

Government 101: Local Governments Do That?

Leadership Fort Wayne

January 20, 2011

How Many Units of Local Government Are There?

- Name all the levels of local government in Allen County
 1. ?
 2. ?
 3. ?
 4. ?
 5. ?
 6. ?
 7. ?
 8. ?
 9. ?

How Many Units of Local Government Are There?

- Name all the units of local government in Allen County
 1. County
 2. Township
 3. Municipality
 4. Airport
 5. Library
 6. School
 7. Transportation
 8. Southwest Fire District
 9. Solid waste district

Special Taxing Districts

- Units of local government that are not school systems, county government, townships or municipalities
- Organized to provide very specific governmental services
- Examples: airport, levee, library, drainage, and public transportation
- Can be created either directly by the Legislature or through enabling legislation providing a local option

Township Governments

- There are 20 townships in Allen County with the largest in land area being Wayne Township (42.3 sq. mi.) and the smallest being Scipio Township (13.3 sq. mi.).
- There are 3 types of township officials.
 - Trustees
 - Assessors
 - Township Board

Township Trustees

- Administers township assistance
- Provides fire and emergency medical services in unincorporated areas of the township
- Eradicates weeds
- Keeps records of the official proceedings of the township office
- Receives and disburse all funds for the township
- Cares for township properties and abandoned cemeteries within the township
- Builds and monitor fence lines when necessary

Township Board

- Serves as the fiscal body of the township
- Adopts the annual budget
- Fixes the tax rate
- Imposes property tax levies
- Fixes salaries
- Authorizes the incurring of debt
- Approves contracts
- Oversees bonds and warrants
- Serves as the township Board of Finance

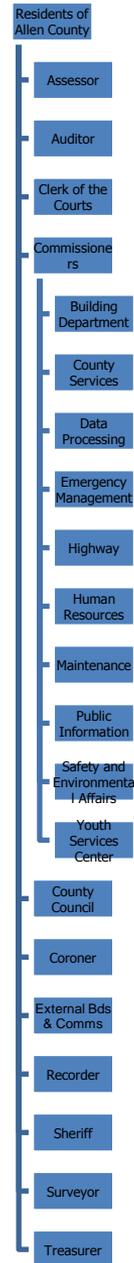
Municipalities

- Municipalities are a voluntary form of government
- Allen County has 8 municipalities
 - Fort Wayne
 - Grabill
 - Huntertown
 - Leo-Cedarville
 - Monroeville
 - New Haven
 - Woodburn
 - Zanesville

City of Fort Wayne Organization Chart



Allen County Organization Chart



County Government

“The structure of county government in Indiana does not allow for a focal point of executive and administrative authority in the county. Instead there is a dispersion of executive and administrative power, mainly due to the number of elected county administrative officers, each with statutorily vested powers and duties. Because the chain of command is vaguely defined, the need for developing cooperative attitudes and a spirit of genuine teamwork among all elected officials is extremely important.”

–from the Indiana County Government Handbook prepared by the Association of Indiana Counties

Interesting Facts

- You do not have to have any financial training to be the county auditor or treasurer.
- You do not have to be a doctor to be the county coroner.
- Why not?

Filing Deadline

- Filing to be a candidate in the May municipal primary ends at noon on Friday February 18, 2011.