

Village of Round Lake Heights

Water System Referendum Information

This November, the Village of Round Lake Heights will ask its residents at the polls if they will support a referendum to enable the village to develop its own independent water system. The proposed system will include a service line coming from a Lake County Joint Action Water Agency water line on Cedar Lake Road and a village owned water tower within village boundaries. The total cost for the project is estimated at \$2.7 million. A successful referendum will enable the village to issue General Obligation Bonds to cover the cost of the system. The bonds will be paid off over a period of 20 years.

The village has been purchasing water from the Village of Round Lake Beach for many years. Round Lake Beach controls the rate passed on to Round Lake Heights residents. These rates have historically been a challenge to stabilize for Round Lake Heights residents. The Village of Round Lake Heights also has its own back up well system for times of main service line failures. The backup system is adequate for every day needs but is challenged to provide adequate pressure to meet elevated levels of demands such as large building fires.

A successful referendum will increase your taxes. Below is a table of approximate increases to your village tax bill:

Total Home value of \$100, 000 = \$175.00 per year

Total Home value of \$150,000 = \$281.00 per year

Total Home value of \$200,000 = \$388.00 per year

Despite the tax increase, there are numerous anticipated benefits to the village owning and operating its own water system. They include:

1. An independently owned and operated water system will enable the Village of Round Lake Heights to establish and control its own rates for village residents. That independence does not exist with the current system of purchasing water from Round Lake Beach.
2. The new water system will provide a consistent flow of water with limited interruptions.
3. The new system will provide adequate pressure to ensure all health, fire and safety needs are met within the village.
4. The system will be rigorously tested and monitored by the Lake County Joint Action Water Agency.
5. The current SSA fees for the Pasquinelli and Neumann home subdivisions will be eliminated to reduce the overall tax burden within those subdivisions.

The Village of Round Lake Heights encourages anyone with questions or desiring additional information to attend a Village board meeting. Those meetings are held the first 3 Tuesday evenings of every month at 7:00 pm at Village Hall.

