

THE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS

township

Perspective

June/July 2024



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Volume 26 • Issue 5



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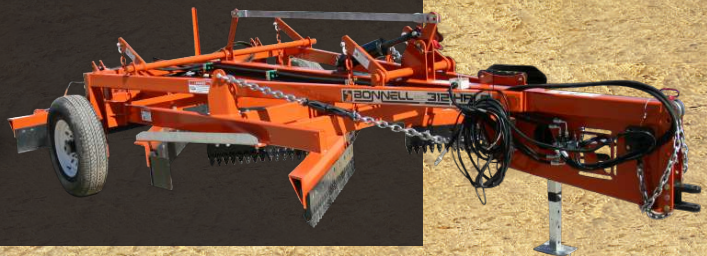
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Township Officials of Illinois Volume 26 • Number 5



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The **Township Officials of Illinois**, organized in 1907, serves as a resource center for state and federal legislative agencies, as well as its member townships. The organization's attention to and involvement with the legislative process enables it to exert influence on behalf of its member units, as well as to report to them on decisions which affect their functioning.

In addition to offering information and guidance, **TOI** promotes and supports strong township government in the State of Illinois. To that end, it offers a series of continuing education programs designed to provide a sense of responsibility, assurance, dedication and unity.

TOI recognizes that offering service benefiting the citizens and taxpayers of Illinois requires the representation of diverse constituencies. Its Board of Directors is structured to accommodate that purpose, as are its respective divisions.

The organization provides leadership for the continuation and effectiveness of strong grassroots government in the state. Through education, dedication and unity, **TOI** has achieved and surpassed the goals of its founders and provides leadership for grassroots government in the 21st Century.

Subscription Rates TOI membership automatically provides a subscription for all elected township officials. Subscription rate is \$50.00 per year. Single issues are \$5.00.

Graphic Design Kingery Printing Company, Effingham, IL.

Article Submission Address all article submissions to Kayla Jeffers. **Deadline:** Copy is due by the first day of the month preceding the issue in which the article will appear. Send all article submissions to Township Officials of Illinois, 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702 or e-mail kayla@toi.org. Telephone 217-744-2212 Fax 217-744-7419.

Advertising Address all display advertising and Professional Directory inquiries to Kayla Jeffers. **Deadline:** Both display and directory ads are due by the first day of the month preceding the issue in which the ad will appear. Send all ads to Township Officials of Illinois, 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702. Telephone 217-744-2212.

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THE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS

township Perspective

Volume 26 • Number 5 June-July 2024



In This Issue

2024 Township Salary Survey 16
 42nd Annual Lobby Day..... 21

In Every Issue

Upcoming Events	2
From the Executive Director's Desk	3
Member Services	4
Legislative Report	13
TOIRMA Update	14
Professional Services	25
Scoop on Supervisors	26
Clerk's Corner	28
Highway Commissioner's Beat	30
Trustees Perspective	31
AITCOY	33
ITAGAC	34
ITASCSC	35
Ready for the Defense	38
From Around the State	40
News from Cook County	42
Township Classifieds	44
2024 Township and Road District Checklist	45
In Memoriam	48

Township Officials of Illinois

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June

June 05 District Event – Normal
June 07 Q&A Day
June 19 TOI Closed (Juneteenth)
June 28 Professional Development Day 2

July

July 04 TOI Closed (Independence Day)
July 09 District Event – Mt. Sterling
July 17 Lunch & Learn Webinar
July 30 Township Election Seminar

August

Aug. 16 TOI Q&A Day
Aug. 21 Lunch & Learn Webinar
Aug. 27 District Event – St. Charles

September

Sept. 05 Professional Development Day 3
Sept. 13 Q&A Day
Sept. 18 Lunch & Learn Webinar
Sept. 26 District Event – Wood River

October

Oct. 9 Lunch & Learn Webinar

November

Nov. 11-13 Annual Educational Conference



Jerry B. Crabtree



TOI Executive Director

Summer is here and all that comes with it. The Association has several programs on the calendar over the summer and we look forward to seeing you out in your townships. If you have any scheduled programs we may highlight in upcoming issues of *Township Perspective*, please send the information to the office.

Our membership drive is in full swing as dues notices were distributed the first week of May, 2024. I encourage you to verify your township's membership information and return it to the TOI office. Having an accurate email addresses for all of the officials in your township is imperative to our success. The services that your TOI memberships provide are invaluable to your community and local government in general. We strive to provide every member with beneficial services, making your job as an elected official rewarding and efficient. Public Service is a calling, and it is important that you have available resources to perform your duties and be the best public servant you can.

In this edition of *Township Perspective*, you will find a QR code to complete a membership survey. The survey includes questions that evaluate your experience with previous and future association educational programs as well as expectations from your membership. The survey includes questions to help us better serve you, the Township Officials. Please take a moment to complete the survey. It is my hope that the survey provides insight to make your experience with the Township Officials of Illinois even better.

I recently attended the National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT) event in Washington, D.C., with 15 attendees from Illinois. Our membership with this national group provides insight to how 9 of the 20 states operate under the township form of government. We met with members of the Illinois Congressional delegation to convey the importance of local government in Illinois and federal issues that are

impacting Illinois. I encourage you to visit the NATaT page on our website to see activity at the federal level impacting local government.

In recent county association events attended across the state, I have discussed at great length the completion and filing of the decennial report. The frustration of this new unfunded mandate is echoed with the introduction and pausing of HB 5050. What we have learned from the legislative experience of HB 5050 and its added amendatory language is that the issue of what to do with the report after it is filed is still being considered. Some members of the Illinois General Assembly are wanting to develop step two (2) for the report and highlight the efficiency and, if needed, inefficiencies reported. Although our position remains the same that ANY DECISION must involve public input and acceptance, the importance of completing the report is highlighted by the generated interest. Therefore, the association is asking that you make sure that your township is completing the report according to the required statutory provisions. Available resources are located at www.toi.org. Simple forms can be completed to ensure compliance. We are wanting 100 percent compliance in all 85 township counties in Illinois. Should you have any questions, please contact the TOI office.

In this issue, we launch the registration process for the 2024 TOI Annual Educational Conference. Register early and invite neighboring townships. We look forward to seeing you in November.

Jerry B. Crabtree
jerry@toi.org



Lobby Day and the 2024 TOI Fall Conference Education Program

Brad Ruppert

Director of Member Services

The 42nd Annual TOI Lobby Day was a success! After a few logistical issues, we found our home at the Illinois State Library and had an incredible day of action, speeches, and networking. We heard leaders in Illinois speak about the positive impact of Township Government and all that township officials do for their communities.

The packed house heard speeches from Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, Republican Senate Leader John Curran, and Speaker of the House of Representatives Emanuel “Chris” Welch on the importance of leadership, service to the community, and continuing to do the work of the people. After the luncheon, our group of township officials marched over to the Capitol, where they spoke to their elected representatives throughout the day on pending legislation affecting Illinois townships.

We returned to the Illinois State Library for a reception and were able to spend more time talking to legislators and showing them the strength and solidarity of township government and our leaders. Every legislator who had an interaction with our group came away understanding township issues a little more than they did when the day started, and that is the point of our Lobby Day and that’s why we come to Springfield every spring. We will see you next year in Springfield for our 43rd Annual TOI Lobby Day!

2024 Fall Conference

Summer is here and that means it’s time to start the rollout of the 2024 TOI Fall Conference! For the staff at TOI, planning the yearly Fall Conference is a 12-month process, and we are constantly working hard to make it better and a little bit different than the year before, while maintaining what makes it great. There are some topics that never go out of style and can always use a refresher. There are always topics that pop out from maybe a new law, statute, or administrative rule.

The year 2023 brought us the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Act. The year 2024 has

brought us the Paid Leave for All Workers Act. There will be a session on the Paid Leave for All Workers Act, so all local townships are in compliance with the new law. And speaking of new laws, we will also have a full legislative update where we break down all the new laws passed in the current legislative session of the Illinois General Assembly. And since 2024 is an election year for all Illinois townships, we will be hosting a “Township Election Overview.”

Some old favorites will also be coming back as well. “Budgeting 101,” “Township Cemeteries,” and “IMRF Discussion,” will be returning. Also, back by popular demand will be our “Ask an Attorney” panel featuring some of our favorite township attorneys. We will also be doing a presentation on “Freedom of Information Act/ Open Meetings Act and Agendas.” The “Township Levy and Ordinance Process” will also have a session.

As we continue to move further into the digital age, we will be offering sessions on “Cyber Security,” “Township Posting Requirements,” “Township Record Retention,” “Township Websites,” and “Township and Social Media.”

We always try to find a session and presentation for every one of our elected officials—supervisors, clerks, trustees, highway commissioners, and assessors. We are working with Friend of TOI Tim Peters from IDOT on a few new sessions for Highway Commissioners (see August *Township Perspective* for those). Also working with another good friend of TOI Josh Barnett with the Illinois Property Assessors Institute (IPAI) on a couple of new topics for our assessors.

As always, the Illinois Township Association of General Assistance Caseworkers (ITAGAC), Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizens Services Committee (ITASCSC), and Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth (AITCOY) will all be providing additional educational sessions to round out our 2024 Education Program.

We look forward to seeing everyone November 11-13th at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, IL, for the 2024

TOI Fall Conference!

In an effort to promote the services that are part of your membership with the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI), we are asking all of our member townships and associate companies to complete a survey regarding your townships expectations and the services provided by the association. The questions assist in improving your member experience as well as provide insight into past experiences regarding your membership. The results of the survey will help improve our available services as well as where we can help make the services provided by the association more efficient and effective. We look forward to reviewing the results and feedback. You can take the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X6JNP32> or by scanning the QR code below.



List of Education Seminar Topics (please note that this list is subject to change):

- Ask the Attorney
- Legislative Update
- Tax Increment Financing (TIFs)
- Township Budgeting 101
- Township Cemeteries
- FOIA/OMA/Agendas
- IMRF Discussion
- Township Levy & Ordinance Process
- Township Websites
- Paid Leave for All Workers Act
- Township Election Overview
- Illinois Funds Program Overview
- Cyber Security
- Township Posting Requirements—Websites and Social Media
- Township Record Retention

Join us
for the

2nd Annual **TOIPAC** Golf Outing

Township Officials of Illinois Political Action Committee

Friday, August 23, 2024

10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Lincoln Greens Golf Course

700 East Lake Shore Dr. Springfield, IL 62712



Box lunch, drink cart access, and a gift bag.
Contact **brad@toi.org** for more information
regarding registration.

Township Checks or Township Credit Cards are not accepted.
Please make checks payable to TOIPAC.
Mail to 3217 Northfield Drive., Springfield, IL 62702.

The Township Officials of Illinois Political Action Committee complies with all reporting requirements required by the State Board of Elections. No Township funds are accepted to support activities of TOIPAC, all donations must come from personal accounts.

Ad paid for by the Township Officials of Illinois Political Action Committee Funds

Lunch & Learn Webinar Series

Illinois State Police and Public Corruption Investigations

July 17, 2024 | 12 PM | 60 Minutes | \$25

The Illinois State Police Special Investigations Unit's investigative priorities are public corruption crimes, and criminal misconduct by elected officials and government appointees at the state, county, and local levels. Public corruption is a breach of the public's trust by government officials who use their office to obtain personal gain. Examples of public corruption crimes include Fraud as it relates to government procurement contracts, Embezzlement, Bribery, Kickbacks, Extortion, Bid-Rigging, and Misuse of Government Funds. This session will give a brief history and overview of the Special Investigations Unit, define public corruption and its impact, share examples of corruption, provide safeguards on how to protect against corruption, and explain how to report public corruption.

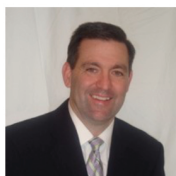


Special Investigations Unit (SIU)—Citizens of Illinois have the right to be represented by public officials without corruption and dereliction. The Illinois State Police was founded on the motto of “Integrity, Service, and Pride” and has adhered to those tenets for more than a century. Because of that unwavering spirit, it is only fitting ISP is the agency responsible for investigating allegations of malfeasance. The Special Investigations Unit within the Division of Criminal Investigation is a cadre of seasoned agents who have statewide jurisdiction and handle a wide range of criminal investigations, including allegations of criminal wrongdoing by elected officials, or criminal acts perpetrated by appointees of a government body at the state and local levels. Cases are referred to the Special Investigations Unit by local agencies, prosecutors, and other public officials. Ultimately, the Special Investigations Unit strives to build public trust in state and local government by conducting comprehensive, objective investigations while encouraging voluntary accountability by those officials elected by the people.

