

**SAMPLE TOWNSHIP REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL
COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT
(For Townships and Road District JOINT REPORT Only)**

- Unit of government submitting this report:

f
NAME OF TOWNSHIP: LIBERTY

Note: Any local government that levies a tax, other than a municipality or county must file this report. For Road Districts in counties with populations of less than 400,000 the highway commissioner may form a joint committee to prepare one combined report. See 50 ILCS 70/10(b-5).

- Information about our Township

- We are located in EFFINGHAM County. There are 15 townships in our county.
- The population of our Township is 753, as of the 2020 census.
- We have 0 employees of the Township (not including elected officials).
- We have 0 employees in our Road District (not including elected officials).
- Our annual budget for 2023 is: \$ 114,581 (TOWN) . 211,986 (R+D) = 326,567
- Our Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2023 is \$ 13,562,389 TOTAL

- Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Township Supervisor GLEN DONALDSON *Glen Donaldson*

Township Highway Commissioner SHANE BRANDT *Shane Brandt*

Township Trustee JOHN SLOAN *John Sloan*

Township Trustee GEORGE KESSLER

Township Trustee MARK HERRMANN *Mark Herrmann*

Township Trustee BILL DONALDSON *Bill Donaldson*

Township Resident (Supervisor Appointment) GARRY TIPSWORD (DECEASED)
REPLACED BY LARRY HASSETT *Larry Hassett*

Township Resident (Supervisor Appointment) RAY BOWER *Ray Bower*

Township Resident (Highway Comm. Appointment) ROGER ZACHA *Roger Zacha*

TOWNSHIP CLERK MELODY LILLY *Melody Lilly*

Note: Per 50 ILCS 70/10(b), the committee membership must include all the elected or appointed members of the township board (Supervisor and Trustees) and two residents appointed by the Supervisor. The residents can be the Assessor, Highway Commissioner, Clerk or Collector, if you have one, or other residents of the Township, but these officials are not required to be on this Committee. The Supervisor may appoint more than two residents if deemed appropriate.

B. Dates that our Committee Met (50 ILCS 70/20)

First (Organizational) Meeting
(must occur prior to June 10, 2023): MAY 9, 2023

Second Meeting: APRIL 9, ~~2023~~ ²⁰²⁴

Third Meeting: AUGUST 12, ~~2023~~ ²⁰²⁴

Additional Meetings (List All): 10-14-24, 202~~3~~⁴

EACH OF THESE SECTIONS ARE TO BE COMPLETED SEPARATELY BY THE
ROAD DISTRICT AND THE TOWNSHIP AND INCLUDED AS TWO PARTS OF THE
SUBMITTED REPORT

- Programs Offered by our Township.

- Our Township offers the following services and programs: (List programs like general assistance, youth programs, senior programs, community programs, LIHEAP, etc.) (If not applicable, remove this). ① ASSIST COMMUNITY IN ANNUAL YOUTH EASTER EGG HUNT WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ② ASSIST COMMUNITY WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF MEALS ON WHEELS. ③ ASSIST REGIONAL TRANSPORT OF ELDERLY & POOR IN REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
- Other services/programs we could possibly provide:

- Social Service Agreements

- We partner with the following not for profits to offer social services (list all):

Entity:

Services Provided:

1. CEFS

2. REGIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE OF TRANSPORTATION

3.

4.

5.

DAILY (M-F) MEALS ON WHEELS
AS NEEDED TRANSPORT (GIVE ANNUAL AS REQUESTED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE)

- Our residents have benefitted from these agreements in the following ways: ① NOON MEALS FOR ELDERLY & SHUT-INS ② TRANSPORTATION TO MEDICAL PROVIDER AND OTHER NECESSARY PLACES FOR ELDERLY & POOR RESIDENTS
- We have considered possibly offering the following social services or the following additional potential partnerships:

- Awards and Recognitions

Our Township has received the following awards, distinctions, and recognitions: (List all).

