



HOMER TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY REPORT

Decennial Committee Members

Chairperson

Vince Colabelli

vcolabelli@homerfire.org

Trustees

Ken Fijan

kfijan@homerfire.org

Stephanie Mitchell

kmitchell@homerfire.org

District Staff

Fire Chief

Kevin Doyle

kdoyle@homerfire.org

Deputy Chief

Dave Bricker

dbricker@homerfire.org

Community Members

Dave Haywood

Jon Sochacki



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A Message from Chairperson Vince Colabelli

In June 2022, the Illinois General Assembly passed the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act, (50ILCS 70/1). This act directed all units of local government to form a committee within one year to examine internal efficiencies and report recommendations regarding those efficiencies and accountability to their respective County Boards. Our Committee, directed by the same legislation, consisted of the Board of Trustees, the Fire Chief, and two District residents. In addition, our Deputy Fire Chief was appointed to the committee. Each member of the committee, including the appointed residents, served in a voluntary capacity with it's central guiding principle of improving our Fire District. Our committee's charge was to examine all facets of the Fire District's operations including, but not lim-

ited to, the study of the our governing statutes, ordinances, rules and procedures. In addition, we also analyzed our governing powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other governmental units and the State. In addition to making recommendations to improve efficiencies and accountability, this report will highlight areas in which we believe our District is exceptionally accountable, efficient, transparent, and responsible stewards of taxpayers money. On behalf of our Committee, thank you for the opportunity to serve our great community and to present this comprehensive report detailing our efficiencies and recommendations for improvement.



PROUDLY SERVING THE CITIZENS OF THESE GREAT COMMUNITIES

HOMER GLEN

HOMER TOWNSHIP

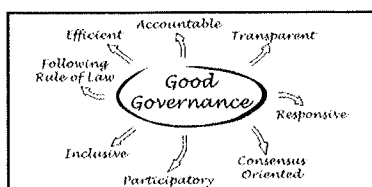
LOCKPORT

I. Introduction

The Homer Township Fire Protection District was incorporated in 1958. Prior to our District's formation, firefighting services were provided by neighboring volunteer fire department's. Local leaders soon realized that to provide residents with improved services, they needed a fire department dedicated to serving the residents of Homer Township. Over the next several months and years, our first fire station was built by volunteers and fire trucks were purchased by donations from residents. Over the next seven decades, dedicated public servants and residents have transformed a small volunteer department into a premier emergency services organization. Our highly-trained, professional firefighter/paramedics respond to over two-thousand emergency calls every year.



II. Governing Board's



Fire protection district's within the State of Illinois are governed by a Board of Trustees and a Board Of Fire Commissioners. The Illinois Fire Protection District Act (70 ILCS 705/1) mandates that the Board of Trustees is the corporate authority of the fire protection district and shall exercise all of the powers and control of the fire district. The board of trustees has full power to pass all necessary ordinances, and

rules and regulations for the proper management of the fire protection district. The board of trustees has the legal duty and obligation to provide adequate protection from fire for all persons and property within the district. The board of trustees has the express power to adopt and enforce fire prevention codes and standards parallel to national standards. Our elected Board of Trustees is comprised of President Vince Colabelli, Treasurer Stephanie Mitchell, and Secretary Ken Fijan. The three Trustees serve staggered terms of two, four, and six years. Board of Trustee meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday at 4:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public and all agendas and minutes are posted on our web site. Our Board of Fire Commissioners perform all hiring, promoting, and certain discipline cases. Like the Board of Trustees, all Board of Fire Commissioner meetings are open to the public and meeting agenda's and minutes are available on our website, www.homerfire.org. For hiring and promoting, the Commissioners perform extensive interviews of all candidates to ensure the District hires the most qualified employees. Our Commissioners are Board Chairperson Charles Challans, Secretary Keith Grey, and Commissioner John McCormack.

III. Committee Details

Our committee was created in May of 2023 pursuant to Illinois statute and District Ordinance 05172023. The ordinance directed the committee to examine internal efficiencies and accountability. Our committee met three times beginning in September of 2023. The committee consisted of members of the Board of Trustees, the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, and two District residents. Our committee examined all facets of the District's operations including governing statutes, ordinances, rules and procedures, services provided, District demographics, and finances. In addition, we also analyzed our jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and relationships with other governmental units. This report highlights recommendations to improve efficiencies and accountability. Also, this report highlights areas in which our District is accountable, efficient, and transparent. We hope our report shows taxpayers that we are dedicated, responsible stewards of taxpayers money. On behalf of our Committee, thank you for the opportunity to serve our great community and to present this comprehensive report detailing our efficiencies and recommendations for improvement.

