MERCER
PO BOX 149
MERCER, WI 54547

Town of Mercer Special Meeting of the Electors
October 13, 2026
Resolution Summary

The Town of Mercer is asking voters to approve a resolution to increase property taxes by $300,000 each year for the next ten years (2027-2036). Because of the ever-increasing cost of materials and Wisconsin strict tax levy limits, the town's annual budget can no longer cover these large, expensive projects, with levy funds alone.

This special funding will be used for Public Safety vehicles, an upcoming plow truck and repairs to town roads and infrastructure.

1. New Fire Truck

At the Fire Hall in town our lead engine fire truck is 25 years old and needs to be replaced so firefighters can respond to emergencies safely. In addition, NFPA standards recommend replacing the lead engine over 25 years old. On November 12, 2025, the Town Board locked in a price of $619,395 for a new Freightliner fire engine. It was originally scheduled to arrive in 2028 but is now scheduled to arrive in the spring of 2027.

To pay for it, the town is taking out a loan with the Board of Public Commissioners. With a projected 6.5% interest rate, setting aside $100,000 a year will let us pay off the truck in just under 9 years.

2. New Ambulances

This money will create a special fund to buy two identical new ambulances in the future for our EMS team. Our EMS Director wants both ambulances set up the exact same way. This helps our volunteer crew know right away where all the medical gear is stored. Having matching vehicles makes training easier, speeds up response times, and helps volunteers save lives under pressure. Saving the funds each year will allow the town to purchase the ambulances without having to pay interest or add to the debt levy.

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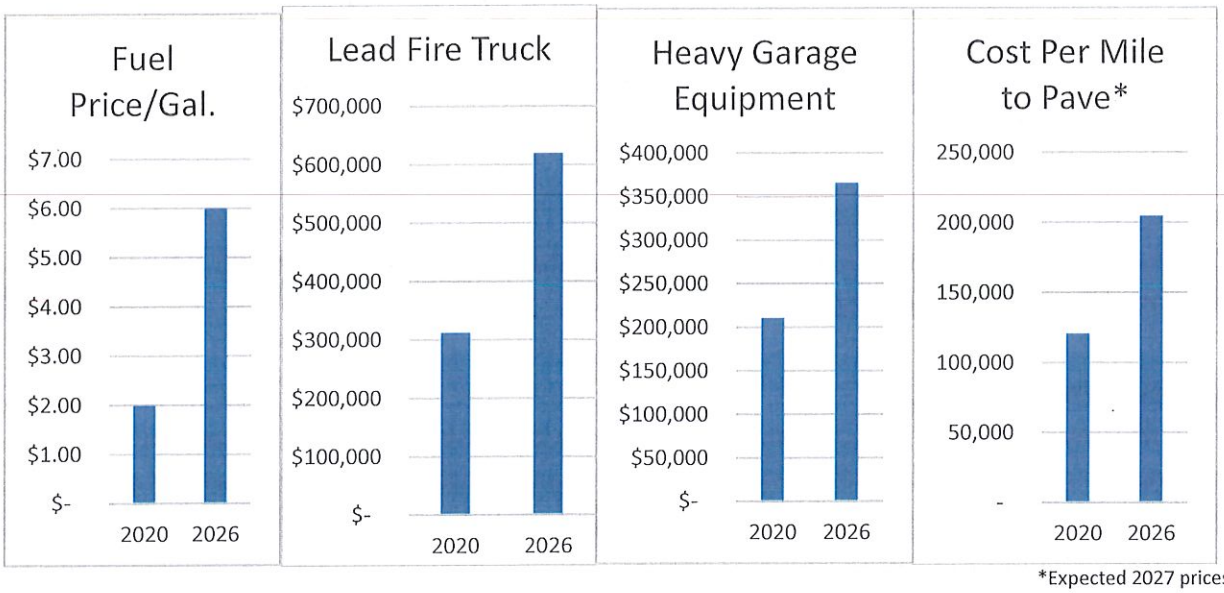
3. Road Repairs and Town Garage Upgrades

The final part of the tax increase will pay for public works projects that have fallen behind because paving and building materials have become so expensive. This funding keeps our town running without taking money away from everyday services:

- **Road Repairs:** Catching up on overdue road paving, maintenance projects and the "Tube" at Fisher and Catherine Lakes.
- **Town Garage Upgrades:** Repairing the over 50 year old town garage by replacing over 50 year old insulation and siding, replacing the rest of the concrete floor, and putting in an air ventilation system.
- **Future Plow Truck:** Saving money ahead of time to buy a new heavy snowplow truck in 2030.