Motor Fuel Tax

August 21, 2024 | 12 PM | 60 Minutes | \$25

This presentation will provide a brief history of the Motor Fuel Tax, impacts of Rebuild Illinois on local funding, and look and challenges in the future.



Kevin Burke is the Executive Vice-President for the Illinois Asphalt Pavement Association (IAPA). In this role, Kevin promotes the improvement and advancement of quality asphalt pavement construction in Illinois; provides assistance to members in the areas of research, technical specifications, environmental issues, education, promotion, government relations, and other related areas; and educates potential on asphalt pavement's characteristics and benefits.

Prior to IAPA, Kevin spent 20 years with the Illinois Department of Transportation in the Bureau of Materials & Physical Research and the Bureau of Local Roads & Streets. Kevin graduated from Washington University in St. Louis and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Illinois. He lives in Springfield, IL with his wife, Jennifer, and daughter, Isabela.

Webinars are convenient, affordable, and interactive.

Visit toi.org for more information and to register!

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: The information to be provided at this webinar is provided by the Township Officials of Illinois for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. It is intended to provide timely general information of interest but should not be considered a substitution for legal advice. You should contact your attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem. Participation in the webinar does not create an attorney-client relationship with any attorneys participating in the webinar and participants.

2024 Education Events Registration



___ JUNE 5 NORMAL (DAY)

*Normal Activity and Recreation Center
600 E. Willow Street, Normal, IL 61761*

___ JULY 9 MT. STERLING (DAY)

*KC Hall
Quincy Road, Mt. Sterling, IL 62353*

___ AUGUST 27 ST. CHARLES (DAY)

*Clarke Mosquito Control and Management
675 Sidwell Court, St. Charles, IL 60174*

___ SEPTEMBER 26 WOOD RIVER (EVENING)

*Wood River Township Community Room
49 S. 9th Street, East Alton, Illinois 62024*

County _____ Township _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact person name, email, and phone number:

Names & Email of those who will attend (please print clearly):

Supervisor: _____

Township Clerk: _____

Highway Comm.: _____

Assessor: _____

Trustee: _____

Trustee: _____

Trustee: _____

Trustee: _____

Collector: _____

Other/title: _____

Registration is \$50 per location, per person or \$400/township for up to nine attendees. On-site registration is \$75 per person. No refunds will be given once TOI has confirmed attendance with venue.

*Please make checks payable to the Township Officials of Illinois; mail to 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702. Forms may also be emailed to kayla@toi.org. If you are paying by credit card, only Visa and MasterCard are accepted:

Name, as it appears on card: _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp.: _____

2024 Professional Development Course 2

QuickBooks Foundations for Townships

The TOI Education Program is pleased to offer several Professional Development Courses in 2024 for township officials and staff. The second program of the year is **Friday, June 28, 2024**, at the TOI Office in Springfield; the cost is \$75 and includes lunch. The seminar is scheduled from 10am–3pm to accommodate travel time.



This class is designed for individuals who are responsible for the Township bookkeeping processes who are relatively new to QuickBooks Desktop and would like a better understanding of how to use, customize, and navigate the software. This course is aimed at beginner QuickBooks Users, and is divided into two sections: **Part 1 Getting Started with Quickbooks** and **Part 2 Entering Transactions & Reconciling Statements**.

Deadline to register is Friday, June 21, 2024
Please fill in all information below and print clearly.

Name: _____

Township Position: _____

County/Township: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Registration is \$75/person. Refunds cannot be given for any cancellations received after the deadline to register.

Payment method: Check or Credit Card. Please make checks payable to Township Officials of Illinois.

Credit Card (Visa / MasterCard only) Card Number: _____

Exp: _____

Signature: _____

Return to the TOI office by fax at 217.744.7419, email to kayla@toi.org, or mail to 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702.

2024 Professional Development Course 3

Quickbooks for Townships: Beyond the Basics

The TOI Education Program is pleased to offer several Professional Development Courses in 2024 for township officials and staff. The third program of the year is **Thursday, September 5, 2024**, at the TOI Office in Springfield; the cost is \$75 and includes lunch. The seminar is scheduled from 10am–3pm to accommodate travel time.



This class is designed for individuals who are responsible for the Township bookkeeping processes who have some familiarity with QuickBooks Desktop and would like a better understanding of how to use, customize, and navigate the software. This course is aimed at intermediate QuickBooks Users and is divided into two sections: **Part 3 Reporting & Budgeting** and **Part 4 Payroll**.

Deadline to register is Thursday, August 29, 2024
Please fill in all information below and print clearly.

Name: _____

Township Position: _____

County/Township: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Registration is \$75/person. Refunds cannot be given for any cancellations received after the deadline to register.

Payment method: Check or Credit Card. Please make checks payable to Township Officials of Illinois.

Credit Card (Visa / MasterCard only) Card Number: _____

Exp: _____

Signature: _____

Return to the TOI office by fax at 217.744.7419, email to kayla@toi.org, or mail to 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702.

Township Officials of Illinois Annual Educational Conference
Advance Registration Form
November 11-13, 2024

(Please use one form per delegate, if paying for multiple delegates with one check/ credit card,
please submit all forms together for accurate processing)

EARLY BIRD Registration Deadline is August 1, 2024 | Advance Registration Deadline is October 25, 2024

SECTION I – REGISTRATION INFORMATION County: _____ Township: _____ Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____	Township Position: <input type="checkbox"/> Assessor <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> GA Caseworker <input type="checkbox"/> Highway Commissioner <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Collector <input type="checkbox"/> Township Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
SECTION II – REGISTRATION FEES Single-day registration includes admittance to non-ticketed activities occurring on that day ONLY . Tuesday-only registrants MAY NOT attend Monday or Wednesday events, and Wednesday-only registrations MAY NOT attend Monday or Tuesday events. Registration information may only be picked up on the day you have registered. MEMBERS <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"><tr><td style="width: 33%;">EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024 Full Registration: \$175 Tuesday Registration Only: \$100 Wednesday Registration Only: \$85</td><td style="width: 33%;">Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024 Full Registration: \$185 Tuesday Registration Only: \$110 Wednesday Registration Only: \$95</td><td style="width: 33%;">On-site Registration Full Registration: \$225 Tuesday Registration Only: \$135 Wednesday Registration Only: \$125</td></tr></table> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Full Registration</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Only Registration</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Only Registration</div></div>		EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024 Full Registration: \$175 Tuesday Registration Only: \$100 Wednesday Registration Only: \$85	Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024 Full Registration: \$185 Tuesday Registration Only: \$110 Wednesday Registration Only: \$95	On-site Registration Full Registration: \$225 Tuesday Registration Only: \$135 Wednesday Registration Only: \$125
EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024 Full Registration: \$175 Tuesday Registration Only: \$100 Wednesday Registration Only: \$85	Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024 Full Registration: \$185 Tuesday Registration Only: \$110 Wednesday Registration Only: \$95	On-site Registration Full Registration: \$225 Tuesday Registration Only: \$135 Wednesday Registration Only: \$125		
NON-MEMBERS EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024: \$240 per person Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024: \$250 per person On-site Registrations: \$310 per person <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Full Registration</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Only Registration</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Only Registration</div></div>				
GUESTS <u>Does NOT include admission to education sessions</u> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"><tr><td style="width: 33%;">EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024 Full Registration: \$85 Tuesday Registration Only: \$45 Wednesday Registration Only: \$30</td><td style="width: 33%;">Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024 Full Registration: \$95 Tuesday Registration Only: \$45 Wednesday Registration Only: \$30</td><td style="width: 33%;">On-site Registration Full Registration: \$110 Tuesday Registration Only: \$55 Wednesday Registration Only: \$40</td></tr></table> Guest Registration: <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Only <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Only Name of guest as it should appear on badge: _____		EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024 Full Registration: \$85 Tuesday Registration Only: \$45 Wednesday Registration Only: \$30	Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024 Full Registration: \$95 Tuesday Registration Only: \$45 Wednesday Registration Only: \$30	On-site Registration Full Registration: \$110 Tuesday Registration Only: \$55 Wednesday Registration Only: \$40
EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2024 Full Registration: \$85 Tuesday Registration Only: \$45 Wednesday Registration Only: \$30	Advance Registrations received on or before October 25, 2024 Full Registration: \$95 Tuesday Registration Only: \$45 Wednesday Registration Only: \$30	On-site Registration Full Registration: \$110 Tuesday Registration Only: \$55 Wednesday Registration Only: \$40		
Registration Fees (see all fees above)..... \$ Tickets must be ordered on or before October 25, 2024. Special event tickets will not be sold on-site. _____ Awards Breakfast ticket: \$40.00 each..... \$ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED..... \$				

SECTION III – PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payment must accompany advance registration form and should include Registrations and Award Breakfast tickets. A \$3.50 credit card processing fee is added if using a credit card.

☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Billing Address: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

SECTION IV – SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate any special requirements (dietary restrictions, handicap accessibility, interpreter, etc.) in this space or contact the TOI office. Special requirements can only be accommodated if requested at least two weeks in advance of Conference:

SECTION V – CANCELLATION POLICY & TICKET ORDER INFORMATION

Cancellations received by **October 11, 2024** will receive full refund.

Cancellations received between **October 11 to October 25, 2024** will receive a partial refund (\$20 administrative fee).

NO REFUNDS on cancellations received after **October 25, 2024**.

Registrations are transferable.

Advance orders and pre-payment for all Award Breakfast MUST BE RECEIVED by October 25, 2024 in order to meet facility meal guarantee requirements. Special event tickets will not be sold on site.

SECTION VI – HOUSING

Hotel reservations will only be made through the Housing Bureau and only those individuals registered for the Conference by October 4, 2024 will be assigned hotel reservations. Hotel reservations may be made on-line via a link on the TOI website, www.toi.org or by submitting the Housing Form. The Housing Form is available in the *Township Perspective* or on the TOI website, www.toi.org. Reservations must be received by October 4, 2024 and guaranteed with a credit card. Hotel assignment confirmations WILL NOT be emailed until the week of October 14, 2024. Read all of the Hotel Reservation Procedures in the *Township Perspective* or on the TOI website to make certain you comply with all requirements.

**Send this Registration Form to:
Township Officials of Illinois
3217 Northfield Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62702**

HOUSING FORM
TOI Annual Educational Conference
November 11-13, 2024

Please complete one form per room reservation and **mail to:**

TOI Housing Bureau
3217 Northfield Drive
Springfield, IL 62702

Read Housing Information for all reservation requests, policies, and procedures.

This information is available in the *Township Perspective*, and on the TOI website, www.toi.org.

Housing forms will only be accepted when accompanied by credit card information.

Confirmation of hotel assignments will be **emailed** the week of October 14th.

Please type or print all information legibly.

Name in which reservation should be made: _____

Number of people in room: _____ Name(s) of additional people in room: _____

Township: _____ County: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of arrival: _____ Date of departure: _____

**EMAIL ADDRESS REQUIRED FOR RESERVATION ASSIGNMENT (CONFIRMATION OF
HOTEL INFORMATION)**

You will be placed at the Crowne Plaza, Holiday Inn Express, or at an overflow hotel if needed. All requests are considered on a first-come, first-serve basis by date of receipt, and if you are registered for the conference. Hotel assignment will be made based on type and length of reservation and hotel availability.

If you need a handicap accessible reservation, please turn in a housing form as soon as possible.

Preference will be given to those requests for a minimum of two nights. Reservations made for two nights and later changed risk being charged for two nights and/or moved to another hotel. **Room rate at the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Express is \$105 plus tax per night.**

Indicate your preferred room type. This is a request only and cannot be guaranteed.

King: _____ **Double/Double:** _____ **Indicate any special requirements:** _____

Handicap Accessible: _____ **Type of Handicap accessibility needed:** _____

Housing forms **MUST BE RECEIVED** by the TOI Housing Bureau by **October 4, 2024**. Housing forms received after October 4th will not be processed.

Confirmation of hotel assignment will be **emailed** the week of October 14, 2024.

