

March 4, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Owen Township was held at the Owen Township Hall, on March 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

The following Trustees were present:

Sid Moate, Supervisor  
Mark Smith  
Jen Grady  
Tom Lawson  
Jeffrey Arnold

The following other persons were present:

Susan Barnes, Township Clerk  
Charles Barnes, Highway Commissioner  
Dana Lemke, Township Assessor  
G. Michael Scheurich, 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 and no members of the public present desired to speak

The Supervisor next called for review of the February 4, 2025 meeting minutes. Mr. Smith suggested that the matter scheduled for March 7 was the request for information rather than bids being due and bid opening would be March 14 at 2:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. With the foregoing corrections, the Trustees on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, approved the February 4, 2025 minutes as corrected.

The Supervisor next called for review of communications, special reports and presentations. He reported that the annual statement of exempt properties was completed and submitted to the Winnebago County Supervisor of Assessments.

The Supervisor next called for discussion and Board action on the insurance settlement for building damage. Mr. Smith reported that the bid has been publicized on DemandStar and described briefly the process of listing and viewing DemandStar. He noted that the entire bid package is available on DemandStar and in addition to the prior corrections to February minutes, he noted that the bid award would be on April 2. Notice to proceed would be given by April 14. The expected start date for the successful bidder would be April 15 with completion of the project by May 31, weather and supply chain permitting.

The Supervisor next asked Mr. Arnold to report on insurance. Mr. Arnold stated that he had spoken with the insurance agent who has assured the Township that everything is satisfactory and proceeding apace. She has asked to be kept informed of progress of the bid and work.

The Supervisor next called for financial business. He stated the General Assistance Fund has \$25,492 and the Township Fund has \$201,639. He next called for presentation and consideration of Township bills. On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the Township bills were approved. He next called for review of the Road District bills and after brief discussion, it was the sense of the Trustees that the Road District bills are in good order.

The Supervisor next reported that the Township had received a FOIA request with respect to the tragic accident of a bus hitting a young girl. The Township response was that there are no records and while the occurrence was within Township boundaries, it was not on a Township road and the Township otherwise has no jurisdiction in the matter.

The Supervisor next reminded the Trustees that the Cemetery Sexton has requested the payment of the budget funds for the Township cemetery of \$6,000. Thereafter, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the Trustees authorized payment to Owen Township Cemetery of \$6,000.

The Supervisor then asked Dana Lemke to give the Township Assessor's Report. She said there is very little activity in the real estate market and, consequently, little to report. There have been few sales and no changes in valuation. The Supervisor next called on the Highway Commissioner and mentioned that there is a planned roundabout at the Owen Center and Elmwood intersection to be followed at a later date with a roundabout at Latham and Owen Center. Mr. Barnes noted that with little snow there remains more than adequate supplies of salt and that, otherwise, the highway department is keeping up with all work and doing well. The truck has been delivered but he does not expect the body to be available for at least another 12 months or more. Mr. Smith delivered the publisher's bill for publication of notice of the bid. Supervisor Moate indicated the expense would show in the April reports.

The Supervisor next announced that the next meeting will be April 1 and that the annual Township meeting will be April 8. March 24 is the last day for giving public notice of the Township annual meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
APRIL 1, 2025 AT 7:00 PM AT THE OWEN TOWNSHIP HALL,  
4019 LATHAM ROAD, ROCKFORD, IL, AND THE ANNUAL  
TOWNSHIP MEETING AT APRIL 8, 2025 AT 7:00 PM AT THE  
OWEN TOWNSHIP ALL.

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G. Michael Scheurich, Township Attorney and  
acting Secretary