

## **Potential Additional Savings from Consolidation of the City and Village of Pewaukee**

No decisions have been made regarding the staffing structure and service levels that would be provided by a consolidated city. Those decisions would be made by the newly elected city council. The estimated budget for a consolidated city (found in Appendix C of the Consolidation Plan) was based on reasonable professional assumptions by the City and Village Administrators as to the staffing structure and costs of a consolidated city to maintain levels of services similar to the services currently enjoyed by City and Village residents. There are some areas of difference between the City and Village in terms of the costs or manner of providing services. In order to provide a conservatively high cost estimate, the Administrators, in every case, assumed that the consolidated city would select the higher cost option. Should the new common council elect a lower-cost option, there could be significant additional cost savings, particularly in the following three areas:

### **I. Police Department**

The Village maintains its own full-time Police Department. The City saved a significant amount by contracting with the Sheriff's Department for 2010.

The estimated budget for the consolidated city assumed that police protection would be provided by adding officers to the existing Village Police Department. Based on the savings experienced by the City through contracting with the Sheriff's Department, it is expected that contracting with the Sheriff's Department for the consolidated city would cost significantly less than expanding the Village Police Department.

### **II. Employee Benefits**

The Village offers the State Health Insurance Plan, with annual costs of \$7,977 for a single plan or \$19,902 for a family plan. The City offers a Humana plan with annual costs of \$5,058 for a single plan, \$9,510 for an employee plus child plan, \$11,239 for an employee plus spouse plan, or \$15,192 for a family plan.

The consolidated budget assumed that the State Health Insurance Plan would be offered. It further assumed that all employees would select the family plan. If the consolidated city chose a less expensive insurance plan or if some of the employees opted for less coverage than a family plan, costs for insurance could be considerably less than was estimated.

### **III. Property Assessment**

The City currently has a full-time Assessment Department, staffed by a full-time Assessor, an Assistant Assessor and an Appraiser. The Village contracts for assessment services. The City's budgeted 2010 costs for property assessment are approximately six times higher than the Village's.

The consolidated budget assumed that the consolidated city would have a full-time Assessment Department. If the consolidated city chose to contract for assessment services, the cost is expected to be significantly lower for this service.