

June 3rd, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Owen Township was held at the Owen Township Hall, on June 3rd, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

The following Trustees were present:

Sid Moate, Supervisor
Mark Smith
Tom Lawson
Jeffrey Arnold

The following other known people were present:

Susan Barnes, Township Clerk
Charles Barnes, Highway Commissioner
Dana Lemke, Township Assessor
Kenneth G. Benz, Attorney
Joseph Goldsworthy, Member of public

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Sid Moate. After leading the pledge of allegiance, he called for public comment. Seeing none, Supervisor Sid Moate called the next item on the agenda, approval of the May 2025 meeting minutes. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed approval of the May 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate called for presentation of the proposed 2025-2026 Budget. Supervisor Sid Moate presented the proposed 2025-2026 budget of the general township and general assistance. He additionally presented information on the township's historical budgets and expenses. Trustee Tom Lawson had questions regarding the general assistance request discussed at the prior monthly meeting. Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes advised that if the County had approved general assistance funds, the township would receive a request for reimbursement from the County. He explained that the County would provide the funds and seek reimbursement from the township if the applicant had been approved for general assistance. Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes advised that he would have expected a request for reimbursement from the County by now if the applicant had been approved for general assistance funding. Seeing no further questions by the Trustees, on motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept the budget for the 2025-2026 general township budget and the 2025-2026 general assistance budget as presented.

Next, Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes had presented the 2025-2026 road district budgets. Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes advised that the budgets proposed are mostly the same as last year. He did not budget for an increase in wage. He had advised that it is

possible to have a trouble hiring snowplow drivers at the current budget rate due to demand. He advised that he will advise the township of any issues should they arise. Trustee Tom Lawson had questions regarding what had been budgeted for emergency road repairs. Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes explained that the budget does not reflect what is received from the motor fuel tax funds that are received. He advised that in the past he is able to supplement the budget by having repairs funded by the motor fuel tax. He advised that he has to work with another body to get those funds. As such he advised that the funding would be adequate considering the availability of the motor fuel tax fund. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously passed the 2025-2026 road and bridges budget as presented.

Supervisor Sid Moate than called for communications, special reports, or presentations. Seeing none, he called for the next item on the agenda, old business. Supervisor Side Moate lead discussion on board action on insurance settlement for building damage (4/2023). He had advised the roofing on the buildings had been completed. CPR had also redecked the buildings to bring them up to code. The siding is still being negotiated at this time between CPR and the insurance company on a final number. Supervisor Side Moate advised that he expects a number by the next regular meeting. He advised that the process is still proceeding, albeit slowly and smartly.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate discussed the current status of the repair of the shop roof. He advised that the funds to repair the shop roof was already allocated by prior vote. Following this discussion, Supervisor Sid Moate presented the Township Municipal Aggregation Contract Renewal he had received from Mike Mudge of Rock River Energy Services, Co. He stated that the price was still below ComEd and the contract period was for two years instead of three.

Seeing no questions, Supervisor Sid Moate moved onto the next agenda item. He presented the current account balances as of April 30th, 2025. Seeing no questions, he presented the Township Bills for review and consideration. Upon duly made motion, seconded and unanimously passed the Township Bills as presented. The Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes advised that the road and bridge bills are in order.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate advised on the progress made regarding a new credit card as discussed in the last regular meeting. He advised that he believes he will be able to finish having new credit cards issued by the next regular meeting.

Township Assessor Dana Lemke advised that she is in the process of inspecting a few properties. He opined that home sales have stagnated lately. She believes that there is sufficient data to do a sales analysis for assessments.

Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes advised that he had placed signs prohibiting construction traffic in response to public comment at the last regular meeting. He advised that he is preparing for the season to make road repairs and for road sealing.

There being no further business to come before the Board on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE NEXT REGULAR
MEETING WILL BE HELD ON JULY 1ST, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M.
AT THE OWEN TOWNSHIP HALL, 4019 LATHAM ROAD,
ROCKFORD, IL.

Susan Barnes, Township Clerk