Card Type: _____ **Card #:** _____

Expiration date: _____ **Name on Credit Card:** _____

Signature: _____



Final Stretch for the 2024 Legislative Season

Taylor Anderson

Anderson Legislative Consulting, Ltd.

Many legislative issues come together during the final stretch of session and often those issues can feel as if they materialized out of thin air. SB 2412 was such a measure this year. It is an elections bill whose amendment was adopted on May 1, was sent to the Governor's desk after passing both chambers on May 2, and was signed into law on May 3.

SB 2412 extends the filing dates for a range of candidacies, including presidential candidates, from 113 days prior to the general election to 141 days and from 106 days to 136 days for a general election. It also makes changes to the process for filling vacancies in nominations for state, congressional, and judicial offices among others.

The bill also creates three new non-binding advisory questions that will appear on the ballot for the general election on November 5, 2024. These questions will ask voters if they support civil penalties for candidates who interfere with election workers, a 3% additional tax on incomes over \$1 million for property tax relief, and mandatory health insurance coverage for all medically assisted reproductive treatments.

Republicans in both chambers voted present on the legislation in protest of the measures swift passage. House Minority Leader Tony McCombie had the following statement, "Serious legislators should want to give time to the public to understand the impact on our state. We're used to seeing this kind of maneuvering on May 31, but we don't understand the sense of urgency right now."


To that point there has been some concern raised by township attorneys regarding how the changes to petition filings could negatively impact municipal and township office candidates. Ross D. Secler, a partner at Odelson, Murphy, Frazier & McGrath Ltd, articulated a real concern.

"SB 2412 HFA#2 makes a change to Section 7-12(3) of the Illinois Election Code and the modification of petition filings for municipal and township office candidates seeking the nomination of an established

political party at a primary election. The change would mean that primary petitions would be filed between **Monday, October 21, 2024**, and **Monday, October 28, 2024**; Objection filing would be **Monday, November 4, 2024**; Petition circulation would begin **Tuesday, July 30, 2024**. The issue is that township party chairs do not provide notice of whether they will be holding a primary (and not conducting a caucus) until **November 14, 2024**, which is after primary petitions would be due (the initial caucus notice issued by the Town Clerk is not until *November 3, 2024*, this year).

So, the whole primary petition process would just about be over *before* anyone actually knows whether that political party will be holding a primary election at all or whether they will be caucusing."

It is our hope that there will be an opportunity to address any concerns via a trailer bill at some point and we will keep everyone informed if such a bill comes together. On that note, TOI will also be sending out a legislative update to everyone very soon that recaps spring session, so please keep your eyes open for that.



**Stay up to date with TOI's
Legislative Emails**

Contact TOI at teresa@toi.org or kayla@toi.org
to make sure we have your email on file



Jim Donelan

Executive Director, TOIRMA

ATVs, Golfcarts, Off-Highway Motorcycles, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles (Non-Highway Vehicles)

An ongoing topic of conversation in Illinois risk management circles in recent years is “non-highway vehicles.” As the name suggests, these vehicles are meant for driving in places other than highways or roads. In fact, the Illinois Vehicle Code [625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1] defines a “non-highway vehicle” as “a motor vehicle not specifically designed to be used on a public highway,” including:

- (1) “all-terrain vehicles,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-101.8];
- (2) a “golfcart,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-123.9];
- (3) an “off-highway motorcycle,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-153.1];
- (4) a “recreational off-highway vehicle,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-168.8]

As you can clearly see, as the names and definitions of these types of vehicles state, they are all designed for off-road usage.

Illinois provides highway commissioners with a process for allowing “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads. However, TOIRMA advises our members to take careful consideration of the requirements of the law prior to acting and understanding the increased liability exposures, for when roads were built they did not account for the risks of having “non-highway vehicles” share the road with cars and trucks. Highway commissioners do not have to allow “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads and can therefore not increase the liability exposure of the road district.

In recent months, counties are encouraging township boards to adopt resolutions authorizing “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads. First, remember, the highway commissioner is in charge of the road district, not the county board nor the township board. Second, they are encouraging “non-highway vehicles” on all roads including roads with speed limits of 55 miles per hour which directly conflicts with state law. The statute is very explicit, that certain procedures **MUST** be adhered to, and that when complied with “non-highway

vehicles” may be used only on roads and streets where the *posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or lower*.

Following the statute is extremely important, and deviating from it in any way creates potential insurance coverage issues.

TOIRMA developed the following checklist designed to help ensure that when considering whether to allow “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads, that the proper steps are taken pursuant to the law.

“Non-Highway Vehicle” CHECKLIST

- ☐ Complete an engineering study/evaluation determining that public safety will not be jeopardized by the operation of “non-highway vehicles” which consider:
 - ☐ Volume of the traffic on the roadway;
 - ☐ Speed of the traffic on the roadway;
 - ☐ Character of the traffic on the roadway; and
 - ☐ Determine whether “non-highway vehicles” may safely travel on or cross the roadway.
- ☐ Study/evaluation only on streets where the posted speed limit is **35 miles per hour or less**.
- ☐ Share a copy of the study/evaluation with TOIRMA for review prior to adopting any resolution or ordinance.

Moreover, TOIRMA has created a brief information sheet (Questions & Answers) to assist our members with comprehending the risks associated with the use of “non-highway vehicles” on local roads. **Please visit our “Members Only” section of the TOIRMA website, toirma.org, under “Helpful Resources” to obtain this information.**

In addition to the above mentioned, there are requirements that appropriate signs be posted when



Pictured is an example of a Non Highway Vehicle.

determining that “non-highway vehicles” may safely operate on a roadway. The highway commissioner and the county engineer must be involved in this matter because of the requirement to install signs for the speed limit of 35 miles per hour and the warning of “non-highway vehicles” on the relevant roads.

We encourage our members, if approached, to proceed with caution, and to follow the statute. Also, **before** “non-highway vehicles” are allowed on any road district road, TOIRMA requests that members share the professional assessment that was mentioned above, and any draft resolution or ordinance with us. We will review the materials and provide our risk management perspective and feedback.

This article should not be considered legal advice, for it is advisory in nature. We encourage you to contact your township attorney for any legal assistance.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

As always, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me toll-free at (888) 562-7861 or by email at jdonelan@toirma.org.

Think Safe... Drive Safe... Work Safe

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE PROGRAM

Administered by Allied Benefit Systems, LLC



Questions, please contact
Steve Barrett,
toll-free **TODAY** at
1-800-540-6566
maciprotect@gmail.com
www.maciprotect.org

Thank you for your continued interest in the Medical Assistance Catastrophic Insurance Program aka MACI.

Those townships currently insured by MACI received a 60-day notice of non-renewal, concerning your MACI insurance. Understand this is purely a legal notice required by law due to Great Midwest Insurance, your current insurer being sold to Skyward Insurance and renewal terms had not been finalized within that 60-day time frame. Going forward, Skyward would no longer insure this particular kind of risk. MACI fully intends on replacing your coverage with an insurance company that does.

Stay tuned...

Currently the experienced MACI team is working on replacing your insurance and issuing renewal invoices, please be patient. If you have any questions, call Steve Barrett at 1-800-540-6566.

2024 Township Salary Survey

Each township board and multi-township board is charged with setting the compensation (salary) for each elected township and multi-township office for the upcoming term, beginning May 19, 2025 and ending the third Monday May 21, 2029 (beginning January 1, 2026 for assessors, multi-township assessors, and tax collectors and ending December 31, 2029). To aid township officials with this process, the survey assists township and multi-township boards throughout the state compare salaries with those paid in other townships of similar population and assessed valuation (by 2024).

The results of the survey indicate the salaries of townships grouped by counties into zones (1-6). If you have questions on setting salaries, please consult your township attorney or contact TOI. Just remember, you **MUST** set the salaries by the statutory deadlines (November 18, 2024).

Remember that the salary is set to the position not the person.

Statutory Guidelines

According to state law, compensation for the elected township officials shall be set by the township board at least 180 days prior to the beginning of the term of office. Compensation, that includes benefits such as health insurance coverage, must be set by the board no later than November 20, 2024 and must be done in an open meeting with a public vote by the board.

According to state law, compensation set for the multi-township assessor and multi-township assessment district (MTAD) board members must be set at least 150 days before the election. Salaries for the multi-township assessor and MTAD board members must be done in an open meeting with a public vote by the MTAD board no later than November 2, 2024.

Again, any health insurance benefit provided is considered part of the compensation package and needs to be set at the same time salary for the position is set. Health insurance payments must be made directly to the provider and not be paid directly to the elected official as a form of reimbursement.

The Attorney General's Office has stated that even discussion of the salaries for the elected officials must be done in an open meeting. The Open Meetings Act does contain a provision that allows for a closed session to discuss the salary schedules for employees. However, the Attorney General's office has said that elected township officials do not fall under the definition of "employee" and thus discussion, deliberation, and the final vote on salaries for elected township officials must all be done in an open public meeting.

Summary

OFFICE	MINIMUM SALARY	MAXIMUM SALARY
Supervisor	None	None
Road Dist. Treasurer (Supervisor)	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
Clerk	None	None
Assessor or Multi-Township Assessor	None	None
Highway Commissioner	\$3,000 Minimum Annual Salary	None
Trustees*	None	None
Tax Collectors	None	None

(only three counties as of the new term will have township tax collectors. They are Madison, Peoria, and Will.)

**(Multi-Township Board of Trustees, which is the Supervisor and Clerk from each township in the MTAD, may receive additional compensation for their service, set by the multi-township board, in an amount not to exceed \$25/day for each day of service.)*

Zone Breakdowns

Zone 1

Cook	Kane	McHenry
DuPage	Lake	Will

Zone 2

Boone	Kankakee	Lee
DeKalb	Kendall	Ogle
Grundy	LaSalle	Winnebago

Zone 3

Bureau	Jo Daviess	Putnam
Carroll	Knox	Rock Island
Fulton	Marshall	Stark
Hancock	Mercer	Stephenson
Henderson	McDonough	Warren
Henry	Peoria	Whiteside

Zone 4

<i>Adams</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>Montgomery</i>
<i>Bond</i>	<i>Jackson</i>	<i>Pike</i>
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Jersey</i>	<i>Sangamon</i>
<i>Cass</i>	<i>Macoupin</i>	<i>Schuyler</i>
<i>Christian</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>St. Clair</i>
<i>Clinton</i>	<i>Mason</i>	<i>Washington</i>

Zone 6

<i>Champaign</i>	<i>Iroquois</i>	<i>Moultrie</i>
<i>Coles</i>	<i>Livingston</i>	<i>Piatt</i>
<i>DeWitt</i>	<i>Logan</i>	<i>Tazewell</i>
<i>Douglas</i>	<i>Macon</i>	<i>Vermilion</i>
<i>Edgar</i>	<i>McLean</i>	<i>Woodford</i>
<i>Ford</i>		

Zone 5

<i>Clark</i>	<i>Franklin</i>	<i>Marion</i>
<i>Clay</i>	<i>Gallatin</i>	<i>Richland</i>
<i>Crawford</i>	<i>Hamilton</i>	<i>Saline</i>
<i>Cumberland</i>	<i>Jasper</i>	<i>Shelby</i>
<i>Effingham</i>	<i>Jefferson</i>	<i>Wayne</i>
<i>Fayette</i>	<i>Lawrence</i>	<i>White</i>

Supervisors, Clerks & Trustees

Generally speaking, supervisors and clerks are paid annual salaries. However, these offices may be paid on a per diem basis. In addition to their salary, a supervisor may be compensated for serving as Road District Treasurer. The salary as road district treasurer may not be less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 per year. This must also be set at the same time as the other township officials' salaries and must be paid out of the town fund. Trustees may be paid either an annual salary, or on a per diem (per meeting) basis.

This survey includes a response rate of 51.12% as of May 1, 2024. We will continue to update these results and will have a new version posted online at toi.org by July 1, 2024.

