

Local Government Consolidation and Efficiency Act  
Town of Freeport Decennial Committee Report  
February 6, 2023

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ADMINISTRATION

Public Act 101-1088 tasks local governments with forming a Decennial Committee to study local efficiencies, accountability and consolidations and follow through with a report with their recommendations to be filed with the County Clerk.

Findings of the Town of Freeport Decennial Committee:

Town of Freeport consists of a Clerk, Trustees, Supervisor, Assessor along with staff to assist in the daily office operations due to statutory mandates, as well as, additional services provided to the Town's citizens. Town of Freeport does not have a Road Commissioner.

Efficiencies – The Town of Freeport, Supervisor, Assessor, Clerk, under the watchful eye of the Trustees, are very careful to prevent wasteful use of resources and/or spending. The Town maintains a budget in line with the needed resources to operate and provide the Towns citizens with needed programs and services. In addition to Statutory requirements, both the Supervisor and Assessor provide the Towns citizens through grants and informational mailings services that are not provided elsewhere.

Accountability – The Town of Freeport is accountable to the public by its transparency.

- In addition to the Town Meeting open to the public they can be streamed online via the Supervisor's website.
- The Trustees monitor and approve budgets, expenditures and contracts.
- The Towns Funds are audited every year.
- FOIA requests are responded to as quickly as possible
- Meeting Agendas, Minutes, etc.. are available via the Supervisor's website
- Property Data is available via the Assessor's website

Consolidation – This Committee has found consolidation is not feasible at this time.

- Town of Freeport does not have a Road District, whereas, all other Townships in Stephenson County do.
- The Town Supervisor currently assists most rural Townships with applications and distribution of general assistance for individuals that qualify. Rural Township reimburse Town of Freeport for this service.
- The Town could possibly, in the future, contract with other Townships to assess properties within their jurisdiction. However, this would be an added expense for the Town as additional staff and equipment would be required to accommodate this additional undertaking. Currently, rural Townships have a contract with an individual holding the CIAO designation and/or with Stephenson County to collect and value properties outside Freeport Township.

This concludes the Report by the 2023 Decennial Committee for the Town of Freeport.

Dated: 2-6-23



Supervisor



Assessor



Attestation