

Minutes of the Taxing Bodies Efficiency Task Force
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Oak Park Village Hall, Room 101

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Chair David Pope, Members Brian Chang, John Hedges, Joi Cregler, Jim Peters, Gary McCullough, and Judy Greffin

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager Cara Pavlicek, Village Attorney Paul Stephanides, Village Attorney, Metropolitan Planning Council Vice President Josh Ellis and Research Assistant Sawyer Middeleer

3. **Introductions**

Josh Ellis and Sawyer Maddeleer of the Metropolitan Planning Council (“MPC”) introduced themselves to the Taxing Bodies Efficiency Task Force (“Task Force”). Each member of the Task Force introduced themselves as well as Village Manager Pavlicek and Village Attorney Stephanides.

4. **Public Comment**

None.

5. **Approval of April 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

It was moved by Member Cregler and seconded by Member Hedges to approve the Task Force’s April 17, 2018 meeting minutes. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

6. **Research Activities**

- a. **Overview of local government financial powers, responsibilities, limitations, and mandates**

Manager Pavlicek and Attorney Stephanides gave a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of local government financial powers, responsibilities, limitations and mandates and answered questions from the Task Force members. Manager Pavlicek provided an overview of county and municipal governments in Illinois and the various forms of municipal government. Manager Pavlicek reviewed the powers and functions of municipalities. Other governmental entities were also reviewed, including school districts, libraries, townships,

and special districts. One point of discussion by the Task Force was the property tax process for the Village and other units of government in Oak Park.

b. Comparable communities and case studies

MPC will provide case studies on comparable Illinois municipalities. The Task Force selected Evanston, Palatine, Woodridge, and Park Ridge as the municipalities to contact for the case studies.

c. Past service sharing experience among local governments in Oak Park

Members Hedges reviewed efforts during the 1980's and later of Oak Park local governments sharing resources and providing shared services. A study was not completed with regard to the costs savings of the shared services. Member Hedges stated that there always was a cost savings because the shared services resulted in a lesser number of full-time employees. Many of the shared services that were implemented remain in effect. Manager Pavlicek will provide examples of current shared services to the Task Force. Member McCullough asked that the Task Force explore further opportunities to share services. Member Peters stated that it is difficult to take services away once they have been provided. Member Chang asked whether governmental bodies can be compelled to share services and Member Hedges responded that it is voluntary.

7. Outreach Activities

a. Progress since April 17 meeting

MPC Vice President Ellis reviewed his memo dated April 27, 2018 to the Task Force members. Draft "Talking Points" were provided as an attachment to the memo and the Task Force reviewed the Talking Points. The Task Force reviewed draft questions from MPC Vice President Ellis to be posed to the public on the Village's website.

b. Review of past public input

A letter under Chair Pope's signature to the other taxing bodies for their input was discussed. Chair Pope read the letter for the Task Force. Responses to the letter will be discussed at the next meeting. Members Chang and Peters will sort previously provided Facebook comments for the Task Force.

8. Development and prioritization of options

a. Classification and categorization systems

Member Greffin asked that the Task Force be provided with a presentation on tax increment financing districts (TIFs) and the financial impacts of TIFs. MPC Vice President Ellis added that special service areas should be added to the presentation. Manager Pavlicek will prepare such a presentation for the Task Force.

9. **Adjournment**

It was moved by Member McCullough and seconded by Member Chang to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.