Zone Breakdown by Population**Figure Shown is Number of Townships Responding**

Zones	0-499	500-999	1000-1999	2000-3499	3500-4999	5000-9999	10000-24999	25000-49999	50000-74999	75000-99999	100000-200000	Total Twps.
	population	population	population	population	population	population	population	population	population	population	population	
Zone 1	0	2	6	4	4	8	15	14	11	7	5	76
Zone 2	19	23	18	8	7	12	9	6	1	0	0	103
Zone 3	45	40	36	14	5	7	7	2	0	0	0	156
Zone 4	35	26	24	19	9	21	3	7	0	0	0	144
Zone 5	23	22	17	9	5	4	3	0	1	0	0	84
Zone 6	38	25	27	13	10	7	10	3	1	1	0	135

Zone Breakdown by Population**Figure Shown is Number of Townships Responding**

Zones	0-4.9	5-9.9	10-19.9	20-49.9	50-74.9	75-99.9	100-149.9	150-199.9	200-499.9	500-799.9	800 & Up	Total Twps.
	million	million	million	million	million	million	million	million	million	million	million	
Zone 1	4	0	0	3	3	3	2	3	8	6	41	73
Zone 2	5	1	6	27	7	8	7	7	10	3	4	85
Zone 3	3	7	30	56	11	4	5	3	8	0	1	128
Zone 4	5	5	25	48	8	3	7	5	7	5	1	119
Zone 5	7	8	22	19	6	2	2	0	2	0	0	68
Zone 6	7	1	22	46	14	6	9	4	7	4	2	122

Highway Commissioners

Highway Commissioners may be paid an annual salary (minimum of \$3,000) or a per diem salary but NOT a combination of both. Highway Commissioners may NOT legally be paid an hourly rate or overtime for hours in excess of an established number. It should be understood that per diem payments are for all duties carried out in a single 24-hour period. However, if a per diem is established, the township board must be prepared to pay the per diem for every day of the year including Sundays and holidays.

Assessors

Township assessors and multi-township assessors may also be paid a per diem or an annual salary. There is no provision though for a per-parcel payment, even if per-parcel compensation is utilized for establishing a fair annual salary. The salary ranges for assessors shown in the survey results do not include reimbursement of official expenses incurred by travel, training, education, postage, etc., required for administering the office of assessor or multi-township assessor.

ZONE 1													
113 Surveys Sent					77 (68.14%) Surveys Returned								
		How Paid			Salary Ranges								
Office	Responses Received	Annual	Per Diem or Per Mtg	Both Annual & Per Diem/ Mtg	0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-19,999	20,000-29,999	over 30,000	Health Insurance Provided	Retirement Program Provided
Supervisor	76	98.68%	0.00%	1.32%	0.00%	0.00%	1.32%	3.95%	21.05%	25.00%	48.68%	19	31
Clerk	77	98.70%	0.00%	1.30%	0.00%	0.00%	3.90%	35.06%	44.16%	12.99%	3.90%	6	9
Commissioner	65	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.54%	0.00%	1.54%	0.00%	6.15%	12.31%	78.46%	29	35
Assessor	74	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.41%	5.41%	21.62%	67.57%	31	41
Multi-Assessor	2	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Included with Assessor total	Included with Assessor total
Trustees	74	86.49%	10.81%	2.70%	0.00%	12.16%	62.16%	22.97%	2.70%	0.00%	0.00%	3	3
Collectors	5	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	66.67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1	0
Road Treas	48	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	4.17%	79.17%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	NA	NA

ZONE 2													
168 Surveys Sent					107 (63.69%) Surveys Returned								
		How Paid			Salary Ranges								
Office	Responses Received	Annual	Per Diem or Per Mtg	Both Annual & Per Diem/ Mtg	0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-19,999	20,000-29,999	over 30,000	Health Insurance Provided	Retirement Program Provided
Supervisor	107	92.52%	0.00%	7.48%	0.00%	0.00%	11.21%	45.79%	21.50%	15.89%	5.61%	10	12
Clerk	107	90.65%	0.00%	9.35%	0.00%	0.00%	43.93%	42.99%	11.21%	1.87%	0.00%	2	6
Commissioner	104	97.12%	0.00%	2.88%	0.00%	0.00%	0.96%	3.85%	11.54%	25.00%	58.65%	14	31
Assessor	44	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.55%	2.27%	11.36%	20.45%	61.36%	10	19
Multi-Assessor	41	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.44%	2.44%	0.00%	7.32%	63.41%	7.32%	17.07%	Included with Assessor total	Included with Assessor total
Trustees	108	57.41%	24.07%	19.44%	6.48%	44.44%	46.30%	2.78%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2	1
Collectors													
Road Treas	45	97.78%	0.00%	2.22%	8.89%	28.89%	62.22%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	NA	NA

ZONE 3

318 Surveys Sent

161 (50.62%) Surveys Returned

		How Paid			Salary Ranges								
Office	Responses Received	Annual	Per Diem or Per Mtg	Both Annual & Per Diem/ Mtg	0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-19,999	20,000-29,999	over 30,000	Health Insurance Provided	Retirement Program Provided
Supervisor	161	90.68%	0.62%	8.70%	0.00%	1.24%	42.86%	37.89%	10.56%	1.86%	5.59%	8	13
Clerk	161	91.30%	0.62%	8.07%	0.62%	2.48%	74.53%	17.39%	4.97%	0.00%	0.00%	4	3
Commissioner	151	94.70%	0.66%	4.64%	0.00%	0.00%	1.32%	3.31%	13.25%	28.48%	53.64%	13	21
Assessor	36	94.44%	0.00%	5.56%	2.78%	0.00%	16.67%	19.44%	22.22%	11.11%	27.78%	10	14
Multi-Assessor	76	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	13.16%	35.53%	36.84%	2.63%	11.84%	Included with Assessor total	Included with Assessor total
Trustees	160	69.38%	20.63%	10.00%	26.88%	57.50%	13.13%	0.63%	1.88%	0.00%	0.00%	4	0
Collectors	7	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	71.43%	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1	0
Road Treas	53	96.23%	1.89%	1.89%	18.87%	22.64%	58.49%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	NA	NA

ZONE 4

304 Surveys Sent

153 (50.32%) Surveys Returned

		How Paid			Salary Ranges								
Office	Responses Received	Annual	Per Diem or Per Mtg	Both Annual & Per Diem/ Mtg	0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-19,999	20,000-29,999	over 30,000	Health Insurance Provided	Retirement Program Provided
Supervisor	151	91.39%	1.32%	7.28%	0.66%	0.00%	31.13%	34.44%	18.54%	8.61%	6.62%	13	23
Clerk	151	88.74%	0.66%	10.60%	1.32%	2.65%	54.97%	29.80%	9.27%	1.32%	0.66%	5	9
Commissioner	147	96.60%	2.04%	2.04%	1.36%	0.00%	2.04%	2.72%	23.81%	22.45%	47.62%	17	41
Assessor	45	93.33%	0.00%	8.89%	0.00%	2.22%	8.89%	33.33%	26.67%	8.89%	20.00%	7	10
Multi-Assessor	50	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.00%	40.00%	34.00%	2.00%	8.00%	Included with Assessor total	Included with Assessor total
Trustees	152	72.37%	13.82%	13.82%	17.11%	40.13%	39.47%	2.63%	0.66%	0.00%	0.00%	3	4
Collectors													
Road Treas	54	92.59%	0.00%	7.41%	12.96%	24.07%	62.96%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	NA	NA

ZONE 5

244 Surveys Sent

92 (37.7%) Surveys Returned

		How Paid			Salary Ranges								
Office	Responses Received	Annual	Per Diem or Per Mtg	Both Annual & Per Diem/ Mtg	0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-19,999	20,000-29,999	over 30,000	Health Insurance Provided	Retirement Program Provided
Supervisor	90	96.67%	0.00%	3.33%	0.00%	0.00%	45.56%	27.78%	23.33%	3.33%	0.00%	5	14
Clerk	92	91.30%	0.00%	8.70%	0.00%	2.17%	79.35%	15.22%	3.26%	0.00%	0.00%	4	7
Commissioner	90	98.89%	0.00%	1.11%	0.00%	0.00%	1.11%	6.67%	30.00%	32.22%	30.00%	13	28
Assessor	20	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	30.00%	30.00%	0.00%	15.00%	4	5
Multi-Assessor	44	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.64%	47.73%	13.64%	0.00%	0.00%	Included with Assessor total	Included with Assessor total
Trustees	92	75.00%	16.30%	8.70%	20.65%	46.74%	30.43%	2.17%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4	2
Collectors													
Road Treas	21	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	23.81%	33.33%	42.86%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	NA	NA

ZONE 6

283 Surveys Sent

146 (51.59%) Surveys Returned

		How Paid			Salary Ranges								
Office	Responses Received	Annual	Per Diem or Per Mtg	Both Annual & Per Diem/ Mtg	0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-9,999	10,000-19,999	20,000-29,999	over 30,000	Health Insurance Provided	Retirement Program Provided
Supervisor	143	97.20%	0.00%	2.80%	0.00%	0.70%	17.48%	50.35%	21.68%	4.20%	5.59%	9	21
Clerk	145	98.62%	0.00%	1.38%	0.69%	0.69%	50.34%	39.31%	8.28%	0.69%	0.00%	4	11
Commissioner	140	99.29%	0.71%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.43%	2.14%	5.71%	26.43%	64.29%	35	58
Assessor	42	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.38%	33.33%	21.43%	9.52%	33.33%	10	13
Multi-Assessor	66	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.52%	7.58%	37.88%	39.39%	10.61%	3.03%	Included with Assessor total	Included with Assessor total
Trustees	146	83.56%	16.44%	13.70%	10.27%	60.27%	28.08%	1.37%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4	3
Collectors													
Road Treas	52	96.15%	3.85%	0.00%	11.54%	11.54%	76.92%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	NA	NA

42nd Annual Lobby Day

Township officials gathered in Springfield to speak face-to-face with state legislators and to gain their support for township issues being addressed by the Illinois General Assembly. Lobby Day, on April 17, 2024 presented the opportunity for over 140 township officials to come together to voice their concerns and opinions to legislators about the issues facing township government.

This year marked the 42nd annual year for Lobby Day, that included a luncheon held at the Illinois State

Library. The luncheon featured two keynote speakers: Senate Minority Leader (R-41) John F. Curran and Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives (D-7) Emanuel “Chris” Welch. Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs also stopped by to greet attendees.

“The event was a great opportunity for township leaders to show unity and positive influence to members of the Illinois General Assembly,” said TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree.



TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree and Deputy Director of Illinois Funds for Outreach Erin Slone.



Township officials networked at the start of the 2024 Lobby Day.



TOI Director of Member Services Brad Ruppert and Rep. (D-84) Stephanie Kifowit.



Senator (D-52) Paul Faraci and TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree.



TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree and Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives (D-7) Emanuel “Chris” Welch.

Rep. (R-106) Jason Bunting; Bruce Township (LaSalle Co.) Trustee Margaret Krier; and Bruce Township Clerk and TOI Board of Director Marsha Johnston.





TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree; Bloomingdale Township (DuPage Co.) Assessor and TOI Board of Directors John Dabrowski; and Addison Township (DuPage Co.) Assessor and TOI President Christopher Kain.



Milton Township (DuPage Co.) Trustee Drew Ellis; Milton Township Supervisor John Monino; Milton Township Trustee and TOI Board of Directors Jeff Castle; and Milton Township Trustee Dan Milinko.



Union Grove Township (Whiteside Co.) Highway Commissioner and TOI Secretary Arnold Vegter and House Republican Leader (R-89) Tony McCombie.



Wood River Township (Madison Co.) and TOI 2nd Vice President Sherry Tite and TOI Legislative Consultant Taylor Anderson.



Deputy Republican Leader (R-94) Norrine Hammond and Huntsville Township (Schuyler Co.) Highway Commissioner and TOI Immed. Past President Danny Hanning.



Blackhawk Township (Rock Island Co.) Highway Commissioner Rick Thompson; Blackhawk Township Trustee Randy Wlaskolich; Rep. (D-72) Gregg Johnson; Blackhawk Township Clerk Karen Wilson; Blackhawk Township Trustee Melinda Clark; and Blackhawk Township Supervisor, TSI President, and TOI Board of Directors Chuck Layer.



Union Grove Township (Whiteside Co.) Highway Commissioner and TOI Secretary Arnold Vegter; House Republican Leader (R-89) Tony McCombie; Deputy Republican Leader (R-94) Norrine Hammond; and Huntsville Township (Schuyler Co.) Highway Commissioner and TOI Immed. Past President Danny Hanning.



