

**MAINE TOWNSHIP, COOK COUNTY
REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH
DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:
MAINE TOWNSHIP, Cook County

II. Information about our Township

- A. We are located in Cook County. There are 29 townships in our county.
- B. The population of our Township is 140,600, as of the 2020 census.
- C. We have 42 employees of the Township (not including elected officials).
- D. Maine Township's annual budget for 2023-24 is \$5,035,891.
- E. Maine Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2021 is \$4,701,209,638.

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Township Supervisor Karen Dimond
Township Trustee Kimberly Jones
Township Trustee Kelly Horvath
Township Trustee James Maher
Township Trustee Asif Malik
Township Resident Susan Moylan Krey
Township Resident Peter Gialamas
Township Resident Bud Phillips

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

First (Organizational) Meeting
(must occur prior to June 10, 2023): ___ May 23, _____, 2023

Second Meeting: ___ July 25, _____, 2023

Third Meeting: ___ January 30, _____, 2024

IV. Programs Offered by Maine Township.

A. Our Township offers the following services and programs, among others:

Mainstreamer Senior Services
Mainstay therapeutic, youth, and family services
Food Pantry
Recovery Connection- offered to residents with substance abuse problems
General assistance; LIHEAP, Medicare advice, etc.
Multiple services offered by the Township Clerk
Assessor services
Annual paper shredding, electronics recycling, and “dumpster days”
Annual Community Garage Sale
Many programs throughout the year such as free vaccinations
Events such as Indian Cultural Day, Pakistan Cultural Day, International Festival, which serve to welcome new residents to Maine Township

B. Other services/programs we could possibly provide:

Hazardous Waste Disposal
Bus Transportation for Residents

V. Social Service Agreements

A. We have partnered with the following not for profits, among others, to offer social services:

Entity:

Services Provided:

Avenues to Independence – provides services for developmental disabilities
Center for Enriched Living – provides services for developmental disabilities
Center of Concern – provides services for seniors
Children’s Advocacy Center - provides services for youth
District 63 Education Foundation, Expanded Learning – provides services for youth
Family Behavioral Health Clinic – provides services for mental health
Glenkirk – provides services for developmental disabilities
The Harbour, Inc. – provides services for youth
Josselyn – provides services for mental health
Leyden Family Service and Mental Health Center– provides services for mental health
Life Span – provides services for victims of domestic violence
Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation – provides services for developmental disabilities
Miracle House – provides services for substance abuse
North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic – provides legal services
Northwest CASA – provides services for victims of domestic violence
Northwest Compass, Inc. – provides services for economically challenged families

Northwest Suburban Day Care Center – provides services for youth
Advocate Health and Hospitals Corporation Older Adult Services - provides services for seniors
Orchard Village – provides services for developmental disabilities
Peer Services – provides services for mental health
Resources for Community Living – provides services for developmental disabilities
Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center – provides services for mental health
WINGS – provides services for victims of domestic violence
Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center – provides services for victims of domestic violence

B. Our residents have benefitted from these agreements in the following ways:

When a resident needs a service the township does not directly provide, we direct the resident to one of the above agencies. These agencies help ensure every resident gets the assistance they need.

C. We have considered possibly offering the following social services or the following additional potential partnerships:

We have considered, and have begun the process of, partnering with School Districts 63 and 207 to offer counseling resources in the elementary and high schools. This would help bring counselors to the students who need mental health services, without those students having to find transportation to the town hall.

VI. Awards and Recognitions

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

- 2023 AITCOY Youth Staff Award – MaineStay Employee Emily Toomey
- 2023 – Maine Township Hall, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, Jr., received landmark designation from the Village of Park Ridge
- 2022 - Clerk’s office was recognized as one of the best Passport Acceptance Facility with almost 700 acceptance facilities in the Chicago Passport Agency Region.
- 2022 AITCOY Youth Leadership Award - MaineStay Volunteer Sophia Boborci
- 2020 ITASCSC Senior Volunteer of the Year Award – MaineStreamers Volunteer Alberta Lucchesi
- 2020 Respiratory Health Association Making a Difference Award – Recovery Connection Smoking Cessation Program
- 2019 AITCOY Youth Staff Award – MaineStay Employee Anne Camarano
- 2018 AITCOY Director of the Year Award – MaineStay Director Richard Lyon
- 2018 AITCOY Volunteer of the Year Award – MaineStay Volunteer Samantha Lovett
- 2018 TOI Best Township Program of the Year – MaineStay Mentoring Program
- 2017 AITCOY Youth Organization Award – MaineStay Youth & Family Services
- 2017 AITCOY Youth Leadership Award – MaineStay Volunteer Kelsey Coy
- 2017 ITASCSC Innovative Senior Program of the Year – MaineStreamers Newcomers Presentation

