

MCHENRY TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT Decennial Committee Meeting October 1, 2024

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF MCHENRY       S.S.  
TOWNSHIP OF MCHENRY  
ROAD DISTRICT

Decennial Committee Meeting  
MINUTES,  
October 1, 2024

Highway Commissioner Jim Condon called the meeting to order at Whispering Hills in Johnsborg, Il at the published and posted time of 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Highway Commissioner Jim Condon here, Administrative Assistant Kristi Thompson here, Don Tonyan here, Steve Freund here and Joe Meyer here, 0 Public. (we would like to note Joe Meyer was not able to attend the May 31. 2023 meeting since he had a prior engagement to attend that day)

Highway Commissioner Jim Condon called for public comment. None.

Highway Commissioner Jim Condon initiated discussions regarding new business matters, starting with a review of the Cox Report. This important document analyzes the relationship between the size of government and its impact on taxation and per capita spending. It was noted that Illinois ranks 13th in the number of government agencies, in contrast to states like Maryland and Hawaii, which have fewer agencies but higher tax rates. The report was emailed to all members for their review and insights.

The next topic of discussion focused on Payroll and Budget Information, which revealed payroll as the most significant expense for the township. A comparison of payroll and positions among neighboring municipalities—including the City of McHenry, Village of Lakemoor, Village of Johnsborg, and McHenry County Department of Transportation—provided valuable information. It was highlighted that the City of McHenry and MDOT operate under union agreements, while the Village of Johnsborg is a non-union entity and the union status of the Village of Lakemoor remains uncertain. Notably, McHenry Township's employee compensation is competitive with other townships. Additionally, following the next election, the Highway Commissioner's salary is set to increase to \$113,000. Payroll data for all 17 townships was also shared with members for further analysis.

The agenda then transitioned to the discussion on Road District efficiencies and inefficiencies. Notable efficiencies within the townships include IGA agreements for mowing and snow plowing, as well as shared resources for boom mowing and trimming projects. The township's ongoing drainage projects, which require minimal excavation, have successfully reduced cost on contractor services. Community Block Grants (CBG) are being utilized for sewer improvements and other infrastructure enhancements in lower-income subdivisions. Salt purchases are conducted through bulk bidding to maximize savings. However, an inefficiency is the county not hiring townships to plow roads routinely traversed while going to township routes. A proposal for the county to delegate plowing responsibilities for these two-lane roads to the townships was suggested, aiming to eliminate inefficiencies in travel and operational logistics.

In conclusion, an email will be sent to all members detailing the budget, payroll specifics, and recommendations for operational improvements.

Next meeting set for November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Don Tonyan motioned for adjournment at 7:55 PM, a motion seconded by Steve Freund. All in favor and conclusion of the meeting.