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SCOOP ON SUPERVISORS



Chuck Layer



President, Township Supervisors of Illinois
Supervisor, Blackhawk Township, Rock Island County

Summertime is here once again! As supervisors, to us that means we need to have our budgets finalized. Your new fiscal budget needs to be made available for public inspection for 30 days, approved, and adopted after a public hearing. This all needs to be completed by June 30, 2024 if your township is on a April 1 to March 31 fiscal year. The budget and revenue sources must be filed with the county clerk within 30 days of adoption. The last day to file is July 30, 2024.

Lobby Day 2024!! All the unexpected changes and situations that could come up DID! With that being said, Jerry, Brad, and ALL the TOI Staff did a superb job of seeing that the day went off without any problems. Our visits to the Capital and our legislators made an impact. I cannot stress enough the importance of knowing and staying in contact with your legislators. The things we do in our townships are a reflection of the work we do in Springfield. To everyone who participated in the Lobby Day event, thank you for your dedication and time. To all of you who could not make it—see you next year!

Our Township Supervisors of Illinois Division (TSI) will have had its first workshop of the year in Collinsville in May. Our next scheduled workshops will

be in Rockford, Bloomington, and Rock Island. Don't forget to take advantage of our BOGO (Buy One Get One) this year. As supervisors, encourage your trustees to attend the workshop with you. As far as that goes, bring your clerk and road commissioner with also. These workshops are intended to educate ourselves, and besides it makes for great open discussion time. I hope to see you at one of our workshops.

- June 21 Rockford Radisson
- July 19 Bloomington Double Tree
- August 9 Rock Island Bally's

As summer rolls around, many of our dedicated reports have been completed and we settle back into our daily routines. As I sit back and have some spare time, whether it's at the office or out in the middle of the water in my boat sitting in my bass seat... I get to thinking—**WHY?** Why is it some of us need to be so full of dislike, distrust, and even hate? It's really not all that hard—we all should be able to sit down and discuss our different opinions and views like adults. We can agree to disagree. With discussion comes solutions, many times with compromises from both sides. If we could all just stop for a second and think about two things... **RESPECT & CIVILITY.** How many of you have actually passed the Civility Pledge in your township? Just a short time back Craig Smith (President of the Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois) and I worked together to come up with a solution to a problem we were facing. HUH, imagine that—a Supervisor and Road Commissioner working together, who would have thunk it!! By the way—thanks, Craig. That's it for now... **THANKS FOR LISTENING!**

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TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS OF ILLINOIS and TRUSTEES' DIVISION 2024 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS



- May 31 DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 E. Port Plaza Drive, Collinsville **NEW LOCATION!**
- June 21 Radisson Hotel, 200 S. Bell School Road, Rockford
- July 19 DoubleTree Hotel, 19 Brickyard Drive, Bloomington
- August 9 Bally's Quad Cities, 777 Bally Boulevard, Rock Island

Program Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Registration and Coffee
9:00 a.m.	Welcome, Introduction, TOI & TOIRMA Update
9:30 a.m.	Review of Election Procedures (Primary & Caucus) for Township Officials – Chuck Davis & Anthony Schuering
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Current Topics – John Redlingshafer
11:45 a.m.	Ask a Township Official
Noon	Lunch
1 - 3 p.m.	Visual GA – NJS Enterprises

**FEE: Advance Registration \$40.00 \$50.00 Registration at door
NEW THIS YEAR! - BuyOneGetOne FREE!**

Printed materials guaranteed to registered participants only.

Please check one:

_____ May 31 _____ June 21 _____ July 19 _____ August 9

Advance Registration Form

Must be received two weeks before event

Name/Township Position _____

BOGO Name/Position _____

Address _____ City _____

Zip Code _____ Phone Number _____

Township/County _____ E-mail _____

Make checks payable to Township Supervisors of Illinois

Mail form and fee to:

Sue Brokaw

1039 Lake Avenue, Woodstock, IL 60098



Pam Bruner



Vice President, TOI Clerks Division

We preserve the history of our Township as it happens.

Have you taken the time to look at all the great training being offered this summer?

You are not going to want to miss the training the Clerk's division is sponsoring on July 30. Training is being held at the Northfield Inn in Springfield and registration is open and available for sign up on the TOI website. There is great information available at this event with handouts to take home and reference. Take the time to brush up on your election skills and learn any new changes for this election cycle.

District events are being held at the following locations this summer:

June 5	Daytime event in Normal
July 9	Daytime event in Mt. Sterling
August 27	Daytime event in St. Charles
September 26	Evening event in Wood River

You can register for any of these events using the registration form in the *Township Perspective* or at the TOI website. I have never attended a training that I have regretted. You always walk away with new information or maybe information that you knew but maybe had forgotten. TOI does a great job giving us the tools we need to do our jobs effectively.

Don't forget to reference the Township and Road District Checklist. This is a great reference tool to help you keep all the important deadlines in your view. It is printed in the *Township Perspective* and available on the TOI website. The following deadlines are approaching:

May 30: Last day to publish notice announcing budget hearings and that budgets are available for public inspection.

June 30: Last day to conduct budget hearings and adopt Township and Road District budgets.

July 30: Last day to file certify budget and revenue sources with the county clerk.

Dues memberships are flowing in. Please make sure when you submit your dues you update your contact information on the form. It is especially important to give us an email contact as the dues receipt and membership card will be emailed to you. We continue

to keep our dues at the rate of \$30 and in order to do this we need to reduce expenses where we can, and postage is one place we can cut back. Make sure to fill in County and Township. This information has changed. Submit forms and check to: **Clerk Barbara Parker, Membership Coordinator, Township Clerks of IL, PO Box 1591, Bolingbrook, IL 60440.**

If you have ideas for training or have topics you would like more information on, please contact me at the email below. It is our goal to provide you with the information you need to do your job efficiently.

If you have a question or suggestion, please send it to me. Email me at clerk@cordovatownship.com, write me at PO Box 311, Cordova, IL 61242, or call 309-654-2447.

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July 30th Township Election Seminar



Sponsored by the Clerks Division

Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center

3280 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702

Agenda

8:30 AM

Registration

9:00 AM

Opening Remarks, *Chris Kain TOI President*

9:15 AM

Welcome, *Jerry B. Crabtree TOI Executive Director*

9:30 AM

Welcome, *Katy Dolan Baumer Township Clerks Division President*

9:45 AM

Overview of Program and Materials, *Brad Ruppert Director of Member Services*

10:00 AM

Local Elected Officials and Consolidation Election 2025, *Illinois State Board of Elections*

11:30 AM

Lunch

12:00 PM

Running a Caucus, *Bryan E. Smith*

1:15 PM

Township Legal Discussion of Election Procedures, *Ross Secler OMF*
Law Firm

2:30 PM

Adjourn

County _____ Township _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Names & Email of those who will attend (please print clearly):

Supervisor: _____

Township Clerk: _____

Highway Comm.: _____

Assessor: _____

Trustee: _____

Trustee: _____

Trustee: _____

Trustee: _____

Collector: _____

Other/title: _____

Registration is \$50 per person or \$400/township for up to nine attendees. On-site registration is \$75 per person. No refunds will be given once TOI has confirmed attendance numbers with venue.

*Please make checks payable to the Township Officials of Illinois; mail to 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702. Forms may also be emailed to kayla@toi.org. If you are paying by credit card, only Visa and MasterCard are accepted:

Name, as it appears on card: _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp.: _____

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S BEAT



Craig Smith



President, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois
Highway Commissioner, DeKalb Township, DeKalb Co.

We thank all highway commissioners who filled out the survey after last year's summer seminar, and we appreciate your open and honest feedback. Upon reviewing the suggestions and comments shared, we have tweaked our summer seminar and tailored it to better meet the needs of seminar attendees. We are really looking forward to this year's summer seminar and the changes.

The Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois Board of Directors has agreed to move this year's summer seminar from our previous location in Peoria to a new and exciting location. The new location is the **Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center, which is just across the Illinois River in East Peoria. We have also adjusted the dates of the seminar to August 12 through August 14 (Monday–Wednesday).**

The Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois Board of Directors have worked very hard to bring hotel costs down, making this seminar even more affordable

for attendees and vendors. In addition, the change in venue provides easy access and a wonderful facility for our event that we believe attendees will appreciate. We will now be able to deliver new education programs for Highway Commissioners from townships small and large. We have heard your request for more time with vendors, so we have also set aside more time to meet with all the vendors. As we all know, networking is where we make some of our best connections, so this should prove to be a good change. We also have some new vendors this year that we hope will fill the needs of all the attendees.

In closing, I would like to take time to recognize Township of Illinois Past President Arnie Vegter and the whole Board of Directors for their hard work and forward thinking on the venue change. This will bring costs down to all attendees as well as make this year's summer seminar one of the best ever. Please plan on attending, and if you have any questions, please let me know.

Register for the THCOI Summer Seminar! August 12-14, 2024
<https://www.toi.org/2024THCOISummerSeminarForm>



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Mary Rob Clarke



President, Trustees Division
Trustee, Riverside Township, Cook Co.

Hello Trustees, I am Mary Rob Clarke, President of the 2024 TOI Trustees Division. I am a trustee in Riverside Township in Cook County, and have been on the TOI Board of Directors for 6 years.

Trustees Division Board

Matt Starr, Vice President, Plainfield Twp., Will Co.
Jacqueline Stewart, Treasurer, Bloom Twp., Cook Co.
Jacquelyn Small, Secretary, Rich Twp., Cook Co.

Directors

Jeff Castle, Milton Twp., DuPage Co.
Teresa Sharpe Decker, Algonquin Twp., McHenry Co.
Celine Neumiller, Cordova Twp., Rock Island Co.

The Directors met in April and decided on 3 areas of focus for 2024:

- **Communication:** Establish better communication with the trustees through the new website on the TOI page and through the *Township Perspective* magazine.
- **Gratitude:** We are asking you to recognize a trustee who has gone above and beyond in their duties. We are going to use this information at our Booth at the Annual Meeting. i.e. Jeff Castle, Milton Twp, Cook County—in spring of 2023, Jeff designed and built ten 4x10 raised boxes for a community garden. He also watered and weeded every day.
- **Service:** The trustees are going to spearhead a service project at the Annual Meeting.

We are asking you to bring old CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes to the meeting. There will be collection boxes at the Registration Desk and the Trustee booth. The tapes will be distributed throughout the state to nursing homes, veterans, and homes for children at no cost to them. Every township can participate in this project.

There is an opening for one director. We are looking for someone from central or southern IL.

Board applications can be found on the Trustees division webpage.

Applications and any questions can be sent to Mary Rob Clarke, at maryrrob@aol.com.

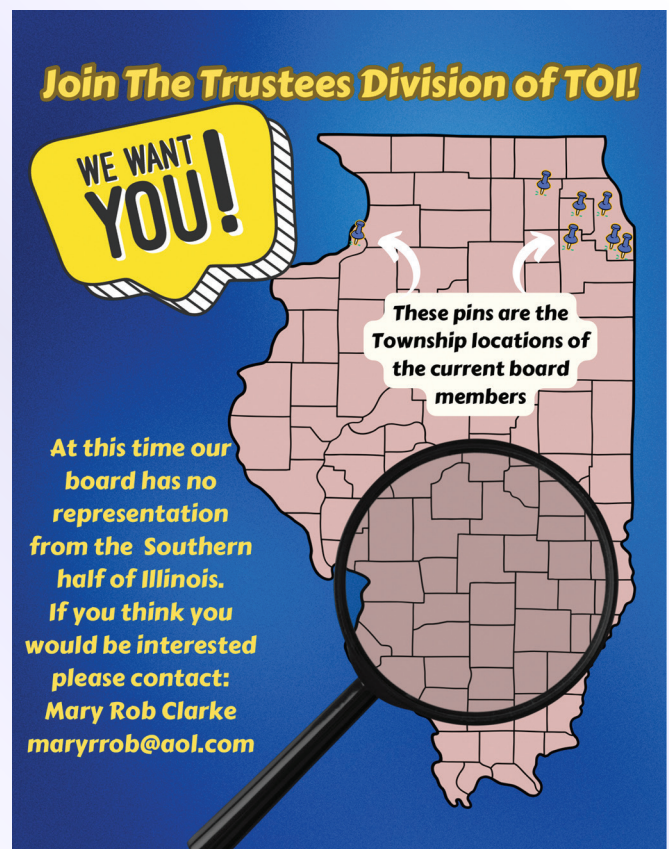
It is going to be an exciting year.