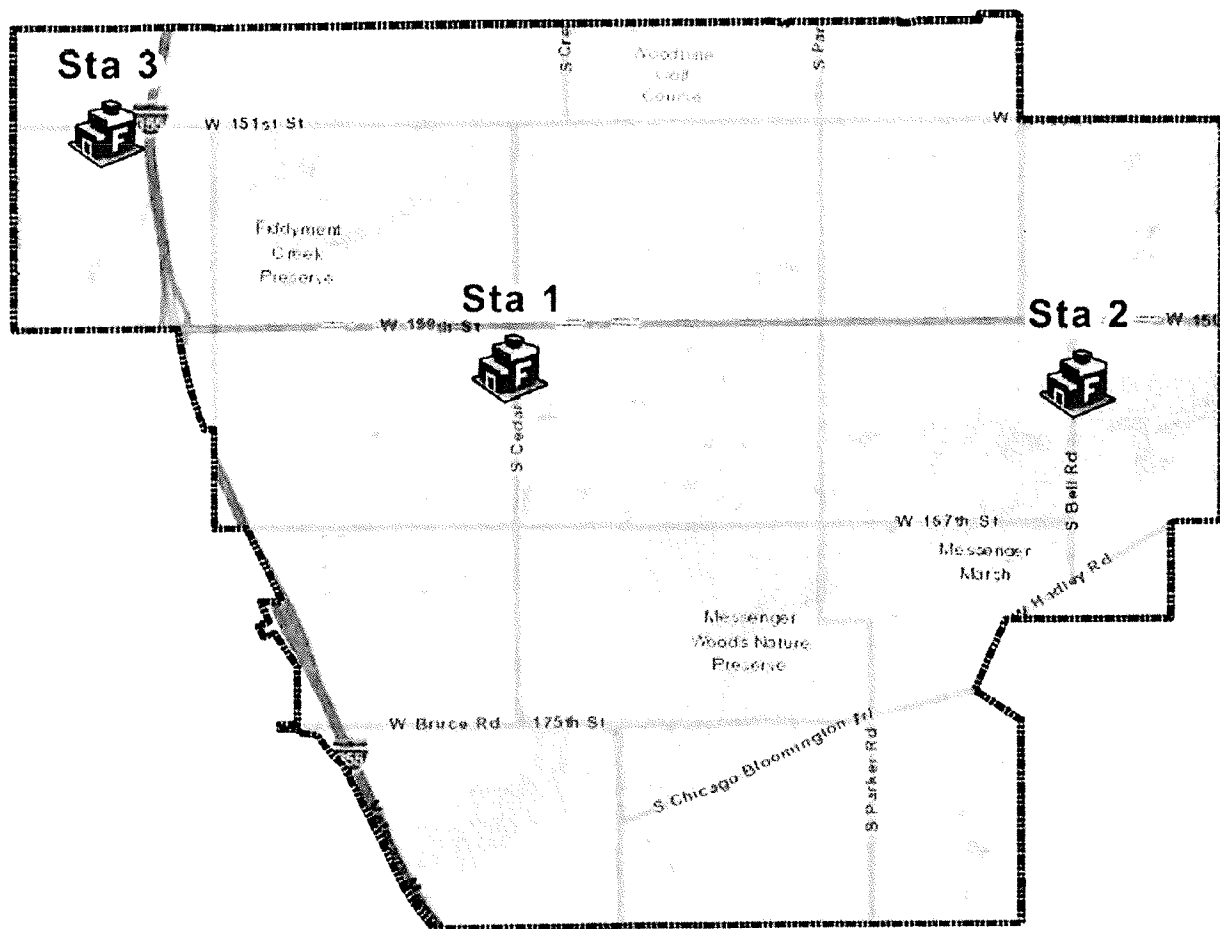
Meeting Dates	
September 20 2023	4:30 pm @ Homer Township Fire District 16050 S. Cedar Rd. Lockport
January 17, 2024	4:45 pm @ Homer Township Fire District 16050 S. Cedar Rd. Lockport
July 17, 2024	4:30 pm @ Homer Township Fire District 16050 S. Cedar Rd. Lockport

IV. District Service Area



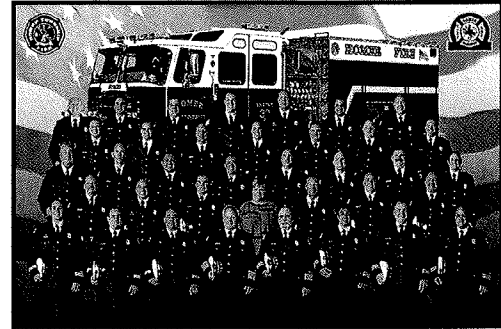
Our service area encompasses several communities, both incorporated and unincorporated, and other special district's, all within Will County. Our District boundaries are generally; 147th St. on the north from Farrell to Bell and 151st from Bell Rd. to Will-Cook Rd. Our southernmost border is 183rd St. Our western border is Farrell from 147th St. to 159th St. and I355 from 159th St. to 183rd St. Our eastern border is Will-Cook Rd. from 151st to 167th St. and Haas Rd. from Hadley Rd. to 183rd St. Our District is 21 square miles within the incorporated Villages of Homer Glen and New Lenox, the City of Lockport and unincorporated Homer Township. There are approx. 1,300 acres of forest preserve s within the boundaries of our District. We also protect 5,500 homes, three-hundred businesses, four elementary schools, an assisted living center and over 121 miles of roadway.

and New Lenox, the City of Lockport and unincorporated Homer Township. There are approx. 1,300 acres of forest preserve s within the boundaries of our District. We also protect 5,500 homes, three-hundred businesses, four elementary schools, an assisted living center and over 121 miles of roadway.



