

Wheatland Township Assessor Chuck Kern has submitted his resignation which was accepted by the Township Board on August 10, 2023. The resignation is effective December 31, 2023. Therefore, Wheatland Township seeks to fill a vacancy in the Office of Township Assessor for the remainder of the term.

Statutory Options for Filling a Vacancy in the Office of Township Assessor

Illinois law (35 ILCS 200/2-60) provides two options to fill a vacancy in the Office of Township Assessor. One option is for the Town Board to appoint a qualified Assessor to complete the remaining term.

A second option is for the Township to contract with a qualified Assessor for the remainder of the term, at a cost no greater than the maximum salary previously authorized for the Township Assessor by ordinance.

Wheatland Township is soliciting applications from individuals who wish to be considered for appointment or contract to the Office of Township Assessor for the remainder of the current term through December 31, 2025.

Requirements for Filling Township Assessor Vacancy

Per the Illinois Township Code and Illinois Property Tax Code, regardless of whether a replacement Assessor is appointed or selected to contract with the Township, the new Assessor must possess at least one of the following qualifications:

1. A currently active Certified Illinois Assessing Officer designation from the Illinois Property Assessment Institute;
2. A currently active AAS, CAE, or MAS designation from the International Association of Assessing Officers;
3. A currently active MAI, SREA, SRPA, SRA, or RM designation from the Appraisal Institute; or
4. A currently active professional designation by another appraisal or assessing association approved by the Department of Revenue.

To be eligible for appointment or selection to contract as the new Assessor, a copy of the individual's qualifications from the Department of Revenue must be filed with the Town Clerk. 35 ILCS 200/45.

In addition, a person is not eligible to hold office if they have been convicted of any "infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony" at the time of taking the oath of office. 60 ILCS 1/55-6.

Additional Requirements for Appointment

An individual wishing to be appointed to the position of Township Assessor must meet the additional requirements below:

Must be of the same political party as the incumbent (Republican Party);

Must be a legally registered voter in Wheatland Township; and

Must have been a resident of Wheatland Township for at least one year prior to December 31, 2023.

The individual shall establish their political party affiliation by their record of voting in party primary elections or by holding or having held an office in a political party organization before the appointment. If the individual has not voted in a party primary election or is not holding or has not held an office in a political party organization before the appointment, then the individual shall establish their political party affiliation by their record of participating in a political party's nomination or election caucus.

Application Process for Filling a Vacancy in the Office of Township Assessor

Individuals who wish to apply for this position should submit a cover letter, proof of at least one of the above-referenced certifications and resume by 5:00 p.m., CST, November 3, 2023, to: Bill Green, Senior Administrator, 4232 Tower Court, Naperville, IL 60564, OR materials may be emailed to: billg@wheatlandtownship.com with the subject line: Application for Township Assessor.

Applicants should also note in their cover letter whether they want to be considered for appointment, contract, or both. If applying for appointment, then applicants must also submit proof of party affiliation, registered voter status in Wheatland Township, and proof of residency in the Wheatland Township for at least one year prior to December 31, 2023.

The Township will evaluate applicants' qualifications to determine whether appointment or contract will be in the best interests of the Township.

The Wheatland Township Board will vote on the appointment of or contract with a qualified individual to fill the vacancy in the office of Township Assessor at the December 14, 2023, Township Board Meeting.