

October 7th, 2025

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

The following Trustees were present:

Sid Moate, Supervisor
Mark Smith
Jeffrey Arnold
Jen Grady

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 had called for discussion and possible resolution on America 250. Supervisor Sid Moate advised that next year is the 250th anniversary of the United States. He advised that he received correspondence from Jerry Crabtree of the Township Officials of Illinois. Said correspondence, a township resolution outreach letter, was read aloud and encouraged townships across the state to participate in celebrating the 250th anniversary next year. After reading a proposed resolution, Trustee Mark Smith inquired if any monetary contribution was sought. Supervisor Sid Moate clarified that no monetary contribution was required. Seeing no further discussion, upon motion to approve the proposed resolution was first, second, and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate called for discussion and possible action regarding the 2025 township levy. He advised that the township must approve a levy to receive tax funds for the following year. He further advised that the numbers are pretty much align with the budget previously approved. Supervisor Sid Moate provided documentation to the Trustee's regarding the township levy. He further educated the township that if the levy is approved, it is forwarded to the county. The county independently approves a levy rate. Once the county approves a levy rate, the set levy for the township will be the lower of the two numbers. He further advised that the levy rate was within the maximum rate to be set without giving further notice to the public.

After allowing time for further discussion, seeing none, a motion to approve the 2025 levy was first, seconded, and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate called for discussion and possible action regarding the 2025 tax levy for the Road District. Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes had provided documents to the Trustees regarding the levy. He advised that there is a change with insurance costs and personnel workload for the hard road. He believes that the increase in insurance should have increased last year but did not due to an oversight by the insurance company. He further educated the Trustees on how funds are appropriated. He stated that the funds levied for the Road District is paid into a shared pool of funds. Those funds are then disbursed to the various entities. The amount is determined by the county. Seeing no further comments or discussion, a motion to approve the levy for the Road District was first, second, and unanimously passed by a voice vote.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate called for communications. He stated that he received communication from a member of the public regarding trees. He advised that they need to speak to the county regarding tree removal. He further received communication from the insurance company requesting information on when repairs would be taking place. He informed the insurance company contractors were waiting on materials to arrive from down state. Supervisor Sid Moate advised that he has not received any further communications or updates regarding the property previously discussed at the last meeting.

Seeing no further discussion on communications, Supervisor Sid Moate advised the Trustees on the current balance of the township funds. He advised the current balance of the Owen Township fund is \$120,297.00 and the current balance of the General Assistance fund is \$49,318.00. He opined the difference between last month and this month is about \$2,000.00. He advised that deposits and withdrawals are consistent.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate presented the Owen Township bills. Upon reviewing the bills and seeing no further discussion, a motion to approve the Township bills as presented, was first, seconded, and unanimously approved.

After which, the Trustees reviewed the Road District bills. Seeing everything in order and no further discussion, Supervisor Sid Moate requested comments from the Township Assessor Dana Lemke. Township Assessor Dana Lemke advised she was finishing construction permits and working on tax appeals. She opined that the volume of appeals are down as a result of home prices generally increasing in the area.

Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes requested Township Assessor Dana Lemke to forward a copy of construction permits to his attention so he may contact them regarding prohibited roads being used for moving construction equipment and materials.

Finally, Highway Commissioner Charles Barnes advised that he did receive a call from a dispatch operator to see if there was an address for the cemetery. He advised that the cemetery

does not have an address and gave the address to the property across the street. He advised the Trustees that a number may be assigned to the cemetery.

With no further business to discuss, October 7th, 2025, regular monthly meeting was called to adjourn on motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried at 7:26 P.M.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE NEXT REGULAR
MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 4TH, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M. AT
THE OWEN TOWNSHIP HALL, 4019 LATHAM ROAD,
ROCKFORD, IL.

Susan Barnes, Township Clerk