- 2017 ITASCSC Senior Staff Member of the Year – MaineStreamers Employee Marie Dachniwsky
- 2017 ITASCSC Elected Official of the Year – Maine Township Assessor Susan Moylan Krey
- 2017 TOI Best Township Program of the Year – Recovery Connection
- 2017 TOI Overall Mighty Message Award – Recovery Connection
- 2017 TOI Best Photo of the Year – MaineStreamers 90-Plus Birthday Party
- 2017 Mental Health America of the North Shore Community Service Award – MaineStay Youth & Family Services
- 2016 AITCOY Youth Staff Award – MaineStay Employee Kristina Oltrogge
- 2016 AITCOY Youth Leadership Award – MaineStay Volunteer Jacki Kaiser
- 2016 Henry White Memorial Award – Recovery Connection Program
- 2015 ITASCSC Innovative Senior Program – Senior Expo
- 2015 ITASCSC Senior Staff Member of the Year – Monika Jaroszewicz
- 2015 TOI Mighty Message Award for Best Newsletter of the Year – Mainely News
- 2015 TOI Mighty Message Award for Best Photo of the Year – Public Information Manager Dick Barton
- 2014 Association of Illinois Senior Centers Mind, Body, Spirit Award – MaineStreamers Director Mary Swanson
- 2014 ITASCSC Senior Director of the Year – Mary Swanson
- 2014 AITCOY Youth Organization Award – MaineStay Youth & Family Services
- 2014 AITCOY Youth Leadership Award – MaineStay Volunteer Leena Khoury
- 2013 ITASCSC Township of the Year – Maine Township
- 2013 AITCOY Township Friend of Youth Award – Trustee Laura Morask
- 2013 TOI Mighty Message Award for Best Photo of the Year – MaineStay Employee Ed Beauvais
- 2013 Community Star Award – Trustee Laura Morask
- 2012 TOI Mighty Message Award for Best Photo of the Year – Public Information Manager Dick Barton
- 2012 AITCOY Youth Volunteer Worker Award – MaineStay Volunteer Bob Neil
- 2012 Community Star Award – Supervisor Carol A. Teschky
- 2011 ITASCSC Supervisor of the Year – Supervisor Carol A. Teschky
- 2011 AITCOY Township Friend of Youth Award – Supervisor Carol A. Teschky
- 2011 AITCOY Youth Volunteer Worker Award – MaineStay Volunteer Laura Diaz
- 2011 TOI Mighty Message Award for Best Photo of the Year – Public Information Manager Dick Barton
- 2010 TOI Senior Staff Member of the Year – MaineStreamers Employee Marjorie Stiller
- 2010 Innovative Senior Program Award – Maine Township MaineStreamers Program
- 2010 Office of Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps Mentor of the Year Award – Emergency Management Director Robert Cohen
- 2008 ITASCSC Elected Official of the Year – Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano
- 2008 ITASCSC Innovative Senior Program Award – Maine Township MaineStreamers Program
- 2008 AITCOY Youth Staff Worker Award – MaineStay Employee Michelle Biondo
- 2008 TOI Mighty Message Award of the Internet Web Sites Population 15,000+ Category
- 2008 TOI Overall Mighty Message Award – Maine Township Website
- 2008 Leonardo da Vinci Award of Excellence – Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano

