

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
TOWN OF WASHINGTON, VILAS COUNTY

CODE OF ORDINANCES

**CHAPTER 8: ALTERNATIVE CLAIM PROCEDURE FOR REFUNDS OF TAX PAYMENTS IN EXCESS OF TAX BILL AMOUNT ORDINANCE**

Amended December 2, 2024

**8.01 Title and Purpose**

This ordinance is entitled the Town of Washington Alternative Claim Procedure for Refunds of Tax Payments in Excess of Tax Bill Amount. It is the declared intent of this ordinance that tax payments made in excess of the tax bill amounts shall be refunded pursuant to the procedures established under this ordinance within 30 (thirty) business days of the payment. Further it is the declared intent that this policy shall be in full force and effect upon adoption by the town board with the purpose of complying with §74.03(2) of Wis. Statutes (as adopted by 1997 Wis. Act 315).

**8.02 Authority**

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to town boards under §60.44(2) of Wis. Statutes to adopt an alternative claim procedure for approving financial claims against the town which are in the nature of bills and vouchers.

**8.03 Provisions**

1. Any overpayment of real estate taxes of \$5.00 or less will be refunded only upon the taxpayer's request.
2. If any check is returned to the Township and not paid for any reason including "non-sufficient funds" or "account closed," there will be a \$40.00 fee due to the Township, billed by the Treasurer, for fees incurred which include bank and processing fees.

**8.04 Required Procedures of Treasurer upon payment of excess amount over tax bill amount**

Pursuant to §60.34 of Wis. Statutes upon receipt of tax payments in excess of the tax bill, the town treasurer shall deposit as soon as practicable all payments in the name of the town in public depositories designated by the town board. Upon verification by the town treasurer that the payment as deposited has cleared and not been returned as insufficient funds, but not later than 30 (thirty) days after depositing, the treasurer shall notify the town clerk in writing: the name and mailing address of the taxpayer for whom a refund in excess of the tax bill amount is due, the amount of the refund in excess of the tax bill, the date payment was received, and a statement that the payment as made has cleared and not been returned as insufficient funds.

#### **8.05 Required Procedures of Clerk upon notification from treasurer of excess payment of tax bill amount**

Upon written notification from the town treasurer that a taxpayer has made a tax payment in excess of the tax bill amount, the town clerk shall issue the normal voucher or authorization for payment of the refund of the excess amount over the tax bill amount upon finding the following:

1. Funds are available to pay the bill, assuming the tax payment has cleared and not been returned as is evidenced by the treasurer's notice
2. The town board has authorized the refund of excess tax payments as established by adoption of this ordinance
3. The refund is due in the amount noticed by the town treasurer as a tax payment in excess of the amount of the tax bill
4. The refund is a valid claim against the town, being a payment in excess of the tax bill amount

Further the town clerk shall prepare monthly, to be submitted to the town board at each monthly board meeting, a list of claims paid under this procedure, listing the amount of the claims, the date paid, the name of the taxpayer/claimant, and that the payment was a refund for excess tax payment.

#### **8.06 Issuance of Disbursement from local treasury**

Upon approval of a voucher (or proper authorization) by the town clerk under the procedures listed in 8.04 of this ordinance, a refund check payable to the taxpayer/claimant named in the voucher or authorization and in the amount approved shall be written by the town clerk and countersigned by the town treasurer and the town chairperson, pursuant to §66.042 of Wis. Statutes shall be issued not later than 30 (thirty) business days from the date the tax payment was received by the town treasurer as noticed by the town treasurer in 8.03 of this ordinance.

#### **8.07 Mailing or delivery of refund check to taxpayer/claimant**

Upon issuance of the proper countersigned refund check, pursuant to the procedures in this ordinance, the refund check shall be delivered to the taxpayer/claimant or mailed to the last known mailing address of the taxpayer/claimant by the town treasurer.

#### **8.08 Severability**

If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision of application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

#### **8.09 Adoption of Ordinance**

This ordinance, adopted by a majority of the town board with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, establishes an

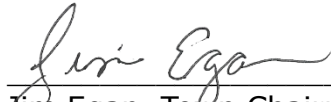
alternative procedure for refunds of tax payments in excess of tax bill amounts as provided in this ordinance.

This ordinance rescinds and replaces all alternative claim procedure for refunds of tax payments in excess of tax bill amount ordinances previously adopted by the Town of Washington.

**8.10 Effective Date**

This ordinance is effective upon adoption and publication or posting. The town clerk shall properly post or publish this ordinance as required under § 60.80, Wis. Stats.

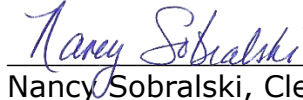
Amended this 2nd day of December 2024.



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Jim Egan, Town Chairperson

Attest:



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Nancy Sobralski, Clerk

Effective date: December 3, 2024

Publication date: December 3, 2024

## Town of Washington Ordinance Amendment Record

Chapter 8: Alternative claim procedure for refunds of tax payments in excess of tax bill amount ordinance

Adopted January 7, 2019

<b>Date</b>	<b>Article</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Amendment Summary</b>
12-02-24	8.01		Amended the time period from 15 business days to 30 business days for refund payment
12-02-24	8.03	1	Added the provision that any overpayment of real estate taxes of \$5.00 or less will only be refunded upon the taxpayer's request
12-02-24	8.03	2	Added the provision that any check that is returned to the Township and not paid for any reason including "non-sufficient funds" or "account closed", there will be a \$40.00 fee due to the Township, billed by the Treasurer, for fees incurred which include bank fees and processing fees.
12-02-24	8.04		Changed time frame from 10 to 30 days for the treasurer to notify the clerk of refund due to taxpayer
12-02-24	8.06		Changed the time frame from 15 to 30 days for issuance of a refund check