Price Changes Since 2020



*Expected 2027 prices

Phone: 715-476-2403 | Fax: 715-476-9152 | Email: clerk@townofmercerwi.gov | Website: www.townofmercer.com

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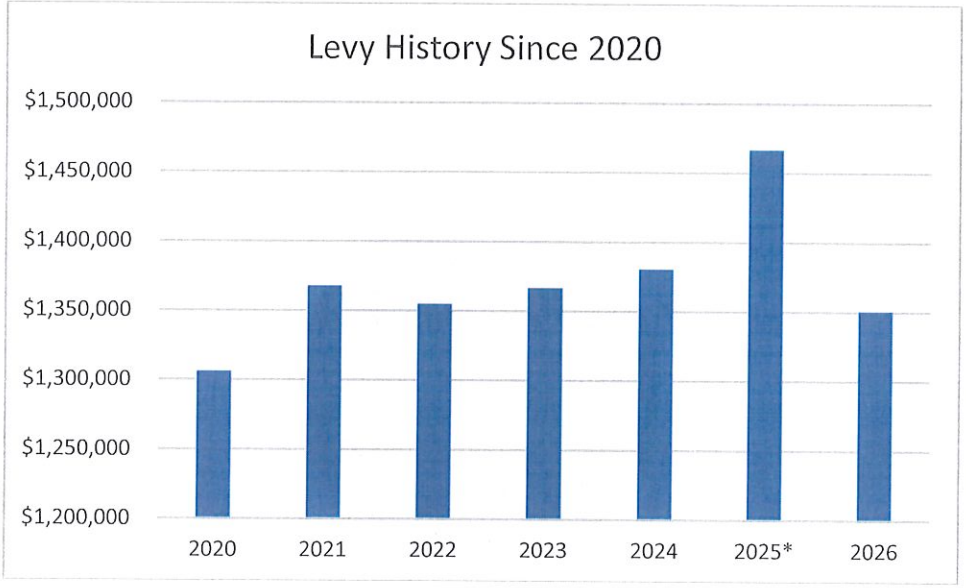
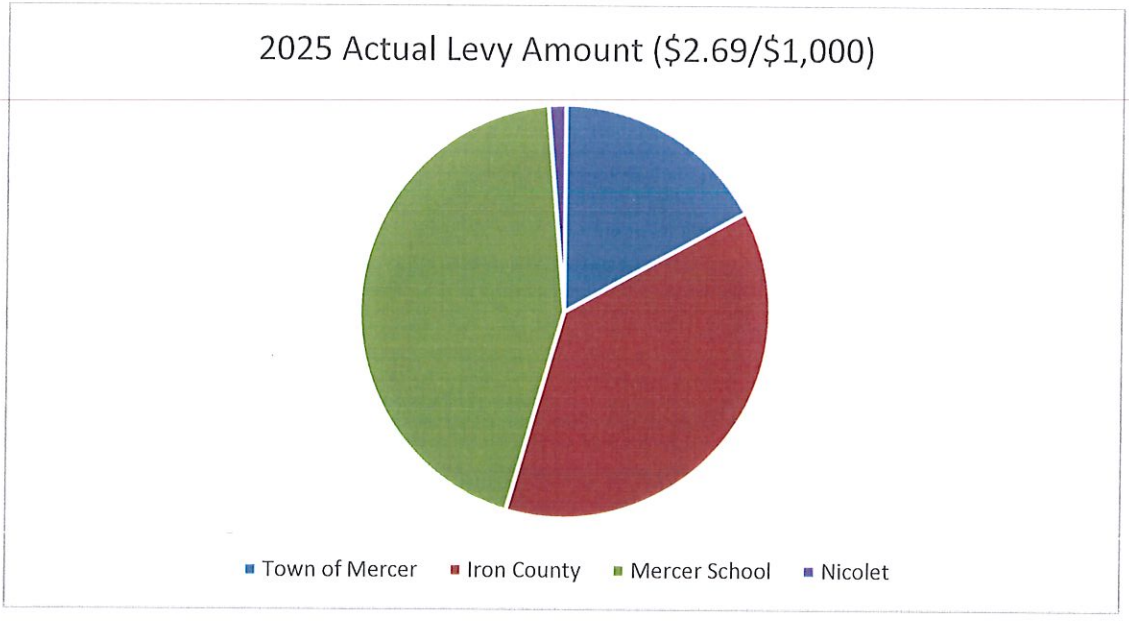
Levy History



*Large loan with next year's repayment

Where Do My Taxes Go??



