

March 2nd, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Owen Township was held at the Owen Township Hall on March 2nd, 2026, at 7 p.m.

The following Trustees were present:

Sid Moate, Supervisor

Mark Smith

Tom Lawson

Jeffrey Arnold

Jen Grady

The following other known people were present:

Susan Barnes, Township Clerk

Charles Barnes, Highway Commissioner

Dana Lemke, Township Assessor

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 for review of the Feb 2026 meeting minutes. Seeing no further discussion, a motion to approve the Feb 2026 minutes Trustee Tom Lawson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented and Trustee Mark Smith seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate discussed new business, new fiscal year begins on April 1st the cola adjustment for supervisor, assessor, highway commissioner and clerk will be at 2.8% for the remainder of the year. Next on the agenda is reminder of Statement of economic interest, they should be received by all individuals later in March, the deadline for completion is May 1st, 2026.

Supervisor Sid Moate asked Charles Barnes to provide update on solar panel installation and discussion ensued. Supervisor Sid Moate stated that the final TOIRMA check is expected to arrive this week and once that has been deposited into the Township account, payment to CPR for our final bill needs to expedite. Additionally, Supervisor Moate and Charles Barnes meet with an appraiser in February in anticipation of the County's work at Latham Rd and Owen Center, discussion ensued.

Supervisor Sid Moated stated the current balance of the General Assistance Fund is \$51,170.82, and the Township Fund balance is \$ 96,727.72. Supervisor Moate proposed that the next levee for the general assistance fund be reduced, instead of continuing to accumulate funds that are not being utilized, discussion ensued. Following the discussion the Supervisor called for review of the Township bills, Trustee Tom Lawson moved to approve the township bills in the amount of \$12,294.05, seconded by Trustee Jeffrey Arnold, approved with an all-aye vote. The Road and Bridge bills in the amount of \$7,023.07 and the Hard Road bills in the amount of \$3,169.86 were all found to be in order.

Charles Barnes, Road Commission discussed the roads to be worked on this summer, including all of Favre Rd. Discussed the current equipment upgrades and next of his agenda for the highway department is the improvement of the garage and the salt shed. Charles Barnes discussed the expected truck completion and discussion ensued. In addition, the front of the garage needs repairs, as well as, replacement of the garage doors, discussion ensued. Charles Barnes also discussed the county's proposal to transition frontage roads to Owen Township once the Owen Center project is completed.

Dana Lemke, Township Assessor, stated she is working on building permits and at this time no major market changes. Trustee Jen Grady discussed the proposed new data center to the southern area of Rockford, discussion ensued.

With no further business to discuss, the April 7th, 2026, monthly meeting was called to adjourn by Trustee Tom Lawson and seconded by Trustee Mark Smith, an all aye vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:50p.m.

THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE April 7th, 2026, AT 7 P.M. AT THE OWEN TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 4019 LATHAM RD. ROCKFORD, IL.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE ANNUAL TOWNSHIP MEETING, HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2026 AT 7 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by

Susan Barnes,
Owen Township Clerk