

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT - TOWN

**TOWNSHIP REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON
LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT
(For Townships Only)**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

NAME OF TOWNSHIP: MONEE TOWNSHIP

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).

II. Information about our Township

A. We are located in WILL County. There are 24 townships in our county.

B. The population of our Township is 15,549, as of the 2020 census.

C. We have 3 Town employees and 5 Assessor employees of the Township (not including elected officials).

D. We have 3 employees in our Road District (not including elected officials).

E. Our annual budget for 2023 is: \$ 1,387,850.00 for the Town Fund, \$193,350.00 for the General Assistance (GA) Fund

F. Our Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2023 is: \$ 377,196,772.

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Township Supervisor: Donna T. Dettbarn

Township Highway Commissioner: David Deutsche

Township Clerk: Bobby R. Lathan, Sr.

Township Administrator: Willa Simmons

Township Trustee Terri Boles

Township Trustee Debbie Burgess

Township Trustee William (Billy) Morgan

Township Trustee	James W. Young
Township Resident	Oscar Trevino
Township Resident	Thomas Boles
Township Resident	Bing Bisping

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 18, 2023

2023 Second Meeting: JUNE 15,

Third Meeting: JULY 20, 2023

IV. Programs Offered by our Township.

Our Township offers the following services and programs:

- GENERAL ASSISTANCE
- EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
- SENIOR COMMITTEE
- YOUTH COMMITTEE
- YEAR ROUND FOOD PANTRY
- THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS WITH GIFT CARDS
- CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS AND PRESENTS FOR ALL WHO APPLY AND ALSO GIFT CARDS
- EASTER BASKETS FOR CHILDREN, FOOD FOR PARENTS, GIFT CARDS
- BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY PROGRAM
- DRIVE UP FOOD DISTRIBUTION DAYS WITH GIFT CARDS
- DIAL-A-RIDE BUSSING FOR SENIORS AND DISABLED
- LIHEAP REPRESENTATIVE IN TOWNSHIP BI-MONTHLY FOR INTAKES
- QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER TO ALL TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS WITH TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION
- MILITARY VETERAN'S INFORMATION
- ASSESSOR SERVICES

GENERAL INFORMATION
BLOOD DRIVE
SENIOR RESOURCE EVENT
TOWNSHIP WEB SITE - Moneetownship.com

V. Social Service Agreements

A. We partner with the following not for profits to offer social services:

<u>Entity:</u>	<u>Services Provided:</u>
1. AMERICAN RED CROSS	CPR/AED CLASSES
2. ILLINOIS FLAMES TRACK TEAM	TRACK TEAM
3. MONEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM -
4. MONEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY	HISTORY
5. MONEE MUD DOGS BASEBALL ASSOC.	YOUTH BASEBALL
6. MONEE WOMEN'S CLUB	SCHOLARSHIP
7. NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK	FOOD SECURITY
8. PARK FOREST SCHOLARSHIP	SCHOLARSHIP
9. PEOTONE LIBRARY	SUMMER PROGRAMS
10. SOUTH SUBURBAN PADS	SHELTER
11. UNIVERSITY PARK SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	SCHOLARSHIPS
12. UNIVERSITY PARK YOUTH ASSN.	YOUTH FOOTBALL
13. UNIVERSITY PARK LIBRARY	SUMMER PROGRAMS
14. UNIVERSITY PARK YOUTH BASEBALL	YOUTH BASEBALL
15. WILL COUNTY CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS	LIHEAP, OTHER
16. MEALS ON WHEELS	FOOD SECURITY
17. WILL COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES	SENIOR WELLBEING
18. WILL GRUNDY MEDICAL CENTER	MEDICAL HELP
19. MONEE TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT	USE OF MANPOWER, USE OF EQUIPMENT, HELP WITH FOOD AND TOY PICK UP, OTHER

B. Our residents have benefitted from these agreements in the following ways:
Our seniors have been helped. Our youth have been helped with recreation and scholarships. Residents gained educational programming. Shelter and Food Security helped many residents.

C. We have considered possibly offering the following social services or the following additional potential partnerships:
Township is considering future CPR/AED classes and Blood drives

Awards and Recognitions

Our Township has received the following awards, distinctions, and recognitions:

- a. MONEE TOWNSHIP RECEIVED THE 2022 TOWNSHIP OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION OF TOI (Township Officials of Illinois) FOR OUR OUTREACH EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WHICH HELPS RESIDENTS IN NEED OF FINANCIAL HELP WITH RENT, MORTGAGE, UTILITY BILLS.
- b. Recognition for Community Parade and other Community participation.