2024 Trustee Service Project

Please bring donations of CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, cassettes, and audio books to the TOI Annual Educational Meeting November 11-13, 2024.

They will be distributed to nursing homes, veterans, assisted living communities, CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangements serving those with special needs) homes for children, and the blind at no cost to them. Eighty organizations throughout the state are served.

Collection boxes will be at the registration desk and Trustee's booth.



Building Illinois's Future Through Gratitude

2024 Trustee Gratitude Recognition Form

Any elected township official can recognize a trustee for going above and beyond their duties. This information will be used at the Trustees' Booth at the Annual Meeting in November.

Trustee's Name_____

Township_____ County_____

Description of why they are being recognized

Your name_____

Position_____

Township_____ County_____

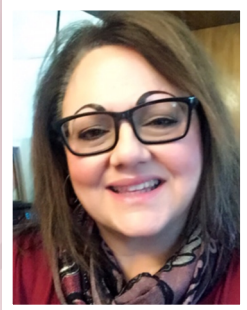
Best way to contact you_____

Please email form to maryrrob@aol.com or mail to

Mary Rob Clarke

Riverside Township

27 Riverside Road, Riverside, IL 60546



Tina Houdek



A Message from the President

President, AITCOY

With summer being around the corner and school is out, townships are planning summer activities. Townships across the state provide programs such as summer camps and tutoring programs to keep youth engaged. Feel free to reach out to me if you would like to discuss programs and services you can provide.

AITCOY is excited to share that the AITCOY Summer Olympics is returning this year after several years of being on pause due to the pandemic and other factors. The Summer Olympics is an annual gathering of youth from local townships that provides a day full of fun, competitive, teambuilding games as well as a picnic lunch. This year the event will be held at Wayne/Winfield Area Youth/Family Services (WAYS) in West Chicago, IL. We are still in the planning stages but the event will take place on Tuesday, July 16, 2024. Please visit our website at www.aitcoy.com for more information or feel free to contact me if you are interested in participating.



There is still time to submit applications for the post-secondary scholarship for graduate students with studies in social work, counseling, parks and recreation, human services, and other degrees related to youth and families. The 2024 Sandra Koscielniak Graduate Scholarship Application deadline is September 20, 2024. Please feel free to share this information and our website link to those you know who could benefit from this. The applications and instructions are located on our website at www.aitcoy.org.

AITCOY continues to offer opportunities for professional development, networking, and resources for program development and evaluation. We are still in the planning process, but our next workshop is scheduled

for August 22, 2024 and will be hosted by Hanover Township. We are continuing to offer the workshops in a hybrid style to accommodate all townships. Please continue to view our website for further information.

Have a safe summer!

Tina Houdek

Did You Know?

Did you know... that Elk Grove Township provides ADHD screenings? Elk Grove Township Adult and Family Counseling Program offers comprehensive ADHD screening for youth ages 6-21. Objective tests used in the screen include the BASC-3 which evaluates social, emotional, and behavioral functioning, the TOVA (Test of Variables of Attention) visual computerized test, and the CAPS (Clinical Attention Profile Scale). A mental health professional implements these measures and interviews the child and family and gathers information from the schoolteachers. The results of the BASC-3, TOVA, CAPS, and clinical mental health interview are compiled, and the therapist writes a report with recommendations. The counselor meets with the parents to review the findings and, at that point, a copy can be sent to the school if requested. Parents may also take the findings to their pediatrician for further consultation regarding medications or other treatment options. If the child does not show signs of ADD/ADHD, the results may point to other possible explanations for the child's difficulties such as mental health, emotional, or other psychiatric problems.

Children are referred for screenings by school personnel (teachers, school social workers, school psychologists) or parents who suspect the child may have an attention deficit/hyperactivity problem.

For further information contact Luanne Pross, Clinical Director of the Adult and Family Counseling Program at Elk Grove Township, 847-981-0373.



Lakeela Jennings



President, ITAGAC

Happy Summer! So excited for the warm weather and around town events and activities. Again, thank you for attending the General Assistance Conference in April, 2024. Thank you again to the amazing speakers who took the time to come deliver great and needed information. Hopefully you were able to get the slides from the event. We had Mark Kimzy, Airdo Werwas, LLC, speak on immigration changes and updates, and how it affects General Assistance. Liza Gutierrez from Partners for Our Communities spoke on referring arriving immigrants to available resources. Karen Smietanski from Veterans Assistance Commissions spoke on programs and resources for veterans. Tina Houdek, MS, LCPC, Director of Youth and Family Services from Hanover Township spoke on how to De-escalate the Distressed and Agitated Client. Again, amazing, need-to-know information. And Courtney Long, Matt Collins, and Amanda from Tazewell County Health Department spoke on WIC programs and IRIS (The Integrated Referral and Intake System). In the

meantime, save the date for next year's conference: April 24, 2025, at the Par-a-Dice Hotel & Conference Center. We look forward to seeing you!

As General Assistance Caseworkers it is important to have access to available resources in order to assist residents and resolve their financial crisis. When meeting with residents, oftentimes the amount of the emergency exceeds the maximum emergency through their township. That is why knowing other agencies and knowing what is around Illinois is highly important. Please let us know if there are any specific topics you would like to learn more about in the future!

Please join us for our next workshop on August 22 at Warren Township. Guest speaker and topic to be announced and sent out to everyone. Hope to see everyone there.

Also, if you are interested in joining the Association and/or have ideas you'd like to add please feel free to let us know. The Association is growing and always excited about bringing new ideas to everyone.



Mark Kimzy, Airdo Werwas, LLC, and Mary Jo Imperato, Hanover Township, Cook County.



Liza Gutierrez, Partners for Our Communities.



Karen Smietanski, Veterans Assistance Commission and Kindra Cunningham from Fondulac Township.



Tina Houdek, MS, LCPC, Director of Youth and Family Services for Hanover Township, Cook County and Mary Jo Imperato, Hanover Township, Cook County.



Information is POWER!

Speak Up, Speak Out, Stop Scams and Fraud

Pamela Mahn
Director of Senior Services for Oak Park & River Forest Townships
Interim Township Manager for Oak Park Township, and ITASCSC Treasurer

Scammers and fraudsters are constantly searching for new ways to steal money from unsuspecting victims. Here are tips on the most common fraud and scams including descriptions, warning signs, and how to protect yourself, the seniors in your Township, and others!

Top Scams	Age range of those most impacted
\$ Business Imposters	60+
\$ Government Imposters	60+
\$ Tech Support Scams	60+
\$ Miscellaneous Investments & Investment Advice	60-79
\$ Romance Scams	60-79
\$ Online Shopping	80+
\$ Prizes, Sweepstakes, & Lotteries	80+

Tips to Avoid Becoming A Victim of Scams or Fraud:

1. Stop and Verify—Legitimate transactions are not based on emotions, fear, or high-pressure tactics.
2. If it seems too good to be true—it usually is.

The Federal Trade Commission shows the number of reports and the total amount of money lost due to scams and fraud was up in 2023.

Overall, 2.6 million fraud reports and \$10 billion reported lost.

Business Imposter Scams involve scammers impersonating businesses that you may (or may not) normally have contact with. Initial contact can be through telephone, email, text, or direct message via social media. These scammers may try to tell you your bank accounts have been hacked and to move your money or to withdraw money to secure your accounts.

Remember:

- ✓ High pressure—it's a scam
- ✓ Telling you what to say, or how to say it—it's a scam
- ✓ Telling you who to trust—it's a scam
- ✓ Threatening you'll be arrested—it's a scam
- ✓ Keeping you on the phone—it's a scam

Government Imposter Scams are where criminals impersonate representatives from government agencies with the goal of obtaining your personal information and/or money.

Top Government Imposter Scams involve criminals impersonating:

1. Social Security Administration
2. Health & Human Services/Medicare
3. United States Postal Service
4. US Customs & Border Protection
5. Federal Trade Commission

What You Need to Know: Government agencies won't text, call, or email you to ask for your personal information, threaten you, or for your money. Only a scammer will do that. If you receive a call or message, find the verified, published number of the agency to confirm the facts.

Scammers will most often contact people by phone (highest reported per person losses) or by social media (highest OVERALL reported losses.) While email contacts netted lower losses, email contacts were the highest number of reports.

Tech Support Scams can happen when criminals pose as technology support representatives and offer to fix non-existent computer issues. The scammers then gain remote access to the victims' devices and sensitive information.

Remember:

- Legitimate tech companies won't contact you by phone, email, or text message to tell you there's a problem with your computer.
- Security pop-up warnings from real tech companies will never ask you to call a phone number or click on a link.
- Beware of the Fake Refund Scam—If someone calls you to offer a refund for tech support services you paid for—likely a scam to get more money from you. Don't be tricked into providing your personal information.

Miscellaneous Investments & Investment Advice Scams are where scammers ask for upfront cash in exchange for guaranteed future returns from low- or no-risk investments.

- ✓ Do *your own* independent research of all investment opportunities.
- ✓ If you're being rushed or told not to discuss with others—it's a scam.

Romance Scams—Promises of love and companionship quickly turn to emergency situations with urgent requests for money—perhaps legal trouble, an emergency medical problem, or a business crisis. The criminal then seeks funds urgently with promises to pay back, which never happens. According to AARP, reported losses to romance scams totaled \$1.14 billion in 2023—median loss per person is \$2,000.

Warning signs include:

- Too-good-to-be-true dating profile photo.
- Scammer insists you leave dating website and communicate through personal email or instant messaging.
- Lavish attention and promises to meet that are always cancelled.
- Sudden, urgent request for money.

Online Shopping Scams were the second-most reported type of scam reported to the Federal Trade Commission in 2022. Companies may ship something other than what you ordered or not ship anything at all. They may also refuse to refund your money. Scammers will have tricky disclosure information on their site and fine print allowing them to deny refund requests

- ✓ Search the name of the seller plus “scam”, “review”, or “complaint” to see if others have made online complaints regarding the seller.

- ✓ Make purchases from known, reputable sellers.
- ✓ Using a credit card for your purchase allows you the ability to dispute charges.
- ✓ Always save your receipts and confirmation emails to help you receive a refund or dispute charges.

Prizes, Sweepstakes, & Lottery Scams are where scammers will say anything to get your money—even making you think you won a big prize! The catch is that they want you to pay money or give them your account information to claim the prize—*this is a scam!*

Three tips to know you're dealing with a scam:

1. **You have to pay to get your prize.** i.e. processing fees, shipping & handling charges, etc – and just pay by wire transfer, gift card, cryptocurrency!
2. **Paying increases your odds of winning.** It's not legal for someone to ask you to pay to increase your odds of winning.
3. **You have to give your financial information.** Never a reason to give credit card or bank account information to claim a prize or sweepstakes!

According to the FBI 2023 Elder Fraud Report, Illinois ranks #5 on the list of complaints filed by individuals over age 60 with total losses \$137,940,620.

For more information about the Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees, visit us at www.itascsc.net. If your Township is not a member of ITASCSC, don't hesitate to complete a membership application (available in the Forms section on the website) and submit it with your payment. Get access to member-only resources and the opportunity to work alongside a great network of professionals serving older adults!

