

June 2nd, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Owen Township was held at the Owen Township Hall on June 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

Members of the Community present are listed at bottom of meeting minutes

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. Howie Heaton, representing the River Keys group stated he is frustrated with the easement on Bergstrom Rd describing the condition of the easement and feeling it is unsafe in its current condition including the owner of the easement placing railroad ties next to the road to prevent people from driving around the easement, which they view as a safety hazard. He stated that he would like the township to address who is responsible for the easement, what maintenance standards would apply to the easement, what complaints have been received concerning the condition of the easement. Discussion ensued. Tom Lawson discussed the past history of the easement. Charles Barnes discussed his knowledge of the history of the easement as well. Discussion ensued.

Dave Tessonni was invited to speak, and he had an updated list of upcoming projects in and around Owen Township. Discussion ensued.

Supervisor Sid Moate called for review of the May 2026 meeting minutes. Seeing no further discussion, a motion to approve the May 2026 minutes Trustee Mark Smith made the motion to approve the minutes as presented and Trustee Jeffrey Arnold seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Road Commissioner Charles Barnes updated on Road work, discussed the damage to trees on Favor Rd. Rockton Township aided with tree removal. Charles Henry will be unable to work for a little while due to a medical issue, which might delay work a bit. No new updates on truck. Site review has been completed for solar panels but no update on solar panel installation.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate discussed old business, once the tax revenue has been deposited to the Foresight Bank Acct the Supervisor will make the transfer of funds for each account to the Rockford Community Bank.

Supervisor Sid Moated stated the current balance of the General Assistance Fund is \$51,175.09, and the Township Fund balance is \$ 71,295.37. 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 \$11,806.25, seconded by Trustee Mark Smith, approved with an all-aye vote. The Road and Bridge bills in the amount of \$4,664.23 and the Hard Road bills in the amount of \$ 7,638.00 were all found to be in order.

Dana Lemke, Township Assessor, stated she is working on building permits and at this time no major market changes.

Supervisor Moate reminded the trustees that the budget meeting would be held on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026.

With no further business to discuss, the June 2nd, 2026, monthly meeting was called to adjourn by Trustee Tom Lawson and seconded by Trustee Jen Grady, an all aye vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

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

List of Community members who attended tonight's meeting:

Chad Neuschwarder 6690 Key largo Dr
Brian Beau 1221 Summerland Key
Mark Longmier 1231 Key West Dr.
Mat Hines 6696 Key Largo Dr.
Michael Hamer 1237 Summerland Key.
Howie Heaton 1262 Love Key.
David Tassoni 3612 N Central Ave
Bill Hevrin 7207 Bergstrom Dr.
Chris Behling 6955 Bergstrom Dr.
Kris Killio 6921 Bergstrom Dr

Respectfully Submitted by

Susan Barnes,
Owen Township Clerk