- Intergovernmental Agreements

- We partner with, or have Intergovernmental Agreements, with the following other Governments (List all): CEFS - DAILY MEALS ON WHEELS
MOCASSIN & BANNER TWP - SEE BELOW

Entity:

Services Offered:

MOCASSIN & BANNER TWP JOINT TAX ASSESSOR
MOCASSIN TWP BY SHARING COST OF MAINTENANCE OF TIRSWORD CEMETERY
BANNER TWP & BIRMINGHAM CO ON ROCK STORAGE ON LIBERTY TWP PROPERTY

- Our Township's efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way (list cost savings, avoiding duplicated services, etc.):
BY SHARING ABOVE COST IS LESS FOR EACH TOWNSHIP
- Review of Laws, Township Policies, Township Rules and Procedures, Township Training

Materials, and other Documents

We have reviewed the following, non-exhaustive list of laws, policies, training materials, and other documents applicable to the Township to evaluate our compliance and to determine if any of the foregoing should be amended.

_____ State laws applicable to Townships, including, but not limited to the Township Code
(60 ILCS) *EACH OF THESE WERE DISCUSSED AT 8-12-24 MEETING*

_____ Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120)

_____ Policy on public comment

_____ Designation of OMA officer (5 ILCS 120/1.05(a))

_____ All of Elected Officials have completed OMA Training (5 ILCS 120/1.05(b))

_____ Schedule of All Township Regular Meetings for Calendar or Fiscal Year (5 ILCS 120/2.03)

_____ Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140)

_____ Designation of FOIA officer (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))

_____ FOIA Officer Training (5 ILCS 140/3.5(b))

_____ Computation and Retention of FOIA Requests (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))

_____ Posting Other Required FOIA Information (5 ILCS 140/4(a); 5 ILCS 140/4(b))

_____ List of Types or Categories of FOIA Records under Township's Control (5 ILCS 140/5)

_____ Periodic Meetings to Review Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2.06(d))

_____ IMRF Total Compensation Postings (5 ILCS 120/7.3)

_____ Designation of Whistleblower Auditing Official (50 ILCS 105/4.1)

_____ All of our Elected Officials have filed statement of economic interests (5 ILCS 420/4A-101; 5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5)

_____ Sexual harassment prevention training (775 ILCS 5/2-109(c))

_____ Our Intergovernmental Agreements

_____ Our Social Service Agreements or Contracts

_____ Our budget and financial documents

_____ State Ethics Laws, including, but not limited to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1)

_____ Our budget and financial documents

_____ Reports on government efficiency, including "Local Government Efficiency and Size in Illinois: Counting Tax Revenues, Not Governments" by Wendell Cox (2016); "Local Democracy and Townships in the Chicagoland Area," by Wendell Cox, (January 2012).

_____ Others (List Below or Attach):

- What Have We Done Well? (List any budget/levy freezes or reductions in the past decade; list new programs or services offered to residents over the past decade; list any ethics ordinances adopted; timely FOIA compliance; responsiveness to public; list any new intergovernmental agreements or social services offered; list any increase in number of township residents served, etc.) *LEVY FREEZES IN ALL FUNDS OTHER THAN TOWN, R&B, & BRIDGE, & AUDIT THE PAST 2 YEARS*
- What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?
NONE NOTED
- What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?
- Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

In preparing this report, we reviewed several studies on local government efficiency. These studies show that:

- The average local government in Illinois serves 1800 residents compared to the national median of 2850 individuals
- Most townships in Illinois have no bonded indebtedness. Together with road districts they are an integral element of local democracy. Township expenditures have grown at a lower rate than those of any other level of government since 1992.
- Townships have lower labor costs and employ mostly part time employees.

- Our committee's recommendations regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:

Note: This Report must be filed with your County no later than 18 months after your first committee meeting.

Submitted by: Glen Donaldson
Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee of LIBERTY Township

Date: 10-14-24