

3 Permit Fees

3.1 Permit Fees

- 3.1.1 All persons, firms, or corporations performing work which by this ordinance requires the issuance of a permit shall pay a fee for such permit to the town treasurer to help defray the cost of administration, investigation, advertising, and processing of permits and variances. The permits, for which a fee is required, are available from the Township Clerk. A fee shall also be required for a zoning text or map amendment, and a zoning appeal or variance.
- 3.1.2 Any action requiring a public hearing shall require a fee to cover the cost of the public hearing and attendant publication costs. All fees shall be established by resolution by the town board from time to time as deemed appropriate.
- 3.1.3 A double fee shall be charged if work is started before a permit is applied for and issued. Such double fee shall not release the applicant from full compliance with this ordinance nor from prosecution for violation of this ordinance.

3.2 Establishment of Fees

Any owner that causes the town of West Lakeland to expend monies for consultant fees on behalf of or on account of that owner, or associated with a development or proposed development, shall reimburse the town of West Lakeland for the actual consultant fees expended by the town on behalf or on account of said owner.

3.3 Escrow Fund

- 3.3.1 **Purpose.** The owner shall deposit with the town of West Lakeland an amount, as determined by the Town Board, necessary to cover the total consultant services associated with the development or proposed development prior to the performance of any such services by West Lakeland's employed consultants.
- 3.3.2 **Fund Balance.** If a consultant review is anticipated to span a period of time in excess of ninety (90) days, the owner will only be expected to deposit a sum, as determined by the Town Board, necessary for the town to pay consultant fees for ninety (90) days. The owner will then be expected to maintain the escrow fund at a balance equal to one-third (1/3) of the original amount deposited. The Town of West Lakeland will from time-to-time provide an itemized statement to the owner showing him the town expenditures for consultant services associated with his development together with the current balance in his escrow fund. This statement will be provided if additional funds are required to maintain the established level. The owner shall reimburse the escrow fund for any deficits caused if the amount actually expended or billed to the Town exceeds the escrow balance.
- 3.3.3 **Refund.** The Town of West Lakeland shall refund any monies deposited in the escrow fund not expended for consultant fees within ninety (90) days after completion of a consultant's services associated with the development or proposed development. The Town of West Lakeland shall not pay interest on the monies deposited in the escrow fund.