

**JOINT NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP and NEWCOMB TOWNSHIP ROAD
DISTRICT REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT**

MAHOMET, ILLINOIS

1. Unit of government submitting this report: Newcomb Township and Newcomb Township Road District.

2. Information about our Township

A. We are located in Champaign County, Mahomet, Illinois. There are 29 townships in Champaign county.

B. The population of our Township is 1,377 as of the 2020 census according to public census records.

C. We have 0 employees of the Township (not including elected officials).

D. We have 2 employees in our Road District (not including elected officials).

E. Our annual budget for 2023 was: \$ 481,748 (Road) \$ 715,090 (Town)

F. Our Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2023 was \$ 61,192,077 (12-11-23).

3. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Township Supervisor _Emily Harmon

Township Highway Commissioner _Christopher Cougill

Township Trustee _Flynn McCormick

Township Trustee _Laura Heiser

Township Trustee _Jed Schulz

Township Trustee _Nick Harmon

Township Resident (Supervisor Appointment) _Laura Baker

Township Resident (Supervisor Appointment) _Jessica Schulze

Township Resident (Highway Comm. Appointment) _Brian Baker

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: March 12, 2024

Third Meeting: September 9, 2024

Our Township is proud to offer the following to our residents:

- General Assistance (GA) - required by law.
- Reduced price for cemetery plots for residents.
- Maintenance of all township cemeteries.
- Lease agreement/Intergovernmental agreements with:

N/A

- Designation of OMA officer (5 ILCS 120/1.05(a)) -Township Clerk.
- All elected officials have completed OMA training.

- All elected officials have completed OMA training.
- Schedule of all Township regular meetings for the fiscal year- Township Clerk • Illinois Freedom of Information Act-FOIA Officer- Township Clerk • FOIA Officer training-Supervisor-Clerk
- IMRF total compensation postings - annual Supervisor Financial Report
- Filing of annual Statement of Economic Interest
- Sexual Harassment prevention training- all elected officials

What have we done well?

The Trustees, Supervisor and Road District Commissioner believe in being financially stable while also being good stewards of taxpayer dollars. The Township continually tries to improve our efficiency on an ongoing basis as evidenced by the Spring Positioning Ordinance implemented to reduce wear and tear on our rural roads and bridges and therefore reduce costly repairs to rural roads caused by commercial vehicles. To date, we have not identified any further inefficiencies.

- Our Road District Commissioner, along with 2 employees and seasonal employees for snow plowing have effectively and efficiently maintained every mile of Township roads. This includes oil & chipping, replacing with asphalt as appropriate, snow removal, ice treatment, shoulder maintenance, bridge maintenance, weed control, tree removal, debris pickup, sign maintenance & replacement, culvert installs and repairs and much more. Township Road Commissioners are responsive to the needs of maintaining safe passages for those traveling across their Township and are an asset to those living in our rural areas.
- We partner with other Townships to process our General Assistance applications in order to reduce costs associated with software for such purposes.
- We have historically not exceeded our tax caps.
- We historically reply to FOIA requests immediately and within the limits of the law without incurring attorneys fees to accomplish the responses to such requests.
- Open to public input and being available to address issues in a timely manner.
- Provide our building as a resource or various groups that need meeting space. Boy Scouts. Former election site for electors.

Our Township's efficiency has increased tremendously through intergovernmental cooperation by the cost savings by not duplicating equipment purchases and providing

manpower assistance when requested. Limited finances prohibit large employee pools and equipment that may be needed throughout the year. The sharing of these items provides good use of taxpayer monies.

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). Our Township attorney is progressive in advising on these issues. • Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120) -Annual training through TOI
- Provided support to the County Clerk when our facility was a polling location. Unfortunately, our Township facility has been removed as a polling location by the County Clerk.

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. This ratio allows our Townships to be more responsive to the needs of our residents.
- As most Illinois Townships, Newcomb Township has 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.
- Townships have lower labor costs and employ mostly part time employees.
- Townships are capable of responding to resident concerns immediately versus other governmental bodies.

Our committee's recommendations regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:

Continue with the renewal of the Spring Posting Ordinance which is a road weight restriction on rural roads in the township in order to reduce wear and tear on the roads and therefore reduce costs of repairs to the roads.

Submitted by: Emily Harow, Chris Conzill, Flynn McAnisk, Karaal Hiner,
Ded Schulme, Jessica Schulz, Nick Harmon, Lenna
Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee of NEWCOMB Township Babert Louie
Bu

Date:

File on this the ___ day of _____, 202__ via hand delivery to _____ By
Laura Baker, Newcomb Township Clerk