V. Emergency Services

We currently operate from three fire stations strategically located throughout the District. We provide service to approximately 16,500 residents that reside within three communities over 21 square miles. We proudly serve the communities of Homer Glen, Homer Township and the City of Lockport, and a small, undeveloped area of the Village of New Lenox. These communities comprise a diverse mix of single and multi-family residential homes, commercial and light industrial, and offices and warehousing. In addition, we also cover numerous parks and nature and forest preserves.. We also provide emergency services to a large assisted and independent living facility with two additional facilities approved for development. Our District has 36 sworn, full-time personnel and one part-time administrative assistant. Our personnel respond to approximately 2000 requests for emergency service every year. We are an ISO Class 3. Those requests are for numerous types of emergencies including medical and psychological emergencies, vehicle fires and accidents, building fires, hazardous material incidents, water rescues, and technical rescue incidents. Our District is a member of the statewide Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). MABAS offers specialized resources anywhere in our District once the Governor orders a Declaration of Disaster. That declaration mobilizes 40 specialized operations teams for hazardous materials, underwater rescue/recovery, technical rescue, and urban search and rescue team.



Station Locations	
St.#31	16050 S. Cedar Rd. Lockport, Il.
St.#32	16130 S. Bell Rd. Homer Glen,
St.#33	16415 W. 151st St Lockport, Il.

Total Emergency Calls		
Total	Medical	Fire
2023	1121	935
2022	1023	928
2021	1093	963

Apparatus	Station
Eng 31	31
Eng 32	32
Eng 33	33
Eng 34	32
A31	31
A32	32
A33	33
A34	32
Tender 31	31
Brush 32	32
BC 31	31
Utility 31	31
Utility 32	32
Utility 33	33

District Mission Statement:

"The Homer Township Fire Protection District is Committed to Protecting our Community with Pride and Dedication by Providing the Highest Level of Emergency Service, with Professionalism and Respect, to Every Citizen in Their Time of Need and Proudly Upholding our Tradition of Making House Calls Since 1958"

"Our kids love to see and talk with our local firefighters when they come to our school. The message they teach our preschoolers is so important. Of course, everyone loves to see the firefighters dress up in their gear when delivering their message of fire safety. Thanks to all of the amazing firefighters and paramedics from the Homer Township Fire Department. You are awesome."

Amy Kielczynski—Butterfly Gardens Preschool

VI. Services & Programs

Our Fire District offers numerous services to serve our residents, business owners and students throughout our communities. These services, both traditional and non-traditional, are singularly focused on improving the lives of our residents through reactive and proactive programs. Our programs are delivered by every member of our organization to every demographic within our community. From medical emergencies to bldg. fires, from patient lift assists to auto extrication, from burn prevention to fire prevention inspections, we are more than an all-hazards emergency services organization. We are an all-services organization that focuses as much on proactive prevention as we do on reactive emergencies. Below is an example of many of the services that we proudly offer residents, business owners, and students;

Response Services	
Ambulance Requests	Odor Investigations
All Fire Responses	Power Lines Down
Hazardous Mat Response	Elevator Rescues
Water Rescues	Specialty Rescues
Auto Accidents	Gas Leaks
Patient Lift Assists	Animal Rescues

Programs	
Fire Inspections	Smoke Det. Installation
Plan Review	Birthday Parties
CPR & AED	Block Parties
Stop the Bleed	Village Festivals
Baby Sitting	Fire Exting. Training
Station Tours	Fire Safety in Schools

V. Demographics

Our Fire District's demographics are fairly similar across the three developed communities that we serve and across all 21 square miles. We protect 16,500 people living in 5,500 households. The median age of our residents is 42 years old. Persons over the age of 65 account for 13.2% of our total population but account for 42% of all emergency responses. The majority of calls for service for residents > 65 years of age is at Marion Village, an assisted/independent living facility. Children under the age of 5 years old comprise 6.2% of our population and account for <.5% of all calls. 97% of all residents are U.S. citizens. The median household income is \$105,906 and the median home price is \$382,600



20.9

AREA IN SQUARE MILES



16,500

TOTAL POPULATION



5,505

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS



2,172

OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE



1,009

UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE



\$105,906

MEDIAN INCOME

VII. Financial Information

The Homer Township Fire Protection District was incorporated in 1958. What began as a predominantly rural farming community has become a vibrant community of diverse residential, commercial, mercantile, industrial, and warehousing facilities. Despite this decades long growth, our communities have still maintained a level of small town pride with a rural atmosphere. This growth, although slower than many of our neighbors, has allowed us to increase staffing, add or improve facilities, and maintain a state of the art fleet over 65 year history. Like all District's, we derive the vast majority of revenue from local property taxes. The tax revenue we receive is based on the equalized assessed value (EAV) of all property within our District. Once property values are determined, Will County calculates our limiting rate that provides our District with the requested tax revenue. In addition to the limiting rate, our tax revenue is also subject to a PTELL reduction factor which limits our tax revenue to the lower of 5% or the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Additional sources of revenue that we have are ambulance billing, inspection fees, permit fees, personal property replacement taxes, and others. The figures below and on page six are;

