

# **Village of Vicksburg Citizen Academy 2024**

## **Citizens Academy**

### **About the Program**

Have you ever wondered how many miles of sewer and water pipes are underground in Vicksburg? How many police officers work here, or what goes into the economic development of our core downtown? Maybe you have even asked yourself, "what do my tax dollars pay for"? Learn all that and more during the Village of Vicksburg's first annual Citizen's Academy!

The Citizen's Academy is a free series of classes designed to teach citizens how their local government works. The academy will focus on various functions of Village government and will include tours of Village facilities, including the Police Department, Department of Public Works, inside the Water Tower, Angels Crossing Golf Course, and more.

During the sessions, participants learn about the responsibilities of Village departments and the services they provide to the community. Presentations and 'behind-the-scenes' facility tours give participants a better understanding of the role local government plays in the quality of life that residents of Vicksburg enjoy. Each session will be held in a Village facility, giving citizens a true sense of what it's like to work in local government.

The Citizen's Academy will run April 17<sup>th</sup> through May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Meetings will take place each Wednesday evening, starting promptly at 6:30 PM, and can last up to 2 hours. We will meet in our new municipal building located at 126 N. Kalamazoo (Entrance off Richardson St.)

### **Program Goal**

1. Inform residents of the operation of the Village and local government.
2. Develop future board and council candidates.
3. Provide entertaining and informational presentations.

### **Applicant Criteria**

A Village of Vicksburg resident (homeowner or renter) or business owner and 18 years or older. No prior local government experience necessary, all residents are welcome to apply! Applicants must complete an application for consideration. Applicants cannot be running for, or currently serving in an elected office. Applicants must be current on their property taxes.

# Village of Vicksburg

## Citizen Academy

### 2024

#### Month / Date

#### Program Information

04-17-2024

Session #1: Welcome, Brief History of Vicksburg, Local Government - the Basics!

Hosts: Tim Frisbie, Village President	Welcome
Trustee Gail Reisterer	Council Rep
Leah Richard, Vicksburg Historical Society	History
Jim Mallery, Village Manager -	Gov Basics
Staff Introductions	

04-24-2024

Session #2: Revenue, Expenses, Taxes, Utility Bills, Plans (Master), Plans (DDA), and more plans (Parks and Rec)!

Hosts: Tim Frisbie, Village President	
Trustee Ryan Wagner	Council Rep
Jim Mallery, Village Manager	Gov't Plans
Michelle Morgan, Director of Finance	Where's the \$!

05-01-2024

Session #3: Planning Commission, DDA, Parks and Recreation, and WOW Service!

Hosts: Tim Frisbie, Village President	
Trustee Wendy Pheils	Council Rep
Matt Shankel, Planning Commission Chair	
Jim Mallery, Village Manager	

05-08-2024

Session #4: Policing & Department of Public Works

Hosts: Tim Frisbie, Village President	
Trustee Rick Holmes	Council Rep
Jim Mallery, Village Manager	
Scott Sanderson, Asst. Village Mgr./Police Chief	
Jimmy Meyers, Director of DPW	

05-15-2024

Session #5: Village, County, State – how we all fit together.

Hosts: Tim Frisbie, Village President

Carl Keller, President Pro Temp

Council Rep

State Senator Sean McCann

State Rep Matt Hall

County Commissioner Wendy Mazer

Jim Mallery, Village Manager

05-22-2024

Session #6: Process of Decisions, Economic Development, and what the future looks like.

Host: Tim Frisbie, Village President

Trustee Denny Olson

Council Rep

Jim Mallery, Village Manager

Christian Wines, Village Clerk



## **Village of Vicksburg Citizen's Academy Application Form**

### **Personal Information:**

- Full Name:
- Address:
- City:
- State:
- ZIP Code:
- Email:
- Phone Number:
- Occupation:
- Are you a resident of the Village of Vicksburg? (Yes/No)
- Do you own a business or work within the Village of Vicksburg (Yes/No)

### **Demographic Information:**

- Age:
- Gender:
- Ethnicity:

### **Educational Background:**

- Highest Level of Education:
- Field of Study (if applicable):

### **Community Involvement:**

- Are you currently involved in any community organizations or activities?  
If yes, please specify:

### **Motivation for Participation:**

- Briefly explain why you are interested in participating in the Village of Vicksburg Citizen's Academy:

**Expectations:**

- What do you hope to gain from participating in the Citizen's Academy?

**Availability:**

- Are you available to attend all sessions of the Citizen's Academy?  
(Yes/No)
- Please indicate any scheduling conflicts or constraints:

**Additional Information:**

- Do you have any special needs or accommodations that we should be aware of?

**References:**

- Please provide contact information for one personal or professional reference:

**Signature:**

- By signing below, I acknowledge that the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

[Signature] \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission:** Please submit this completed application form to the Village of Vicksburg Government Office by April 1, 2024. You can submit it via email to [jmallery@vicksburgmi.org](mailto:jmallery@vicksburgmi.org) or in person at our new municipal building: 126 N. Kalamazoo St.

Date Received:

Accepted into Academy: Yes or No, if No, reason\_\_\_\_\_