

**Minutes of the Taxing Bodies Efficiency Task Force
Tuesday, April 3, 2018 – 7:12 p.m.
Council Chambers, Room 201**

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:**
 - Present:** Chair David Pope, Brian Chang, John Hedges, Judy Greffin, Joi Cregler, Jim Peters, Gary McCullough
 - Absent:** None
 - Also Present:** Cara Pavlicek, Village Manager and Paul Stephanides, Village Attorney, Josh Ellis, Vice President, Metropolitan Planning Council

3. Public Comment

Kitty Conklin commented that she used her financial services background to analyze the budgets of the taxing bodies. She stated that the Task Force should look at shared services by the taxing bodies for the following: (1) purchasing; (2) accounts payable; and (3) payroll. Technology should be used to reduce head count.

Chris Donovan commented that the taxing bodies receive property tax revenue for the properties located in the Madison TIF based upon the 1995 EAV. The TIF will expire soon and this is an opportunity to create property tax revenue so that taxes do not need to rise.

Theodore Foss, Oak Park Library Board Member commented that the Library has a program called “What Kind of Community do you Want to Live In?” He shared the program’s brochure and the program’s link at www.oppl.org/listen. He also stated that iGov, which is comprised of officials from Oak Park’s six taxing bodies, has scheduled an assembly for May 19, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at Julian Middle School.

4. Approval of March 20, 2018 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Member Chang and seconded by Member Hedges to approve the Taxing Bodies Efficiency Task Force’s March 20, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved as presented.

5. Introductions

Josh Ellis, Vice President of the Metropolitan Planning Council (“MPC”), introduced himself to the Taxing Bodies Efficiency Task Force (“Task Force”) and each member of the Task Force and Village Manager Pavlicek and Village Attorney Stephanides introduced themselves.

6. Task Force Framework and Work Plan

a. Introduction to Metropolitan Planning Council

Josh Ellis provided background regarding the MPC. MPC is an 85 year old not-for-profit civic organization. MPC's expertise is in government effectiveness and government efficiency and provides services throughout the region. MPC provided services to a group called Transform Illinois, which was led DuPage County Board Chairman Dan Cronin, which also looked at governmental efficiencies similar to the Task Force's mission. MPC is not being paid by the Village for the services it proposes to provide for the Task Force.

MPC proposes to provide research on comparative costs with a focus on maintaining or improving current levels of service for residents and taxpayers. This can include consolidation of services, consolidation of governments, and paying for services by means other than property taxes. MPC proposes to conduct targeted interviews of members of the community who have displayed an interest in the matters before the Task Force, interviews of Task Force members themselves, and leaders of the taxing bodies. Mr. Ellis also stated that a similar task force was formed in Sangamon County, Illinois called the Sangamon County Efficiency Commission and that Commission's work can be reviewed by the Task Force.

Member Peters presented a graph of the taxing bodies' property tax levy verses inflation. A general discussion was had pursuant to the graph.

b. Framework and mission of Task Force

Chair Pope provided a handout that organized the Task Force's options under "Possible Outcome Groupings." The second page of the handout lists areas of potential efficiency. He asked Task Force members to provide ideas for ways to achieve efficiency on the last page of the handout.

c. Activities and preliminary work plan for Task Force

The Task Force engaged in a discussion on recommendations to be provided at future meetings pursuant to the handout set forth above. It was agreed that the Task Force should focus on recommendations that have the most impact.

7. Sources of Public Input

The Task Force will send letters to the chief elected officials and appointed officials of the taxing bodies inviting them to provide their input in written form. It was also proposed to have informal meetings with other taxing bodies. The Village will have a comments and suggestions section on its website for the community's input concerning the Task Force. It can also solicit ideas using the Village's Facebook page. MPC proposes to formulate a standardized set of questions for responses from individuals and community groups pursuant to the suggested informal meetings and it would prepare a report regarding those discussions. Manager Pavlicek will provide a list of Village neighborhood organizations.

8. Discussion of agenda for next meeting scheduled for April 17, 2018

The Task Force will formulate a draft work plan at its April 17, 2017 meeting. Chair Pope asked that additional information of the tax burden in Oak Park, broken down by taxing bodies over a 30 year period, be provided and MPC will conduct research on this task. The handout provided by Chair Pope will be distributed to the Task Force electronically for members to populate. The next meeting will be held at the Public Works Center at 8:00 a.m.

9. Adjournment

It was moved by Member Hedges and seconded by Member Chang to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.