- Figure #1 Historical CPI, EAV, & Tax Rate
- Figure #2 Taxing Districts as Total Percent of Tax Bills
- Figure #3 Historical Levy Information, Extension,, EAV, and Total Revenue
- Figure #4 (page #7) 2023 Total Revenue
- Figure #5 (page #7) 2023 Total Expenses

Figure #1

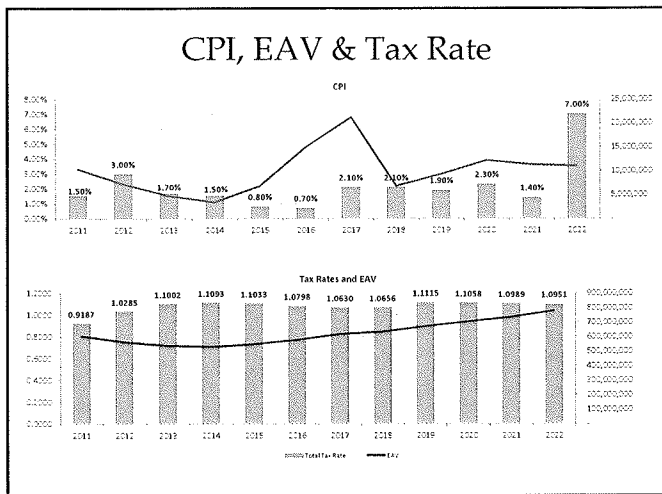


Figure #2

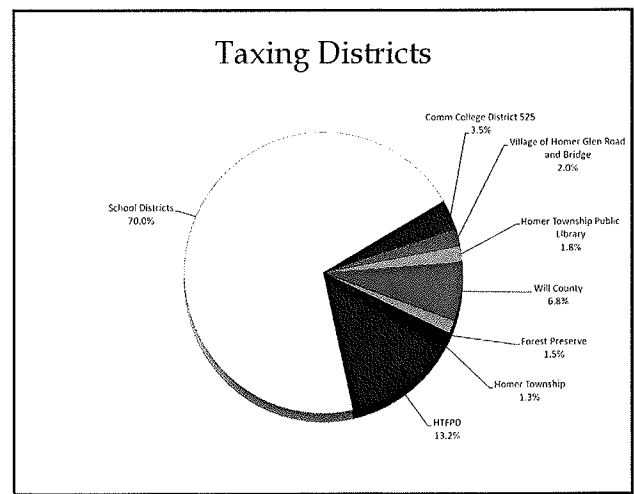


Figure #3

Levy Year	Fiscal Year	Extension	Limiting Rate	EAV	Total Revenue
2023	2024	\$8,465,252	1.0111	\$837,232,020	\$11,580,917
2022	2023	\$7,917,558	1.0162	\$779,133,844	\$10,132,150
2021	2022	\$7,433,878	1.0138	\$733,268,744	\$10,132,150
2020	2021	\$7,218,340	1.0272	\$702,720,000	\$8,803,497
2019	2020	\$6,934,295	1.0316	\$672,188,252	\$8,703,588
2018	2019	\$6,711,210	1.0572	\$634,809,885	\$7,454,955

Revenues

Figure #4

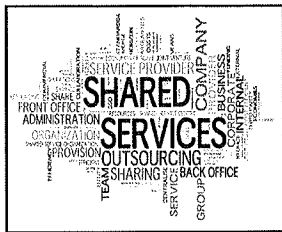
Account Description	Total Actual	Total Budget	% of Budget	Last Year	Inc/(Dec) from Last Year
Property Tax	8,504,167	8,479,016	100%	8,035,935	6%
PPRT	105,089	80,000	131%	126,315	-17%
Interest	183,689	30,000	612%	24,000	665%
Mokena	10,000	10,000	100%	10,000	0%
Insurance Reimbursements	637	7,000	9%	8,156	-92%
Inspection/Permit Fees	12,385	5,000	248%	8,933	39%
Salary Reimbursement	78,667	92,000	86%	196,335	-60%
Impact Fees	20,000	25,000	80%	38,250	-48%
Ambulance Fees	1,001,785	885,000	113%	871,120	15%
Marion Village	180,000	180,000	100%	180,000	0%
Plan Review Fees	3,040	3,000	101%	9,256	-67%
Grants	214,934	3,000	7164%	44,995	378%
Loan Proceeds	-	-	0%	1,997,500	-100%
Fire Recovery USA	15,234	11,000	138%	11,275	35%
Misc.	4,946	-	0%	3,659	35%
Unrealized Gains/Losses	(3,741)	-	0%	-	0%
Sale of Surplus	-	1,000	0%	150	-100%
Transfer-In	539,034	539,034	100%	563,769	-4%
Actual Revenues	10,869,866	10,350,050	105%	12,129,649	-10%
Budgeted Revenues	10,350,050				
% Diff	105%				