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Common Investment Scams:

Advance Fee – Upfront investment now for larger return later

Nigerian Letter or 419 scheme – Share in a percentage of profit for funds being transferred illegally

Ponzi Scheme – Use funds from current investors to pay previous investors

Pyramid Scheme – Asks you to bring in new investors to profit or recoup your initial investment

Telemarketing Fraud – Steal your money over the phone—reporting prize winnings, legal trouble, or some other urgent approach for you to release your personal information to get your “pay day”

Quick Tips:

- ✓ Be wary of contacts you don't initiate
- ✓ Don't trust caller ID
- ✓ Hang up or ignore the message
- ✓ Block the caller/sender
- ✓ Remain calm and talk to someone you trust
- ✓ Don't click on links or attachments
- ✓ Protect your money
- ✓ Don't mail cash, or pay with gift cards, cryptocurrency, prepaid debit cards, wire transfers, or money transfers
- ✓ Use published, verified contact information for the government agency or business regarding the concern

How To Get Help & Make A Report:

- ✓ Contact your local authorities
- ✓ Report the scam to the Federal Trade Commission at ReportFraud.ftc.gov or their Consumer Response Center at 877-382-4357
- ✓ Call the AARP Helpline: 877-908-3360, M - F, 8am to 8pm (EST)
- ✓ Call the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Securities Helpline for Seniors M-F, 9am-5pm (EST) at: 844-57-HELPS (844-574-3577) if you have questions or concerns about brokerage accounts & investments

Check Out These Sites for More Information:

Protect Yourself from Social Security Scams:

www.ssa.gov/scam

Internet Crime Complaint Center:

www.ic3.gov

Scams - Federal Trade Commission Consumer Advice: www.consumer.ftc.gov

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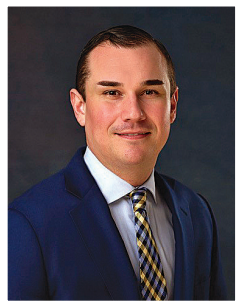
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Village Resolution Under Home Rule Superseded Municipal Code to Village's Detriment

Steve Judge

Judge Law, LLC

This month's column discusses the recent First District Appellate Court decision in *Proven Business Systems, LLC v. Village of Oak Lawn*, 2024 IL App (1st) 221530-U wherein the Appellate Court overturned the district court ruling that the Village of Oak Lawn had sufficiently exercised home rule powers to enter into a contract that exceeded the limitations of the Illinois Municipal Code.

The dispute centered around a contract between Proven Business Systems, LLC (Proven) and the Village of Oak Lawn for information technology services. The contract, approved by a resolution from Oak Lawn's board of trustees, had a 60-month term. However, three months after its execution, the Village Manager, Thomas Phelan, terminated the agreement, leading Proven to file a lawsuit alleging wrongful termination and tortious interference with contract, seeking damages exceeding \$800,000.

The Oak Lawn Defendants argued that the contract was void from the beginning because it exceeded the limitations set by the Illinois Municipal Code, specifically section 8-1-7(b), which restricts municipalities from entering into contracts with terms longer than the current mayor or president's term in office. However, Proven argued that Oak Lawn, as a home rule unit, could override these limitations through the adoption of the resolution.

The circuit court sided with the Oak Lawn Defendants, stating that only an ordinance could supersede the Municipal Code, and since no ordinance was passed, the contract was void. Proven appealed, asserting that the board of trustees' unanimous approval of the resolution was sufficient to supersede the Municipal Code's limitations.

In its decision, the Appellate Court agreed with Proven, holding that the resolution adopted by Oak Lawn's board of trustees constituted a valid exercise of the Village's home rule powers. Therefore, the Appellate Court reversed the circuit court's judgment and remanded the case for further proceedings,

emphasizing the importance of understanding the scope of home rule powers in local government contracts.

BACKGROUND

The case of *Proven Business Systems, LLC v. Village of Oak Lawn* arose from a contract dispute between Proven and the Village of Oak Lawn regarding information technology services. Proven alleged that on April 27, 2021, it entered into a Managed Network Services Agreement with Oak Lawn, approved by a unanimous vote of Oak Lawn's board of trustees. The agreement had a 60-month term but was terminated by Oak Lawn's Village Manager, Thomas Phelan, after three months, citing issues with the agreement's performance.

In its complaint, Proven raised claims for wrongful termination of contract against Oak Lawn and tortious interference with contract against Mr. Phelan. Oak Lawn filed a motion to dismiss, arguing that the contract was void ab initio because it exceeded the term of the Oak Lawn president's office, as per section 8-1-7(b) of the Illinois Municipal Code.

Proven argued that Oak Lawn, as a home rule unit, could supersede the Municipal Code's limitations through the adoption of a resolution, citing the Resolution approving the contract. The Resolution explicitly invoked Oak Lawn's home rule powers under the Illinois Constitution. Proven contended that Oak Lawn's involvement in negotiations and the unanimous vote of its board of trustees demonstrated an exercise of home rule authority, rendering the contract valid.

However, the circuit court disagreed, siding with the Oak Lawn Defendants. The court held that the Resolution, despite invoking home rule authority, was not sufficient to supersede the Municipal Code's limitations. It relied on the case of *Nielsen-Massey Vanillas, Inc. v. City of Waukegan*, which required an ordinance to override the Municipal Code. The court dismissed Proven's complaint, ruling that there was no

valid and enforceable contract, thus rejecting Proven's claim for tortious interference.

HOME RULE UNITS

Home rule units in Illinois, established under Article VII, Section 6 of the 1970 Constitution, enjoy substantial autonomy in governing their affairs. They include municipalities with elected chief executive officers, those with populations over 25,000, and others opting in via referendum. Home rule units can regulate public health, safety, morals, and welfare; levy taxes; license; and incur debt. The shift to home rule aimed to redefine the relationship between local and state governments, granting greater autonomy to local authorities. The courts have recognized that home rule powers prevail over conflicting pre-1970 legislation unless constrained by constitutional provisions or subsequent laws.

The case under discussion involves Oak Lawn, a home rule unit, seeking to supersede pre-1970 legislation (Municipal Code) regarding contract procurement. The issue centers on whether Oak Lawn needed to pass an ordinance or if other actions sufficed. The Supreme Court in *Sommer v. Village of Glenview* clarified that home rule power could be exercised without an ordinance. The court found a conflict between Glenview's autonomy and a state statute, validating the exercise of home rule power without an ordinance. This ruling emphasized the autonomy and independence granted to home rule units under the constitution. The court stated that:

"We think the plaintiffs argue for an overly technical interpretation of the term 'exercise' when they insist that the adoption of an ordinance is a superseding exercise of home rule power while a vote at a trustees' meeting is not. They are both acts taken by the governing board of a home rule unit, as an assertion of autonomy and independence from State control granted by article VII, section 6, of the 1970 Constitution." *Sommer v. Village of Glenview*, 79 Ill. 2d 383, 403 N.E.2d 258, 38 Ill. Dec. 170 (1980).

The court determined that in this instance, there was a "conflict" between the home rule unit's right to self-governance and a State statute. The trustees' decision not to include the proposition on the ballot was seen as an exercise of home rule power significant enough to show that section 162a was overridden. *Id.*

The Oak Lawn Defendants do not directly confront the Sommer case in their brief. They briefly mention

it in a way that implies they think the rationale of that case should apply only to its specific circumstances. In other words, they argue that Sommer only deals with how a home rule unit can exercise its authority when voting to exclude a tax proposition from a ballot, but doesn't tackle whether a resolution, rather than an ordinance, can legitimately override the Municipal Code. The Appellate Court found this to be an unreasonably narrow interpretation of Sommer.

The Oak Lawn Defendants argued for a narrow interpretation, citing *Nielsen-Massey*, which held that only an ordinance could supersede the Municipal Code. However, subsequent rulings have reaffirmed Sommer's broader interpretation. In *Burbank v. Illinois State Labor Relations Board*, this court found that home rule authority could be exercised through official actions, not just ordinances. *Burbank v. Illinois State Labor Relations Board*, 185 Ill. App. 3d 997 (1st Dist. 1989). *Nielsen-Massey's* focus was on whether municipal officials acted with proper authority, not specifically on the need for an ordinance. *Nielsen-Massey Vanillas v. City of Waukegan*, 276 Ill. App. 3d 146 (2nd Dist. 1995).

The *Klekamp* case, cited by the Defendants, addressed different issues and did not undermine the principles established in *City of Burbank*. *Klekamp v. City of Burbank*, 266 Ill. App. 3d 81, 639 N.E.2d 241, 203 Ill. Dec. 202 (1994).

CONCLUSION

Ultimately, the Appellate Court concluded that Oak Lawn's board of trustees, through the Resolution approving the Agreement, properly exercised home rule authority, superseding the Municipal Code. The circuit court's decision to dismiss was reversed, and the case was remanded for further proceedings.

In summary, this case underscores the significant autonomy granted to home rule units in Illinois and clarifies that they can exercise their authority through resolutions, not just ordinances. It serves as a cautionary tale for exercising home rule authority to supersede the Municipal Code, when the unit may wish to rely upon such Municipal Code in a contract dispute where the Municipal Code would provide a more favorable advantage for the Village.



Winnebago County Association

TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree attended the Winnebago County Township Officials Meeting on April 29, 2024.



Long Creek Township

At the 164th Annual Town Meeting in Long Creek Township, Macon County, Bryan E. Smith was presented with a plaque thanking him for his dedicated service since 1985. Smith was first elected Town Clerk in 1985, elected Supervisor in 1993 and appointed Clerk again in 2019, serving until last year. Presenting the plaque is current Clerk Erin Valentine. Smith served as Moderator at the Annual Town Meeting.



New TOI Board Member

TOI welcomed a new member to the Board of Directors at the April Meeting—Rich Township (Cook Co.) Trustee Jacquelyn Small. Welcome!



MICHAEL FRERICHs, ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER INVITES YOU TO

The Local Officials Appreciation Picnic

Director's Lawn at the **Illinois State Fair** in Springfield
12 p.m. to 2 p.m. on **Saturday, August 17, 2024**



Michael W. Frerichs
ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

RSVP

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Rich Township

Rich Township (Cook Co.) Supervisor Calvin Jordan was recently joined by the Rich Township Board of Trustees, Rich Township residents, state officials, local mayors, and other local officials as collectively the Clerk of the Township presented the official fiscal and operational report.

“2023 represented our Township’s most prosperous and thriving operations and administrative year. We achieved all our goals and targets all while maintaining our fiscal integrity. I am more than confident that we have now entered 2024 with an even more impressive strategy for growth and stability,” said Supervisor Jordan.

Supervisor Jordan spoke passionately concerning the plans for a new facility in Matteson that will offer a wide array of services that will be geared towards offering seniors a one-stop shopping experience that will enhance healthy lifestyles.

“Rich Township Supervisor, Clerk Al-Amin, and the Board of Trustees continue to be good stewards of the

tax dollars over which they preside. The food pantry is regarded as best in class within the southland,” said Matteson Mayor Sheila Chalmers-Currin.

Illinois State Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin added, “Rich Township exemplifies excellence and compassion in all its endeavors. But moreover, the township gives justification and cause to why Township government is relevant and critical in the state of Illinois. I applaud the Supervisor and the Clerk for breaking down to the residents every facet of the township.”

“We love serving our residents. Honesty and integrity are our mission, our focus, and our driving force,” says Rich Township Trustee Jackie Small.

“I am grateful, honored, and fortunate to be part of an outstanding team of elected officials whose primary focus is the residents of the township. Collectively we are in the business of helping and serving the people who are in dire need of our services,” said Rich Township Clerk Sugar Arlene Al-Amin.



Rich Township Supervisor Calvin Jordan gives the state of the Township address.



Supervisor Calvin Jordan and State Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin.



Illinois Appellate Court Justice Cynthia Cobb and Circuit Court Judge Abbey Fairman attend the Annual Town Meeting.



Township, state, and local officials pose for group photo following the Annual Town Meeting.

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Terms of Sale: The closing of the transaction will take place on or before July 12, 2024, at the Elmwood Town Hall, located at 111



West Main Street, Elmwood, Illinois, at which time the full purchase price must be paid for in certified funds in exchange for title to the item or items purchased. No warranty will be given and the Purchaser shall acquire the item purchased AS IS.

Anyone interested in purchasing the item listed above shall submit his or her written, sealed bid, which bid shall include all items set forth above, on or before 5:00 p.m., Monday, the 8th day of July, 2024, to David Wagner, Highway Commissioner, Township of Elmwood, 3603 North Wiley Road, Elmwood, Illinois 61529.

For an appointment to view the item listed above, contact the Highway Commissioner, David Wagner, at (309) 231-3774.

The sealed bids will be opened at a public bid opening and the contents will be announced at a meeting of the Elmwood Township Board of Trustees to be held at 5:00 p.m., on the 9th day of July, 2024, at the Elmwood Town Hall and at a meeting of the Elmwood City Council to be held at 7:00 p.m., on the 9th day of July, 2024, at the Elmwood City Hall, located at 201 West Main Street, Elmwood, Illinois. The Highway Commissioner and City Council may reject any and all bids or accept the high bid or any other bid they determine to be in the best interests of the Road District and City of Elmwood. In the event one party accepts a bid and the other party does not accept the same bid, all bids will be rejected.