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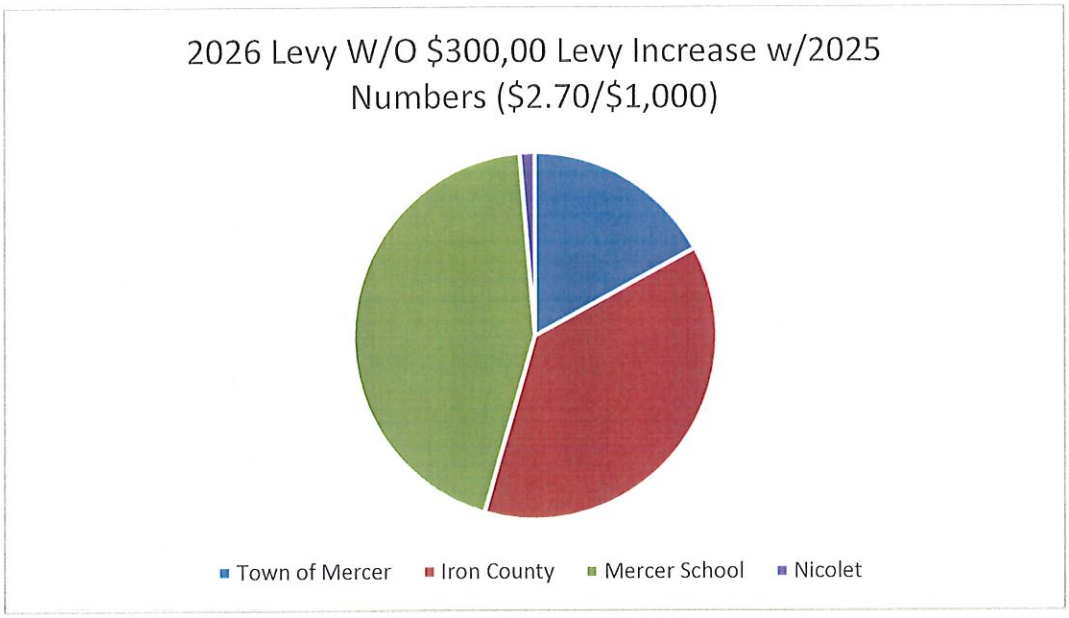

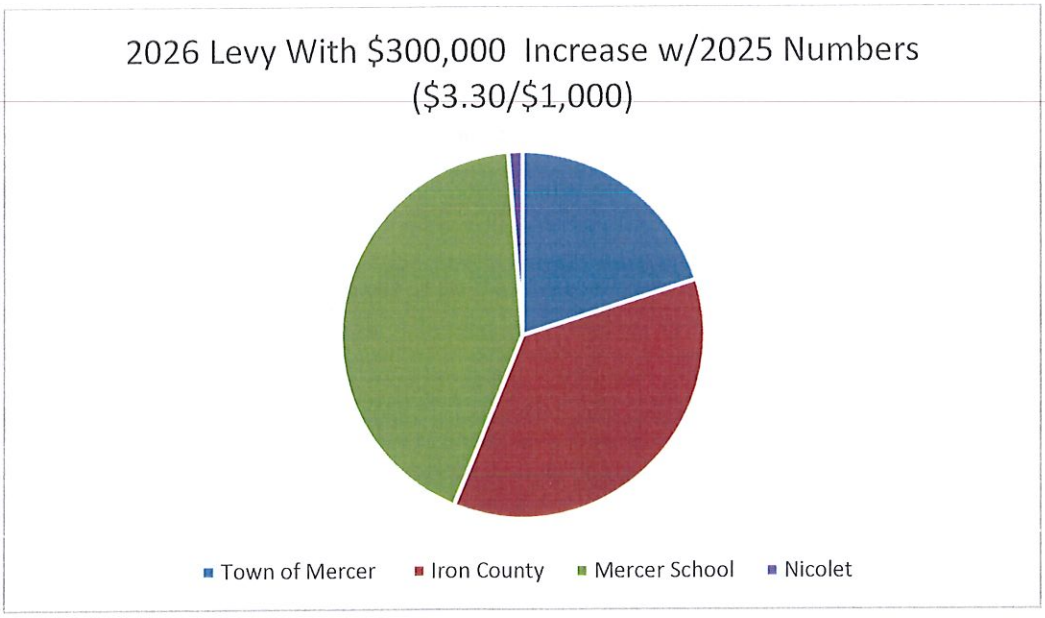

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TOWN OF MERCER 5 YEAR ROAD PLAN