Expenditures

Figure #5

Account Description	Total Actual	Total Budget	% of Budget	Last Year	Inc/(Dec) from Last Year
OPERATING EXPENDITURES					
Salaries	4,039,207	4,123,510	98%	4,100,320	-1%
Overtime	1,084,243	660,000	164%	955,089	14%
Holiday Pay	203,293	192,000	106%	198,856	2%
Health Insurance	939,434	1,062,600	88%	868,974	8%
Social Security	75,498	75,000	101%	72,495	4%
WC & Liability Insurance	430,585	380,000	113%	315,823	36%
Personnel	9,482	30,000	32%	19,897	-52%
Contractual	736,664	1,214,985	61%	584,596	26%
Commodities	164,863	298,550	55%	160,575	3%
Actual Expenditures	8,528,736	8,871,645	96%	8,120,811	5%
Budgeted Expenditures	8,871,645				
% Diff	96%				
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES & DEBT SERVICE					
Capital	1,159,792	2,124,235	55%	226,934	411%
Debt Service	693,754	700,000	99%	695,540	0%
Transfer Out	539,034	539,034	100%	563,769	-4%
Actual Expenditures	2,392,581	3,363,269	71%	1,486,243	61%
Budgeted Expenditures	3,363,269				
% Diff	71%				

VIII. Intergovernmental Agreements & Shared Services



Our Fire District has been a preeminent leader among area governmental agencies regarding intergovernmental agreements, shared services, functional consolidation, and partnerships. Our District is dedicated to identifying areas of inefficiency and working diligently to reduce or eliminate these inefficiencies through agreements, shared services and partnerships. The District recognizes that collaboration is essential to our organization's success. We have worked persistently with our municipal partners, our neighboring fire districts, Will County, the State of

Illinois, IEMA, Il. State Fire Marshal, FEMA, MABAS, and others to help provide exceptional emergency services to our residents and to control costs. Without these partnerships, services would be profoundly diminished and costs would increase precipitously. Taxpayers would truly be *"getting less with more."* Below are agencies that we have intergovernmental agreements, shared services, and partnerships with;

- Village of Homer Glen
- City of Lockport
- Lockport Fire Protection District
- Mokena Fire Protection District
- Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Illinois (MABAS)
- MABAS Division 19
- Combined Agency Response Team (CART)
- Illinois State Fire Marshal
- Will County ETSB
- Will County 911
- Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
- Will County Fire Chiefs
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts (IAFPD)
- Northern Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency
- Federal Emergency Management Agency



HOMER GLEN
YOU KNOW YOU'RE HOME



IX. Governing Statutes, Ordinances

Illinois Fire District's are governed by many laws and statutes mandated by federal, state, and local governments. Many of these mandates are unfunded and place an undo financial burden on fire districts and their taxpayers. But, these laws and statutes must be followed. In addition to laws and statutes, our Board of Trustees has the legal authority to pass local ordinances that give power to the Board to make decisions and direct other agencies, businesses, and employees to comply with the ordinances. Examples of many of the statutes we comply with and ordinances we have passed and enforce are listed below. There are many more ordinances that are available for public access and review.

GOVERNING STATUTES

- Fire Protection District Act
- Illinois Open Meetings (OMA)
- Illinois Freedom of Information Act
- State Officials and Employees Ethics Act
- Firefighters Disciplinary Act
- Fire Department Promotion Act
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Occupational Safety and Health Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Family Medical Leave Act
- Health Insurance & Portability Act

DISTRICT ORDINANCES

- Cert Of Compliance—Truth in Taxation
- Charging Non-Residents for Emer. Response
- Ordinance Fixing the Budget & Appropriations
- Ordinance Levying & Assessing Taxes
- Ordinance Creating Decennial Committee
- Ordinance for IGA with MABAS 22
- Ordinance Approving Reduction in Force
- Ordinance Adopting Family First Act—COVID
- Ordinance Creating Foreign Fire Board
- Ordinance to Annex Certain Territory
- Ordinance to Adopt Fire Code

X. Policies, Rules, & Procedures

In addition to statutes and ordinances, our District adopts rules and procedures ensure compliance with local, state, and federal laws. Examples of policies, rules, and procedures and how we have complied are listed below.