Diana Hall, Elmwood Township Clerk

FOR SALE



Rock Run Township is selling Bros pneumatic rubber roller, \$1,200 obo. For more information contact Shawn at 815-238-0589. Equipment located at 300 East Center Street, Rock City, IL 61070.

FOR SALE



Rock Run Township is selling 1975 Etnyre chipper, \$8,500 obo. For more information contact Shawn at 815-238-0589. Equipment located at 300 East Center Street, Rock City, IL 61070.

FOR SALE



Rock Run Township is selling 1976 Etnyre oil distributed mounted on 1986 IH chassis, \$6,500 obo. For more information contact Shawn at 815-238-0589. Equipment located at 300 East Center Street, Rock City, IL 61070.

Township and Road District Checklist

2024 Township Calendar

Checklist dates are now available on the Events Calendar at toi.org

06/30/24	Budget Hearing & Adoption*	50 ILCS 330/3 605 ILCS 5/6-501	Last day to conduct budget hearings and adopt township and road district budgets. Budgets may be adopted before or during the first quarter of the fiscal year. (Do not adopt at the annual town meeting.) The township budget may be adopted at the public hearing. The road district budget shall be adopted at the public hearing.
07/30/24	Budget Filing*	35 ILCS 200/18-50	Last day to file certify budget and revenue sources with county clerk if budget is adopted at end of June. Must be filed with county clerk within 30 days of adoption. Therefore, filing deadline varies with the date of adoption. Clerk certifies the budget and supervisor certifies the revenue sources.
09/27/24	Fiscal Responsibility Report Card*	35 ILCS 200/30-30	Last day to file Fiscal Responsibility Report Card; shall submit within 180 days of the conclusion of the fiscal year. The Annual Financial Report meets this requirement. See reference above.
09/27/24	Comptroller's Report*	50 ILCS 310/3 50 ILCS 310/6	Last day to file Annual Financial Report with state comptroller's office and county clerk. Must be filed within 6 months from end of fiscal year. The report also serves as the Fiscal Responsibility Report Card.
09/30/24	Annual Treasurer's Report Completed*	30 ILCS 15/1	Last day for the supervisor to prepare combined Annual Treasurer's Report for township and road district. Report must be completed within 6 months from end of fiscal year, sworn to and filed with county clerk.
09/30/24	Annual Treasurer's Report Published*	30 ILCS 15/2 60 ILCS 1/70-30	Last day to publish Annual Treasurer's Report in an English language newspaper. Must be published within 6 months from end of fiscal year and filed with county clerk's office. Supervisor must provide each board member with copy of report as soon as possible after filing. However, such publication requirement shall not apply to any county funds or county offices or funds or offices of other units of local government when an audit of such funds or offices has been made by a certified public accountant and a report of such audit has been filed with the appropriate county board or county clerk and a notice of the availability of the audit report has been published one time in an English language newspaper published in the town, district, or municipality in which that public officer holds his or her office, or, if no newspaper is published in such town, district, or municipality, then in a newspaper printed in the English language published in the county in which that public officer holds his or her office. The notice of availability shall include, at a minimum, the time period covered by the audit, the name of the firm conducting the audit, and the address and business hours of the location where the audit report may be publicly inspected.

09/30/24	Audit	50 ILCS 310/6 60 ILCS 1/80-20	Last day for townships to file CPA audit with state comptroller's office and county clerk. Townships receiving revenues of \$850,000 or more for a fiscal year, exclusive of road district funds, must have CPA audit within 6 months from end of fiscal year. Townships receiving revenues of less than \$850,000 for a fiscal year, exclusive of road district funds, may have a 3-member independent audit committee instead of CPA audit. Committee audit must be filed with county clerk within 6 months from end of fiscal year. CPA audit required at end of supervisor's term or if vacancy occurs anytime in the position of supervisor.
09/30/24	Audit	50 ILCS 310/6	Last day for road districts to file CPA audit with state comptroller's office and county clerk. Road districts receiving revenues of \$850,000 or more for a fiscal year must have a CPA audit within 6 months from end of fiscal year.
11/02/24	Multi-Township Assessing District Salaries	60 ILCS 1/65-5	Last day for multi-township assessing districts to set the salaries for multi-township assessors and MTAD board members. Must be set at least 150 days before the election.
11/03/24	Notifying Township Central Committee of Reporting Caucus Time/Location	60 ILCS 1/45-10	Last day the township clerk shall notify the chairman or membership of each township central committee by first class mail of the chairman's or membership's obligation to report the time and location of the political party's caucus.
11/04/24	Notifying Multi-Township Central Committee of Reporting Caucus Time/Location	60 ILCS 1/45-25	Last day the multi-township clerk shall notify the chairman or membership of each multi-township central committee by first-class mail of the chairman's or membership's obligation to report the time and location of their political party's caucus.
11/13/24	Notifying Township Clerk of Caucus Time/Location	60 ILCS 1/45-10	Last day each chairman of the township central committee shall notify the township clerk by first-class mail of the time and location of their political party's caucus.
11/14/24	Notifying Multi-Township Clerk of Caucus Time/ Location	60 ILCS 1/45-25	Last day each chairman of the multi-township central committee shall notify the multi-township clerk by first-class mail of the time and location of their political party's caucus.
11/20/24	Township Official Salaries	50 ILCS 145/2	Last day for township boards to set salaries for all township officials for the new term of office. Must be set at least 180 days before the new term of office begins.
11/23/24	Publishing Caucus Notice	60 ILCS 1/45-10	At least 10 days before the caucus, the township board must publish notice of the time/location for each party caucus. The township publication deadline is Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024. The notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the township.
11/24/24	Publishing Multi-Township Caucus Notice	60 ILCS 1/45-25	At least 10 days before the caucus, the multi-township central committee must publish notice of the time/location for each multi-township caucus. The multi-township publication deadline is Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024. The notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the multi-township district.
12/03/24	Township Caucus	60 ILCS 1/45-10	Must be after 6:00 p.m.
12/04/24	Multi-Township Assessing District Caucus	60 ILCS 1/45-25	Must be after 6:00 p.m.

12/11/24	Last Day to Determine Tax Levy for Truth in Taxation	35 ILCS 200/18-60 35 ILCS 200/18-70	Last day for board of trustees to determine (estimate) property tax levy to comply with Truth in Taxation law. Highway commissioner determines levy for road district. Must determine levies at least 20 days before adoption. Basis for 5% computation and whether notices and hearings are necessary.
12/24/24	Last Day for Truth in Taxation Notice	35 ILCS 200/18-80	Last day notice of Truth in Taxation hearing can appear in newspaper. Notice must be in newspaper not more than 14 days or less than seven days prior to date of hearings.
12/31/24	Last Day to Hold Truth in Taxation Hearing, Adopt & File Tax Levies	35 ILCS 200/18-90	Last day to hold Truth in Taxation hearing, adopt and file township and road district certificates of levy, tax levies and Certificate of Compliance for Truth in Taxation law with county clerk.

*Assumes fiscal year begins April 1

All dates re: Public Hearings for BUDGET and APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES are dates often used by many townships and road districts. Many townships and road districts adopt their budgets in February or March before their fiscal year begins. You do, however, have until the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year to hold your hearings and adopt the budget.

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IN MEMORIAM



Marvin Ufkes, 97, of Homosassa, FL, (formerly of Golden and Quincy, IL) died April 29. He was a former Highway Commissioner of Houston Township (Adams Co.). Marvin also served on the TOI Board of Directors 1976-83, TOI Treasurer 1983-85, TOI Secretary 1985-86, and TOI 3rd Vice President 1986-89.

LeRoy Barnes, 96, of Pontiac died April 5. He was a former Highway Commissioner of Eppards Point Township (Livingston Co.)

Robert Byczynski, 86, of Utica died April 18. He was a former Supervisor of Utica Township (LaSalle Co.)

Thomas Elmore, 63, of Farmersville died April 5. He was a former Trustee of Bois D'Arc Township (Montgomery Co.)

Virginia Hanley, 78, of Jewett died on April 24. She was a former Trustee of Woodbury Township (Cumberland Co.)

Wendall Hall, 96, of Pittsfield died April 18. He was a former Supervisor of Pittsfield Township (Pike Co.)

William Hayes, 95, of Wilsonville died March 30. He was a former Supervisor and currently serving Trustee of Dorchester Township (Macoupin Co.)

Tim Hogue, 77, of Sullivan died April 20. He was a former Highway Commissioner of East Nelson Township (Moultrie Co.)

William Jenner, 92, of Pocahontas died April 23. He was a former Trustee of Old Ripley Township (Bond Co.)

Larry Livingston, 66, of Yale died April 3. He was currently serving as Highway Commissioner of Grandville Township (Jasper Co.)

John Kemple, 98, of Pearl City died April 3. He was a former Township Clerk and Supervisor of Jefferson Township (Stephenson Co.)

William Moore, 83, of West Point died April 25. He was a former Trustee of St. Albans Township (Hancock Co.)

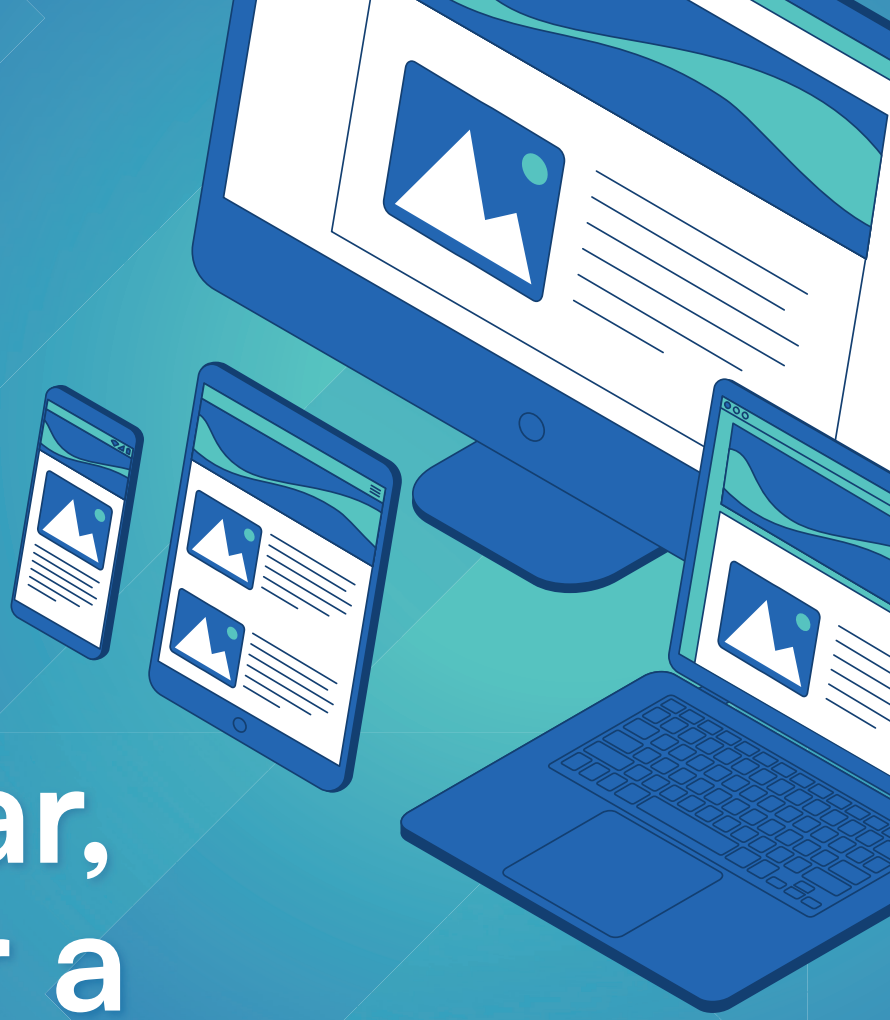
Michael Myers, 76, of Grand Tower died April 4. He was currently serving as Trustee of Grand Tower Township (Jackson Co.)

Roy Sangmeister, 78, of Manhattan died March 31. He was a former Supervisor of Green Garden Township (Will Co.)

Roger Swanson, 88, of Princeton died April 24. He was a former Trustee of Bureau Township (Bureau Co.)

Francis "Dale" Weber, 98, of Ashkum died April 15. He was a former Highway Commissioner of Ashkum Township (Iroquois Co.)





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