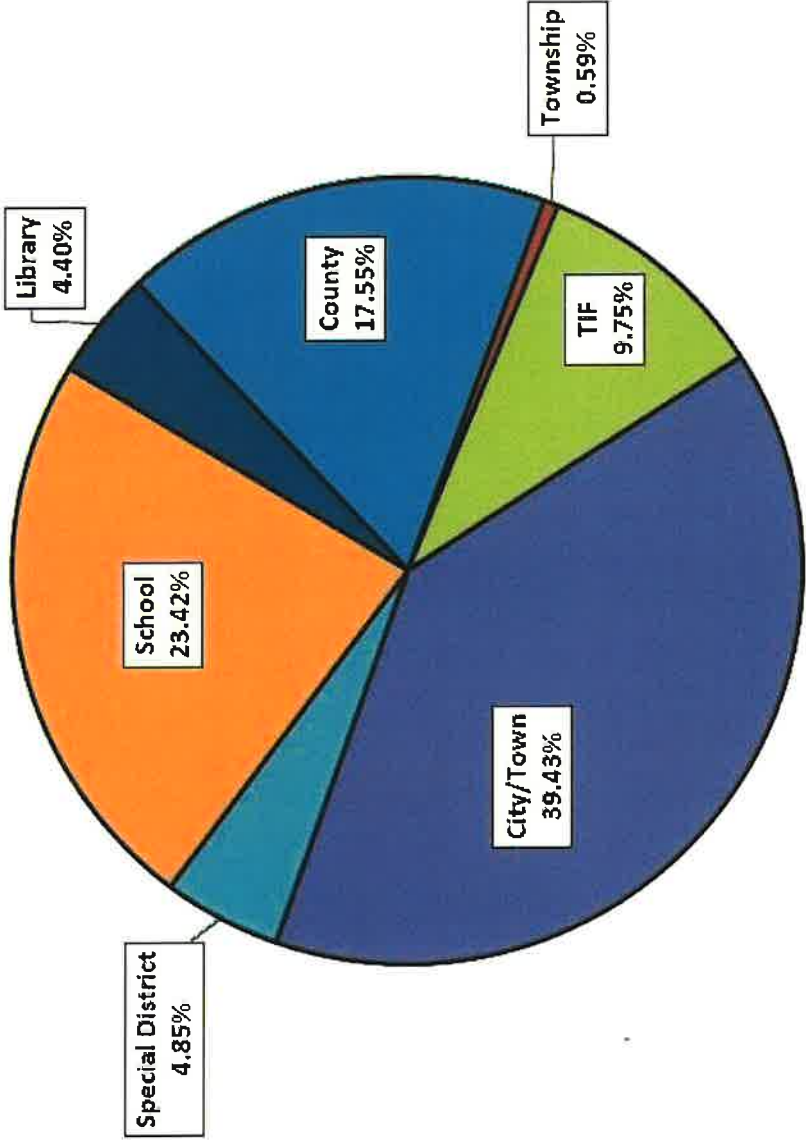
La Porte County Public Safety LIT



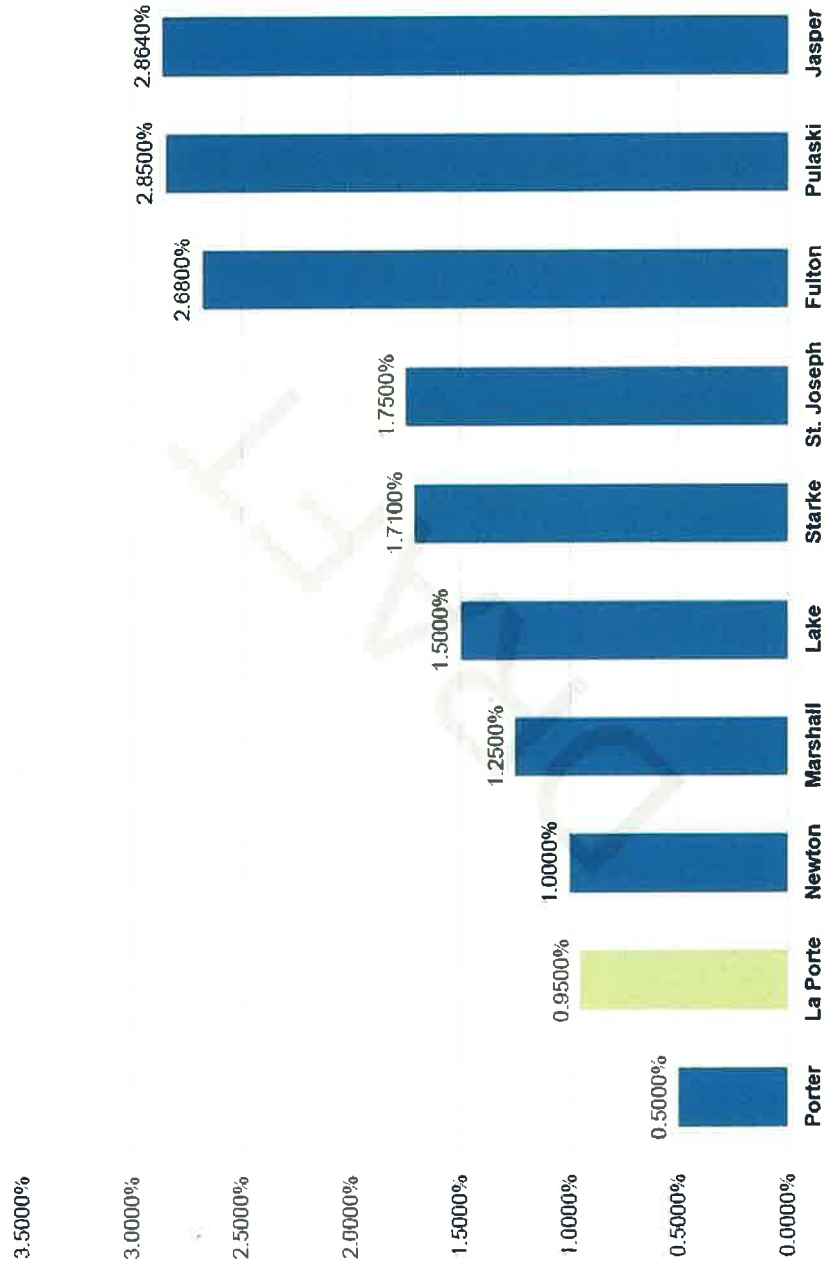
LA PORTE  
I N D I A N A

11/8/21

# Property Tax Relief – 2020 (\$28.1 million)



# Comparison of Local Income Tax Rates for Surrounding Counties





# Illustrative Increase in Income Tax Liability

Estimated increase in income tax rate=>>	0.15%		0.20%		0.25%		0.50%	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
<u>State taxable income:</u>								
\$20,000	\$30	\$2.50	\$40	\$3.33	\$50	\$4.17	\$100	\$8.33
\$40,000	\$60	\$5.00	\$80	\$6.67	\$100	\$8.33	\$200	\$16.67
\$60,000	\$90	\$7.50	\$120	\$10.00	\$150	\$12.50	\$300	\$25.00
\$80,000	\$120	\$10.00	\$160	\$13.33	\$200	\$16.67	\$400	\$33.33
\$100,000	\$150	\$12.50	\$200	\$16.67	\$250	\$20.83	\$500	\$41.67
\$200,000	\$300	\$25.00	\$400	\$33.33	\$500	\$41.67	\$1,000	\$83.33



## Illustrative Estimates of Public Safety LIT Allocations

	Estimated Public Safety LIT Allocations				
	0.15%	0.20%	0.25%	0.50%	
La Porte County	\$ 2,023,982	\$ 2,698,644	\$ 3,373,304	\$ 6,746,663	
Michigan City Civil City	1,118,254	1,491,006	1,863,757	3,727,543	
La Porte Civil City	546,753	729,004	911,255	1,822,523	
Kingsbury Civil Town	1,726	2,302	2,877	5,754	
Kingsford Heights Civil Town	11,005	14,673	18,341	36,682	
Lacrosse Civil Town	10,685	14,246	17,808	35,616	
Long Beach Civil Town	66,279	88,372	110,465	220,933	
Michiana Shores Civil Town	8,235	10,979	13,724	27,449	
Pottawattamie Park Civil Town	4,944	6,592	8,241	16,481	
Trail Creek Civil Town	27,506	36,674	45,843	91,686	
Wanatah Civil Town	15,128	20,171	25,214	50,428	
Westville Civil Town	22,003	29,337	36,671	73,342	
Totals	\$ 3,856,500	\$ 5,142,000	\$ 6,427,500	\$ 12,855,100	



WM – LaPorte Hauling  
7023 S. Hupp Rd.  
Kingsbury, IN 46345

February 3, 2022

Town of Westville  
President Albert, Vice President Kelly, and Town Council Members Mr. Bechinske, Ms. Ruddell, Ms. Pecanac, and Clerk Mercer  
100 Setser Dr.  
Westville, IN 46391

Dear Town Council members and Clerk Mercer:

We would like to thank the Town of Westville for its partnership with WM. It has been our pleasure to serve your community since 2011. Please find a two-year extension proposal below for your review and consideration.