Policies and Rules	
Title	Date Enacted
Public Comment Policy	2019
Sexual Harassment Policy	2020
Employee Handbook Policy	2017
Board of Trustees Manual	2019
Drug and Alcohol Policy	2023
IDOL Mandated Policies	2010
Grant Management Reporting	2023

Procedures	
Title	Conclusion
FOIA Forms & Procedures	Web Site
Semi-Annual Review of Closed Board Minutes	Completed
Trustees Filed Statement of Econ. Interests	Filed
Post/File OSHA 300 Notice	Posted
NFIRS Compliance	Completed

XI. Training

Training Title	Comply	Non-Comply
Board Member Open Meetings Act	X	
FOIA Officer Training	X	
Sexual Harassment Prevention Training	X	

XII. Open Meetings Act Officer, FOIA Officer, Auditing Official

Officer Title	Officer Name
Open Meetings Act Officer	Trustees
FOIA Officer	Kevin Doyle, Dave Bricker, Carrie Wojcik
Auditing Official	N/A

XIII. Board Meeting Dates

2024 Meeting Dates	
January 17	July 17
February 21	August 21
March 20	September 18
April 17	October 16
May 15	November 20
June 19	December 18

XIV. Financial Reports

Financial Reports	Findings	Compliance
Treasurer Statement of Receipts & Disbursements	None	Yes
Annual Audit	None	Yes
Annual Financial Reports	None	Yes

XV. Cost Savings Measure

Cost Savings Measure	Cost	Savings
Refurbished Current Fire Engine vs. New Purchase	\$320,000	\$800,000
Refurbished Current Ambulance vs. New Purchase	\$210,000	\$220,000
Elimination of Full-Time Admin .Positions	\$56,000	\$32,000
Elimination of Full-Time Financial Director	\$140,000	\$72,000
Remodeling of Fire Stations #31 & 32 by On-Duty Personnel	\$52,000	\$126,000
Reduced Fuel Consumption Measures	\$14,000	\$8,200
Aggressive Grant Applications	\$0	\$132,000
Consolidated Dispatch	\$106,800	\$550,000
Part-Time Training Officer	\$26,000	\$160,000
Total Savings		\$2,100,200

XVI. Transparency

Our District is fully transparent within every division. Every District document is available for public access and review via our web site and/or Freedom of Information request. Below is a list of documents that are available for review on our web site at www.homerfire.org

Information	On web site
Staff Directory	Yes
Board of Trustees Names	No
Board of Trustees Meeting Dates	Yes
District Overview & Map	Yes
Freedom of Information Forms	Yes
Board of Trustees Agendas & Minutes	Yes
Board of Fire Commissioners Agendas & Minutes	Yes
Services Offered to Public	Yes

XVII. Accountability and Efficiency Strengths

Our District has made tremendous strides over the past five years to increase to improve efficiency at every level, in every division. Our cost-saving measures have made an extraordinary impact on our emergency services delivery, vehicle fleet, and our facilities, and financial stability and viability.

- Minimal Firefighter/Paramedic Staffing
- Contracted Accounting & Payroll Services
- Contracted Accounts Payable Services
- Elimination of Administrative Positions
- Part-Time Admin. Assistant Position
- Increased Ambulance Billing
- GEMT Participation
- Aggressive Investment of District Funds
- Consolidated Dispatch
- Consolidated Specialty Teams
- Facility Maint. Performed by On-Duty Personnel
- Balanced Budget
- In-House IT Services
- Firefighting Gear Sharing
- Refurbished Equipment
- Inspection & Plan Review Fees
- Purchasing Policy
- Impact Fees
- Aggressive Grant Applications
- Combined Dispatch Services
- Shared Reserve Apparatus
- Part-Time Training Staff
- Consolidated Vehicle Maintenance
- Highly Trained, Dedicated Workers

XVIII. Cadet Program

In an effort to give young District residents an opportunity to be exposed to firefighting and emergency medicine, we have created a cadet program for these young people. Our program has six cadets ranging in age from 16-18. They meet every Saturday to learn new lifelong skills. Cadets participate in classroom learning, practical skills education, and are given an opportunity to ride along with firefighters to emergency calls. This program accomplishes two important things; exposing young people to an exciting new vocation and giving our District a pool of potential young candidates to hire in the future. Our current cadet class is our first but certainly not our last. We expect to sponsor a cadet class every year going forward.

XVIX. Opportunities for Improved Efficiency

Every organization can and should strive to identify areas of improvement and growth. While we are proud of the progress we have made, we continually strive for efficiency excellence in every area of our organization. We are proud stewards of taxpayer money while constantly examining how to improve service with the resources we have. In our quest for constant improvement, we have identified fourteen opportunities that we believe we can immediately improve upon. These fourteen opportunities are;

- Combined Vehicle Purchasing
- Combined Turnout Gear Purchasing
- Improve Community Outreach
- Increase Shared Services Among Fire District Partners
- Increase Interagency Training
- Investigate Opportunities for Fuel Cost Savings
- Improve Firefighter Health & Safety
- Reduce Workers Compensation Costs by Implementing Aggressive Safety Programs
- Investigate Increased Functional Consolidation
- Expand Robust Apparatus Refurbishment Program
- Investigate Opportunities for Utility Savings
- Improve Mental Health Awareness for Employees
- Recruitment and Retention Initiatives to Ensure a Resilient, Well-Trained Workforce
- Continue Funding of Consolidated Specialty Teams

XX. Conclusions

Our committee, created in May of 2023, met three times beginning in September of 2023. Our committee examined all facets of the District's operations including governing statutes and ordinances, rules and procedures, services provided, demographics, and finances . In addition, we also analyzed our jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and relationships with other governmental units. Our committee has concluded that we have, and continue, to provide exceptional service to all of our residents, business owners, and students. We also, through this process and through robust financial management systems, provide our taxpayers with confidence and assurance that we continually strive to be accountable, transparent, and efficient. Although perfection is our goal, we understand that there are always opportunities for growth and improvement. This committee has identified ways in which we are exceptionally efficient, accountable, and transparent. We have also identified fourteen areas in which we will strive for improvement. On behalf of our Committee, thank you for the opportunity to serve our great community and to present this comprehensive report.

