

Referenda

Shall the City of Evanston have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program?

Overview:

- The State of Illinois now allows Illinois municipalities the option to bundle together residential and small commercial retail electric accounts and seek proposals for cheaper electric power from the open market. Currently, Evanston residents receive **supply** and **distribution** services from ComEd based on a rate published by ComEd each April.
 - If referendum passes, the City would seek proposals for the **supply** of electricity from the wholesale electricity market. Residents or small businesses can 'opt-out' of this process and continue to receive their energy supply from ComEd. Regardless, all customers would still receive a bill from ComEd for **distribution** and the utility company would still be responsible for all outage responses.
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- What is the advantage of Evanston having the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small business customers?
 - Can individual entities opt out?
 - Will this make Com Ed more responsive to customer complaints?

Shall the Board of Education of Evanston/Skokie Community Consolidated School District 65, Cook County, Illinois, build and equip a school building, build and equip additions to existing school buildings, and improve the sites of and alter, repair and equip existing school buildings and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$ 48,200,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

Overview:

- The estimated cost to build and equip a new K-5 school for 415 students is 20.6 million. There would be three classes per grade level, one of which would house a 'two way immersion' program.
 - The estimated cost to substantially upgrade and expand both Nichols and Haven School, do modified upgrades at Chute, King Lab and Bessie Rhodes is 27, 6 million.
 - The estimated cost to property owners would be \$ 27.33 per \$ 100,000 fair market value of their homes for the twenty year period of the bond.
 - The projected enrollment figures for the next five years indicate a need for two to four additional classrooms in the Lincolnwood school area and eight additional classrooms at both Nichols and Haven middle schools.
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- Why does District 65 need all this money?
 - Can citizens choose which of these schools most needs the improvements?
 - Who decides the location of the proposed new school?

Should the Evanston Town Board continue to pursue the issue of dissolving Evanston Township?

Overview:

- The City and the Township are coterminous and have only two responsibilities: funding, through a separate tax levy, *General Assistance* grants (a state-mandated program for single adults who are not eligible for other financial assistance) and advising citizens on their property assessments.
- There is a conflict between the state constitution, the state election law and the state township code as to how a coterminous township can, if the residents of a city desire, be dissolved. Therefore, this referendum is advisory only while the City seeks clarification from other state officers.