5/01/2022 – 4/30/2023 - \$14.25

5/01/2023 – 4/30/2024 - \$15.25

Service for the six yard dumpsters at the Garage and the Water Plant - \$151.00/month/location  
Service for the two yard dumpster at the Waste Water Plant - \$50.00/month

WM is excited to announce that we will be installing compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling infrastructure at our LaPorte location in 2022 and will eventually transition to servicing Westville with an automated vehicle fueled by CNG. 53% of WM's collection fleet has already been transitioned to CNG vehicles, avoiding the use of millions of gallons of diesel fuel per year and comprising the largest heavy-duty natural gas fleet of its kind in North America. Over half of our CNG vehicles use dairy or landfill biogas, including gas captured from our own landfills. For every diesel-powered truck we replace with natural gas, we reduce annual fuel use by an average of 8,000 gallons, an equivalent of 14 metric tons of greenhouse gases. CNG vehicles are also quieter than diesel trucks and emit nearly zero particulate emissions, which helps improve air quality.

All other service for the Town of Westville will remain the same. If the extension is approved, WM will mail a postcard to all Westville residents with some reminders such as trash should be bagged inside the cart, how to request an additional cart at the residents own cost, and reminders to preschedule bulk item collection. The Town will be able to review and approve the postcard prior to mailing.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to provide high quality service for your community. As always, we appreciate your business and aspire to be of service to the Town of Westville and its residents for many years to come. Please contact me (317-339-5304; [mantell@wm.com](mailto:mantell@wm.com)) with any questions or concerns. I look forward to attending your Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to answer questions at that time as well.

Best Regards,

*Melinda Antell*

Melinda Antell