Documents Included in This Report
Ordinance 05172023 - An Ordinance Creating and Authorizing a Committee Pursuant to the Decennial Committee's on Local Government Efficiency Act
September 20, 2023 Committee Meeting Agenda & Minutes
January 17, 2024 Committee Meeting Agenda & Minutes
July 17, 2024 Committee Meeting Agenda & Minutes

**HOMER TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY ACT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
September 20, 2023 @ 4:45 p.m.
St #1: 16050 S Cedar Road**

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Roll Call**
- 3) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4) **Public Comments: (3 minute limit)**
- 5) **Study of Local Government Efficiencies**
- 6) **Setting Date of Next Meeting**
- 7) **Adjournment**

**HOMER TOWNSHIP PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT
MINUTES OF THE DECENNIAL MEETING
September 20, 2023 at 4:45 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Trustee Colabelli called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

In attendance were Trustees Colabelli, Mitchell and Fijan, Chief Doyle, Deputy Chief Bricker, John Sochacki and Dave Haywood

Also in attendance: Carrie Wojcik, B/C Doug Mayer and FF Andy Hansen

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Trustee Colabelli led the pledge to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

STUDY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCIES:

Chief Doyle presented a power point with an overview of:

- Why we are here
- What is our charge
- The general rules
- Who we serve
- How we serve
- Finances
- District map

SETTING DATES OF NEXT MEETING:

The committee agreed to the following meeting dates:

January 17, 2024

June 19, 2023

December 18, 2024 (if needed)

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

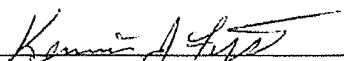
Trustee Mitchell made a motion to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Trustee Fijan 2nd

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Fijan, Secretary/Trustee

**HOMER TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY ACT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
January 17, 2024 @ 4:45 p.m.
St #1: 16050 S Cedar Road**

- 1) Call to Order**
- 2) Roll Call**
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4) Public Comments: (3 minute limit)**
- 5) Approval of Minutes**
 - a. September 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 6) Study of Local Government Efficiencies**
- 7) Adjournment**

**HOMER TOWNSHIP PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT
MINUTES OF THE DECENNIAL MEETING
January 17, 2024 at 4:45 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Trustee Colabelli called the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

In attendance were Trustees Colabelli and Fijan, Chief Doyle, Deputy Chief Bricker, John Sochacki and Dave Haywood via zoom

Also in attendance: Carrie Wojcik

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Trustee Colabelli led the pledge to the flag

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Fijan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 20, 2023

Trustee Colabelli 2nd

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried

STUDY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCIES:

Deputy Chief Bricker presented a power point with an overview of Operations:

- History
- Response History
- Specialty Responses
- Current Responses
- Current Shared Services
- Calls

Chief Doyle presented an overview of the Finances:

- EAV
- Tax Rates (Limiting Rate)
- PTELL
- Annual Levy
- Pension Fund
- Review of the agency Tax Reports
- Financial Efficiencies

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

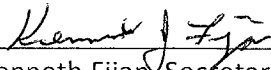
Trustee Colabelli made a motion to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

John Sochacki 2nd

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Fijan, Secretary/Trustee

**HOMER TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY ACT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
July 17, 2024 @ 4:45 p.m.
St #1: 16050 S Cedar Road**

- 1) Call to Order**
- 2) Roll Call**
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4) Public Comments: (3 minute limit)**
- 5) Approval of Minutes**
 - a. January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 6) Presentation and Approval of Final Report**
- 7) Adjournment**

**HOMER TOWNSHIP PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT
MINUTES OF THE DECENNIAL MEETING
July 17, 2024 at 4:45 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Trustee Colabelli called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

In attendance were Trustees Colabelli, Mitchell and Fijan, Chief Doyle, Jon Sochacki and Dave Haywood

Also in attendance: Carrie Wojcik

Absent: Deputy Chief Bricker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Trustee Colabelli led the pledge to the flag

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Fijan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 20, 2023
Committee Member Dave Haywood 2nd

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried

PRESENTATION OF FINAL REPORT:

Chief Doyle presented the Final Report to the Committee.