- 2008 Volunteer Service Awards – Maine Township Citizen Corps Council
- 2008 MCYAF Leadership and Dedication Award – MaineStay Youth and Family Services
- 2008 Community Star Award – Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano
- 2008 AISC Marketing Award for Senior Program
- 2008 Community Star Award – Clerk Gary K. Warner
- 2007 State of Illinois Number One Township Clerk – Clerk Gary K. Warner
- 2006 ITASCSC Supervisor of the Year Award
- 2006 District 63 Education Foundation Special Honorary Award Presented to the Maine Township Board of Trustees
- 2006 TOI Mighty Message Contest Winner of the Other Publications Category for Residents Guide
- 2005 ITASCSC Senior Director of the Year
- 2005 Grassroots Government Leadership Award
- 2005 Community Star Award – Emergency Management Volunteer Dagmar Rutzen
- 2004 Community Star Award – Emergency Management Director Robert Cohen
- 2004 Avenues to Independence Special Appreciation Award
- 2003 AITCOY Township Friend of Youth Award
- 2003 TOI Mighty Message Contest Winner of the Miscellaneous Communications Media Category
- 2003 Avenues to Independence Special Recognition Award

VII. Intergovernmental Agreements

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

County of Cook	Issuance of Citations
Sheriff of Cook County	Additional Officer staffing
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District	Water retention and control projects.

B. Our Township’s efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way (list cost savings, avoiding duplicated services, etc.):

We often work with the Sheriff of Cook County and Niles Maine Public Library to provide programs to our residents, such as programs we have held on

- Self-defense
- Internet Safety
- Avoiding Scams
- Cyber Crimes and Cyber Safety
- Free Car Light Replacements
- National Night Out
- Digital Navigation

AI Information

We have also held, in conjunction with the Sheriff, annual Electronics Recycling, Shredding, and Prescription Take Back events

We have worked with other Cook County officials to provide additional other programs to our residents:

- Property After Death Workshop
- Appealing property tax assessments
- Looking up pending case information, etc.

We have also contacted State offices to provide other services at our township hall:

- Secretary of State Rules of the Road class
- Secretary of State mobile unit visits
- Treasurer's I-cash program visits
- Illinois Dept of Veteran's Services Representative at events

VIII. Review of Laws, Township Policies, Township Rules and Procedures, Township Training Materials, and other Documents

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

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

Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120)

Policy on public comment

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

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

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

Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140)

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

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

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

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

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

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

IMRF Total Compensation Postings (5 ILCS 120/7.3)

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

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

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

Our Intergovernmental Agreements

Our Social Service Agreements or Contracts

Our budget and financial documents

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

Our budget and financial documents

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

Others (List Below or Attach):

IX. What Have We Done Well? (List any budget/levy freezes or reductions in the past decade; list new programs or services offered to residents over the past decade; list any ethics ordinances adopted; timely FOIA compliance; responsiveness to public; list any new intergovernmental agreements or social services offered; list any increase in number of township residents served, etc.)

Two property tax abatements were offered during the past decade.

We have adopted an Ethics Ordinance and codified our ordinances

We improved the Food Pantry, which during the past few years has tripled the number of residents served and upgraded the quality of food provided

We have responded in a timely fashion to about 360 FOIA requests in the past ten years

We have submitted thousands of passports and sold hundreds of fishing licenses and license plate stickers.

We provide hundreds of programs and trips for seniors and for youth each year

We provide therapy sessions at a reduced cost

Our General Assistance Department provides cash benefits and other assistance to needy residents

We have assisted numerous residents with property tax appeals and ensure that all residents receive the proper exemptions

Our Recovery Connection program assists those struggling with addiction

X. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?

A resident suggested that garbage pick-ups could be made more efficient if all residents put their trash on one side of the street so that the garage truck only had to go down the street once. We will need to discuss this suggestion with garbage pick-up services.

XI. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

We can try to let more residents know about the services we offer.

XII. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

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

- The average local government in Illinois serves 1800 residents compared to the national median of 2850 individuals
- We, like most townships in Illinois, have no bonded indebtedness. Together with road districts they are an integral element of local democracy. Township expenditures have grown at a lower rate than those of any other level of government since 1992.


Townships have lower labor costs and often employ mostly part time employees.

Townships are local accessible government body which provides in-person service to its residents. Residents know and trust our employees.

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

We continue to work on accessibility and accountability. All financial information is available on our website.

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

Submitted by: 
Karen Dimond, Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee of Maine Township

Date: February 29, 2024