VI. Intergovernmental Agreements

A. We partner with, or have Intergovernmental Agreements, with the following other Governments (List all):

Entity:	Services Offered:
1. WCCCC	LIHEAP
2. WILL COUNTY	WILL RIDE BUS SERVICE
3. CM201-U SCHOOL DISTRICT	FACILITY USE FOR YOUTH PROGRAM
4. PEOTONE LIBRARY	SUMMER PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT
5. UNIVERSITY PARK LIBRARY	SUMMER PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT

B. Our Township’s efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way:

The Township would not be able to offer costly bus service for seniors and disabled without our IGA with Will County. Bringing LIHEAP to our Township saves our residents a 60 mile round trip to County Seat in Joliet, IL. Many Residents do not have means to make the trip. Our Youth Educational/recreational program would not be possible without the use of the school district’s facility. Our agreements with the libraries allows us to help students with summertime learning activities.

VII. 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.

 X State laws applicable to Townships, including, but not limited to the Township Code (60 ILCS) SEE TOWNSHIP HANDBOOK

- 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)) YEARLY PER LAW
- Computation and Retention of FOIA Requests (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a)) CLERK
- Posting Other Required FOIA Information (5 ILCS 140/4(a); 5 ILCS 140/4(b))
- 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)
- Whistleblower Annual Policy review YEARLY AS REQUIRED
- 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)) YEARLY AS REQUIRED
- 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)

X 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).

VIII. What Have We Done Well? MONEE TOWNSHIP does most things very well. We pride ourselves in being the closest form of government that helps our Township residents with Food, Helps with utilities, rent or mortgage, Offers advice on where else they may go to find further help and try to help them solve immediate problems. Our outreach programs are outstanding and our Santa’s Sack program at Christmas not only supplies families with food for Holiday meals but much more food for several weeks. Along with these food baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas, we give gift cards for food and gas ranging from \$20.00 to \$100.00 for financially qualified residents. We give a present to everyone 0 to 100 years of age (or older if so blessed). Every child age 0 to 12 receives 4 to 5 gifts helping families have a happy holiday. We offer a year round Food Pantry and also special food drive-up distribution days. Our requests for food have really escalated since many programs increased dollar ranges for food during the pandemic and have now gone back to pre-Covid-19 numbers causing many more people to come into our Pantry for help. Our Senior committee offers Senior luncheons with entertainment and it brings out our seniors to meet and greet and interact with other seniors. For many, this is their only outing and the seniors really enjoy them. Our Youth Committee was on hold for over three years during Covid-19 but the Township plans to start back in the Fall, 2023 with a revised program that will meet educational and recreational needs. The educational portion will be STEM oriented. We strive to stay aware of statute changes and to comply with all mandated legislation such as the Sexual Harassment Policy with yearly training, the Whistleblower Policy with Yearly education of employees, adopted the Ethics ordinance, and other required programs. The Township provides timely FOIA compliance and follows all FOIA guidelines. We are very responsive to our Township residents and try to help to make our residents lives less stressful. The Monee Township officials continually strive to educate ourselves by attending yearly Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) Conferences, Attend Regional educational sessions, join webinars offered on a myriad of topics of concern to Township Officials and/or to update us on changes in the Illinois State Statutes regarding Township Governance.

IX. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?
In reviewing all policies, it was found that although the Clerk was designated to be the OMA Officer, this was not communicated to the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Attorney General’s office. At the June 15, 2023 meeting, we re-appointed the Clerk (Bobby R. Lathan, Sr.) as the OMA officer and sent this information to the PAC as required. We also reappointed the 3 FOIA officers and communicated that to the PAC also.

X. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

Improve communication with our Township residents, youth and seniors. We will review all forms of information the Township distributes on a regular basis and also continue to enhance our social media imprint.

XI. 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.

XII. Our committee's recommendations regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:

To address concerns found in this report and continue to build on our strengths.

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

Submitted by: Donna T. Dettbarn, Supervisor
Chair, Town Decennial Efficiency Committee of MONEE TOWNSHIP.

Date: July 20, 2023