The Homer Township Fire Protection District's Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency approved the Final Report for Submission

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Trustee Colabelli made a motion to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Committee Member Jon Sochacki 2nd

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried

ORDINANCE NO. 05-17-2023-01

AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND AUTHORIZING A COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT

WHEREAS, the Homer Township Fire Protection District (the "District") is a fire protection district duly organized under the laws of the State of Illinois (70 ILCS 705/1); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the District (the "Board") has full power pursuant to Section 6 of the Illinois Fire Protection District Act (70 ILCS 705/6) to pass all necessary ordinances, and rules and regulations for the proper management and conduct of the business of the Board for carrying into effect the objects for which the District was formed; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly passed the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act (the "Act"; P.A. 102-1088; 50 ILCS 70/1 *et seq.*) requiring all units of local government that levy any tax, with the exception of counties and municipalities, to establish committees by June 10, 2023, and at least once every ten (10) years thereafter, to study local efficiencies and report recommendations to the county in which the governmental unit is located; and

WHEREAS, Section 10 of the Act (50 ILCS 70/10) requires that the committee be comprised of the elected or appointed members of the governing board of the governmental unit, at least two (2) residents of the governmental unit who are appointed by the chair of the board with the advice and consent of the board, any chief executive officer or other officer of the governmental unit, and any additional members appointed by the chairperson of the committee as he or she deems appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the committee shall file a written report which summarizes its findings and includes recommendations in respect to increased accountability and efficiency with the county board in which the governmental unit is located no later than eighteen months after the formation of the committee; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the Board is authorized and required to create a committee for the purpose of studying the District's accountability and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Board of Trustees of the Homer Township Fire Protection District that it is in the best interests of the health, welfare and safety of the District to create a committee for the purposes set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Homer Township Fire Protection District, Will County, as follows:

Section One: The Board of Trustees hereby finds that all of the recitals hereinbefore stated as contained in the preamble to this Ordinance are true and correct and adopted as if set forth verbatim herein.

Section Two: The Board of Trustees of the Homer Township Fire Protection District hereby creates the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency (hereinafter, the "Committee") which shall consist of the members of the Board of Trustees, the Fire Chief, the Deputy Chief, Dave Haywood , and Jonathon Sochacki.

Section Three: The Committee shall perform the requirements as set forth in the Act which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- A. Study the governmental unit's governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements and interrelationships with other governmental units and the State.
- B. Collect data, research and analysis to assist in the preparation of the report as required herein.
- C. Conduct at least three public meetings.
- D. Upon conclusion of each public meeting the Committee shall conduct a survey of all residents in attendance at the public meeting, soliciting input on the meeting agenda and related discussion topics.
- E. Prepare and submit a written report to the County Board within eighteen months from the date of the creation of the Committee which shall set forth recommendations for the increased accountability and efficiency of the District.

Section Four: The Committee shall hold at least three meetings within eighteen months of the adoption of this Ordinance. The Committee's meetings must comply with the Open Meetings Act. Said meetings may be conducted during Homer Township Fire Protection District's regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meetings provided that separate notice of the Committee meeting is given under the Open Meetings Act, a majority of Committee members are present, and the Committee meeting is listed on the District's regular meeting's agenda.

Section Five: The Committee shall automatically be dissolved upon the submittal of the required report to the applicable County Board.

Section Six: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Section Seven: All ordinances, parts of ordinances or board actions in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

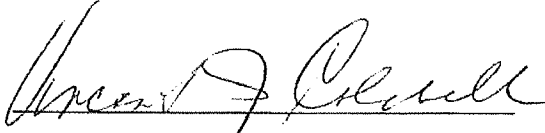
Section Eight: If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this ordinance is declared by a court of law to be invalid or unconstitutional, the invalidity or unconstitutionality thereof shall not affect the validity of any other provisions of this Ordinance, which are hereby declared to be separable.

ADOPTED by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COLABELLI, MITCHELL, FIAN

NAYS: NONE

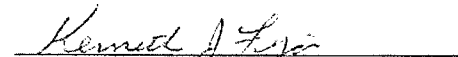
ABSENT: NONE



President, Board of Trustees

Homer Township Fire Protection District

ATTEST:


Secretary, Board of Trustees

Homer Township Fire Protection District

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF WILL)

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I, KENNETH FIAN, the duly qualified Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Homer Township Fire Protection District, Will County, Illinois, do hereby certify that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 05-17-2023-01

AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND AUTHORIZING A COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT

which Ordinance was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Homer Township Fire Protection District at a meeting held on MAY 17, 2023. I do further certify that a quorum of said Board was present in person at said meeting, or by electronic means at said meeting, and that the Board complied with all requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of MAY, 2023.

Kenneth Fian
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Homer Township Fire Protection District



DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY REPORT

The Homer Township Fire Protection District's Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Final Report has been prepared and approved for submission on 07/17/2024 by;

Committee Member	Signature
Chairperson Vince Colabelli	
Trustee Ken Fijan	
Trustee Stephanie Mitchell	
Fire Chief Kevin Doyle	
Deputy Chief Dave Bricker	
Dave Haywood, Resident Member	
Jon Sochacki, Resident Member	