

**TOWNSHIP REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES  
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT  
Townships and Road District JOINT REPORT  
(See 50 ILCS 70/10(b-5) / Public Act 102-1136)**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

WALSHVILLE TOWNSHIP & WALSHVILLE TWP. ROAD & BRIDGE

We are a local government that levies a tax, other than a municipality or county, therefore, filing this report. Walshville Twp. Road District has a population of less than 400,000, therefore the highway commissioner has formed a joint committee with Walshville Township to prepare one combined report.

II. Information about our Township

- A. We are located in Montgomery County. There are 19 townships in our county.
- B. There are 36.7 square miles in Walshville Township.
- C. The population of Walshville Township is 353, as of the ACS 2022 Census Data.
- D. There are 143 households in Walshville Township and 144 housing units available.
- E. The Median Household age is 39.8 and the Median Household Income is \$78,875.00 by Census Report dated October, 2024.
- F. Our annual budget for the Town Fund for FY23-24 is: \$49,507.50.  
Our annual budget for the General Assistance Fund for FY23-24 is: \$21,000.00.  
Our annual budget for the Road & Bridge Fund for FY23-24 is: \$409,350.00.
- G. Our Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2023 is: \$15,279,744.00
- H. We have zero employees of the Township (not including elected officials).
- I. We have zero employees in our Road District (not including elected officials).

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Township Supervisor – Eric Barnsback  
Township Highway Commissioner – Kenneth Pezold  
Township Clerk – Teresa Pezold  
Township Trustee – Freddy Wesson  
Township Trustee – David Eilert  
Township Trustee – Charlie Roche  
Township Trustee – Andrew Miller  
Township Resident – Gary Sewing (Supervisor Appointment)  
Township Resident – Dennis Heeren (Supervisor Appointment)  
Appointed Member – Douglas Pezold (Highway Comm. Appointment)

Note: Per 50 ILCS 70/10(b), the committee membership includes all the elected members of the township board (Supervisor, Clerk and Trustees), two residents appointed by the Supervisor and one member appointed by the Highway Commissioner.

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

- First (Organizational) Meeting: May 9, 2023
- Second Meeting: February 13, 2024
- Third Meeting: October 12, 2024

IV. Programs Offered by our Township.

A. Our Township offers the following services and programs:

- General Assistance Program
- Emergency Assistance Program
- Ride Assistance for Senior and Disabled Residents

B. Other services/programs we could possibly provide:

- Elderly Assistance
- Youth Mentoring
- Back To School Supply Program
- Property Beautification
- Military – Veteran’s Recognition for Service
- Thanksgiving Food Baskets for all who Apply
- Christmas Food Baskets for all who Apply
- Easter Food Baskets for all who Apply

V. Social Service Agreements

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

**Entity:**

**Services Provided:**

- 1. C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corp.      Public Transportation Provider

B. Our residents have benefitted from these agreements in the following ways:  
Transportation at no cost to low-income and disabled residents of Walshville Township

- 2. Village Hall of Walshville      Election Site for Walshville Township

VI. Intergovernmental Agreements

A. We partner with, or have Intergovernmental Agreements, with the following other Governments:

Entity: North Litchfield Township      Services Offered: General Assistance Recordkeeping

Our Township's efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way: We rely on the expertise of the General Assistance Secretary of North Litchfield Township because the size of our township is small and we have no employees in our township office. By utilizing the talents of the General Assistance Secretary of North Litchfield Township, we are able to be more efficient with the needs of the Public for General Assistance in our Township.

Entity: Multi-Township Tax Assessment Services Offered: Shared Tax Assessor Expense

Our Township shares the cost of a Property Tax Assessor with Grisham Township and East Fork Township, because we are all small townships with small, or no, villages in our boundaries. This eliminates a large expense for each township involved.

VII. Programs Offered by our Road & Bridge Dept. in Walshville Township.

- A. Street Maintenance
- B. Bridge Maintenance
- C. Sign Maintenance
- D. Ditch and Culvert Maintenance
- E. Equipment and Fleet Maintenance
- F. Equipment and Fleet Storage

B. Our Township's Road & Bridge Dept. efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way:

C.

D. Montgomery County Highway Dept                      MFT Allotment & Signage Ordering

E. 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):

### What Have We Done Well?

Our Township's efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way: We have no Township employees, full-time or part-time, therefore we rely on the expertise of the General Assistance Secretary of the North Litchfield Township because of the size of our township. By utilizing the talents of the General Assistance Secretary of North Litchfield Township, we are able to be more efficient with the needs of the Public for General Assistance in our township.

- G. Our only office expense is our Power Bill of less than \$63.00/ month.
- H. Highway Commissioner inspects the roads of the township in his own personal vehicle at no expense to the township.
- I. Highway Commissioner picks up Trash and Debris along Rural Roads.
- J. Highway Commissioner cleans up roads and bridges after storm damage.
- K. Highway Commissioner repairs and replaces culverts and clears ditches for proper drainage.
- L. Highway Commissioner mows and maintains road shoulders and ditches.
- M. Highway Commissioner oils and applies chips to areas of the roads with the help of the oil provider yearly.
- N. Highway Commissioner maintains the 41 miles of Township Roadways as needed.
- O. Township Trustees help with Road Maintenance when oiling and chipping takes place, when storm damage occurs and when snow removal needs to be done.
- P. Highway Commissioner stores all road equipment at his home in dry, covered storage and provides his own electricity for charging batteries, maintaining, repairing and cleaning equipment with his own tools, welder and air compressor – all at zero expense to the township.
- Q. All Township Roads are in good to excellent condition. Maintenance is done in a timely manner when an unsafe condition is found.
- R. The Bridges of Walshville Township are inspected by the State of Illinois, and repaired as needed.
- S. FOIA Officer handles FOIA Inquiries in a timely manner, as they arise.
- T. Township Supervisor froze levy on some tax categories because a draw was not taken from the accounts.
- U. Highway Commissioner installed a culvert for access to a cemetery within the township.
- V. Highway Commissioner gave 4 loads of rock for driveway of Kirkland Cemetery in the township.

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

- G. Elderly Assistance
- H. Youth Mentoring
- I. Back To School Supply Program
- J. Property Beautification
- K. Military – Veteran's Recognition for Service
- L. Thanksgiving Food Baskets for all who Apply
- M. Christmas Food Baskets for all who Apply
- N. Easter Food Baskets for all who Apply

O. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

We feel we are running a very lean operation with expenses lower than any other local Townships we have checked with, in Montgomery County, Macoupin County and Madison County. We are proud to do upkeep of the township with little to no expense for the tax-payers.

P. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

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

- Walshville Township serves 353 residents. The average local government in Illinois serves 1,800 residents.
- 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.
- Walshville Township employs no full-time or part-time employees, therefore we have no labor costs. As a whole, Illinois Townships generally have low labor expenses.

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

- 1.) Watch for grants available through the State and Federal Government to eliminate some of our operating expenses, as they become available.
- 2.) We would like to offer a safe community place for residents in the event of an emergency. Plans for a Township Building are in the works in the near future.

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

Submitted by:



Eric Brarnsback - Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee of Walshville Township

Date:

November 12, 2024