2025				
			Right of Way	Average Daily Traffic
Beaver Lodge Circle Ashe Rd north to new asphalt	Rebuild & Pave	6,450 Feet	66' ROW	150-175 ADT
Fisher Lake Rd West from new asphalt to termini	Rebuild & Pave	4,280 Feet	66' ROW	75-125 ADT
Miller Rd	Rebuild & Pave	Xcel Energy Project	66' ROW	15-25 ADT
Rockow Rd	Rebuild & Gravel	792 Feet	66' ROW	15-25 ADT

2026				
			Right of Way	Average Daily Traffic
Goettche Rd	Rebuild & Pave	1,742 Feet	50' ROW	35-50 ADT
Little Pike Lake Rd	Rebuild & Pave	7,445 Feet	50' ROW	50-75 ADT
Martha Lake Rd From Thompson to Hwy J	Rebuild & Pave	8,922 Feet	Varies	225-250 ADT
John Dul Rd	Rebuild & Gravel	2,995 Feet	66' ROW	10-15 ADT

2027				
			Right of Way	Average Daily Traffic
Beaver Lodge Circle from Fisher Lake Rd to new asphalt	Rebuild & Pave	3,485 Feet	66' ROW	150-175 ADT
East Fisher Lake Rd	Rebuild & Pave	6,130 Feet	66' ROW	125-150 ADT
Tower Ridge Rd	Pulverize & Repave	370 Feet	66' ROW	10-15 ADT
Payment Lake Rd	Rebuild & Gravel	1,954 Feet	50' ROW	35-50 ADT

2028

			Right of Way	Average Daily Traffic
Kimmear Rd	Rebuild & Pave	8,554 Feet	66' ROW	25-40 ADT
Flambeau Dam Rd	Rebuild & Pave	2,500 Feet	66' ROW	75-100 ADT
West Echo Lake Rd	Rebuild & Pave	5,069 Feet	Varies	75-100 ADT
Crytsal Lake Rd E	Rebuild & Gravel	2,429 Feet	50' ROW	15-25 ADT

2029

			Right of Way	Average Daily Traffic
Hiawatha Rd	Rebuild & Pave	2,113 Feet	50' ROW	35-50 ADT
Flambeau Trail Rd	Rebuild & Pave	2,270 Feet	66' ROW	35-50 ADT
Downey Rd	Rebuild & Pave	1,796 Feet	66' ROW	75-100 ADT
Shadey Rest Dr	Rebuild & Pave	898 Feet	66' ROW	15-25 ADT
Redwood Rd	Rebuild & Pave	898 Feet	66' ROW	15-25 ADT
Flambeau Trail Rd Redwood Rd to Koshak Rd	Rebuild & Pave	1,500 Feet	66' ROW	15-25 ADT

2030

			Right of Way	Average Daily Traffic
Mercer Lake Circle	Pulverize & Pave	13,300 Feet	Varies	100-125 ADT
Boyer Rd	Pulverize & Pave	1,214 Feet	66' ROW	25-50 ADT
310 Rd	Rebuild & Gravel	8,130 Feet	50' ROW	15 ADT

Town of Mercer Road plan is subject to change due to increase paving costs, budget cuts and unexpected road damage due to impacts from weather.

Town of Mercer Projected Expenses

	Dept	Item	Costs		
2027					
	Trans St	Repave Transfer Station	$	120,000.00	
	Trans St	SkidLoader	$	35,000.00	
	Gar	2nd half garage floor	$	100,000.00	
	Gar	Air exchange system	$	200,000.00	
	Gar	Re-do Wheel Loader lease	$	45,000.00	
	Gar	Plow truck equipment	$	198,000.00	
	Gar	New tarp sand shed	$	40,000.00	
	Lib	Additional parking	$	80,000.00	
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00	
TOTAL			$	918,000.00	
2028					
	Trans St	Truck	$	75,000.00	
	Gar	Steel siding windows and insulation for shop	$	325,000.00	
	FD	Full turnout gearx10	$	80,000.00	todays price
	FD	Portable pumpsx3	$	19,500.00	todays price
	FD	Firetruck (already approved)	$	640,000.00	
	FD	New radios (per new frequencies)	$	25,000.00	todays price
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00	
TOTAL			$	1,264,500.00	
2029					
	Gar	New F-550 Truck with dump body and plow	$	150,000.00	
	Gar	Insulation in ceiling of shop	$	100,000.00	
	Gar	Vermeer lease payoff	$	35,000.00	
	Gar	New roadside boom mower	$	175,000.00	
	FD	Airpacks x12	$	72,000.00	todays price
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00	
TOTAL			$	632,000.00	
2030					
	Gar	New plow truck chassis	$	210,000.00	
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00	
TOTAL			$	310,000.00	
2031					
	Gar	New plow truck equipment	$	215,000.00	
	Gar	Re-do wheel loader lease	$	45,000.00	

	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00
TOTAL			$	360,000.00
2032				
	Gar	New street sweeper	$	125,000.00
	Gar	Re-do wheel loader lease	$	45,000.00
	FD	Tender	$	410,000.00 todays price
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00
TOTAL			$	680,000.00
2033				
	Gar	New roadside tractor	$	170,000.00
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00
TOTAL			$	270,000.00
2034				
	Gar	Update chevy Silverdao 3500 with snowplow	$	110,000.00
	Gar	Update Ford F-250 with snowplow	$	110,000.00
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00
TOTAL			$	320,000.00
2035				
	Gar	New plow truck chassis	$	215,000.00
	EMS	Ambulance X2 save for 10 years	$	100,000.00
TOTAL			$	315,000.00
2036				
	EMS	Ambulance	$	100,000.00
	Gar	New plow truck equip	$	220,000.00
	Gar	Re-do wheel loader lease	$	45,000.00
TOTAL			$	365,000.00

Miscellaneous Garage Items			
	Build new interior walls between beams	$	20,000.00
	Paint shop beam	$	10,000.00
	New plumbing under break room floor	$	8,000.00
	New concrete break room floor	$	5,000.00
	Update lighing in shop	$	20,000.00
	New fuel tanks	$	10,000.00
	New overhead garge door (south side)	$	15,000.00
	New wash bay overhead door	$	10,000.00

	New gravely 60" zero turn mower	$	12,000.00	
	Update Cat 308 excabator	$	125,000.00	
	Update Cat 259 Skid steer	$	50,000.00	
	Update JD 245G Excavator	$	250,000.00	
	Update Cat M12 Grader	$	450,000.00	
	Update Patch Machine	$	90,000.00	
	Update skid steer trailer	$	8,000.00	
	Storm sewer maintenance	$	60,000.00	/yr
TOTAL		$	1,143,000.00	

GRAND TOTAL	$	6,577,500.00

Town of Mercer — Proposed 2027 Budget

General Fund	2026	2027	% Change
REVENUES			
General Property Taxes	$1,390,471.00	$1,396,498.00	0.43%
Accomodations Tax	$172,500.00	$172,500.00	–
Intergovernmental Aids & Grants	$890,677.00	$852,734.00	-4.26%
Licenses and Permits	$59,600.00	$63,300.00	6.21%
Public charges for services	$244,852.00	$297,660.00	21.57%
Misc Revenues	$100,000.00	$35,000.00	-65.00%
Loan Proceeds	–	$619,395.00	N/A
Applied Reserve Funds	$44,332.00	$177,791.00	301.04%
Total Revenues	**$2,902,432.00**	**$3,614,878.00**	**24.55%**
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	$463,852.00	$462,571.00	-0.28%
Public Safety	$397,999.00	$984,029.00	147.24%
Public Works	$1,406,000.00	$1,664,220.00	18.37%
Health and Human Services	$12,850.00	$7,250.00	-43.58%
Culture, Recreation, Educ.	$310,182.00	$196,159.00	-36.76%
Conservation & Development	$179,000.00	$175,000.00	-2.23%
Sanitation	$96,900.00	$90,000.00	-7.12%
Debt Service	$35,649.00	$35,649.00	–
Total Expenditures	**$2,902,432.00**	**$3,614,878.00**	**24.55%**
OTHER BUDGET METRICS			
Assessed Value*	$501,285,300	$501,285,300	–
Tax Levy*	$1,350,871	$1,360,198	0.69%
Mill Rate*	0.002694815	0.002697874	0.11%
Rate per Thousand*	2.69	2.70	0.37%

* Based upon 2025 numbers as the assessor has not yet provided final numbers