



Township Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 16, 2025

I. Call to Order 6:01 pm

A. Mission Moment - Supervisor Higgins-Beard talks about our mission. We partner with the YMCA providing grants for the 'Y' to expand their programs to serve families. A father sent a letter thanking Milton Township for enabling him to join his children enjoying the 'Y' together. Rev George Smith of St Marks Episcopal Church in Glen Ellyn gave an invocation and spoke of how his church is local bilingual and serves the community such as with their pumpkin sales that raise funds for PADS.

B. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Highway Commissioner Mike Drew

C. Attendance Roll Call - Supervisor Higgins-Beard, Trustees Siemer, McGowen, McGrath, and Pitts and Clerk Bailey were all present.

D. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Trustee Siemer, second by Trustee Pitts. All present voted in favor. Agenda is approved.

E. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on September 18, 2025. Motion Trustee Pitts, second Trustee Siemer. All present voted in favor. Minutes approved.

F. Approval of Claims. Motion, Trustee McGowen, second, Trustee Pitts. After discussion there was a roll call vote. Trustees McGrath, voted yes, McGowen yes, Siemer yes, Pitts yes and Supervisor Higgins-Beard yes. Claims totaling approximately \$350,000 approved.

II. Public Comment (Limited to 3 minutes per person, first come first serve, 30 minutes allotted total). Jack Shouba, an environmental advocate from St Charles who is on the board of the Friends of Illinois Nature Preserves, spoke about the condition of St Stephens Cemetery prairie. He did burns there 20 to 30 years ago and made surveys of an amazing diversity of plants in 1960s and 1981. In comparing lists of plants, he noticed that diversity is remarkably reduced now. He would like to volunteer to help restore the prairie and has other volunteers who would help.

Chair's Report

A. Proclamation for Chuck Smith SALT Chair. We are saying goodbye to Chuck Smith and Arnie Shifrin tonight. Chuck brought many local community connections with him along with his wife of 30 years, Paula; to our township as staff for 8 years and leader of the SALT team. His list of volunteering is extensive. He is ending his time with SALT with the most organized senior auto inspection yet with over 107 volunteers from several groups help over 100 seniors. We express our gratitude and appreciation.

B. Proclamation for Arnie Shifrin, SALT Director of Communications, reached out to the community and served in other community roles is retiring after 15 years of dedicated service after his career as a pharmacist. We express our gratitude and appreciation.

B.2 We will be welcoming a new SALT chair, retired officer Terry Albright. Work is continuing on facilities, finances, program services and community outreach, auditing and work on the newsletter and storage clean outs.

C. General Assistance is Going well, helping community members with over \$10,000 in grants last month.

D. Cemeteries Authority Presentation (Drew Ellis, Chair) St Stephens has a new flag. The veggie garden was removed by the Archdiocese of Joliet. We would welcome help from Mr. Shouba in restoring this last prairie in DuPage County. A burn is scheduled in Spring. Pleasant Hill removed fence and shed to make a more park like setting. Jewel Grove: We are trying for a grant from the state of Illinois to improve quality. It needs attention to look better and for a more forest-like setting.

E. Miscellaneous/Other NA

IV. Reports

A. Town Clerk Report/Comments (Dan Bailey, Clerk) We ran on transparency. We continue to increase our transparency by posting recordings of township meetings on our website.

B. Trustees Report/Comments (Trustees McGowen, McGrath, Pitts, Siemer)

Trustee McGowen: DuPage County Budget proposal includes an 18.1 million sustainable initiative containing \$3.1 M for food for local pantries, \$2.1 to expand Loaves and Fishes capacity to help local pantries, \$5 M for downpayments for first time homebuyers and \$2.5 M to make up for possible losses of funding from state and federal programs. DuPage County Chair Conroy said this shows ‘sound fiscal management and commitment to care for the people of DuPage County.’ Food Pantry Report. Dave and Debbie go above and beyond in making patrons feel welcome. They have added dairy and meat products to bolster nutrition for our neighbors who use this resource.

Small space for food pantry is limiting its mission. There is a need to explore options to address this issue. Trustee Mc Grath: Next 708 Board meeting is October 21 (a date change) when grant applications will be reviewed.

There is a process to nominate veterans for the Honor Wall. Could we publicize this?

Trustee Pitts: attends SALT meetings which are very worthwhile including scam reports and other information valuable to our senior community.

Trustee Siemer sees efficiency in our new process for paying our bills from consolidated checking accounts. Audits are proceeding as planned. We have to select and engage an auditor for our upcoming audit.

C. Assessor’s Report (Chris LeVan, Assessor) Friday Oct 24 starts a 30-day window to appeal assessment which ends on November 24. This will be published in the Glen Ellyn and Wheaton Suburban Life Magazine, which can be difficult to find. So the Assessor will be happy to email out a file with this information or can come in for a printed, hard copy. See copy of full report below

D. Highway Commission Report (Mike Drew, Highway Commissioner) The Supervisor, Assessor and Highway Commissioner are now working *together* as we should to serve the public. Mike finished his CERT training last month. Naresh Nair reported on GoGov last month. This app allows a constituent to report their concern and attach a picture of it. This easily converts to a work “ticket” that goes to the crew. When the issue is addressed, the crew can report back which turns into an email to the homeowner.

There is a change in bond policy for projects. Homeowners will not be allowed to post bonds. This now must be done by the contractor. (This protects the homeowner from possible scam.)

Barry Street Project is delayed till Spring to allow time to get funding arranged.

National Street 42” drainpipe has decayed. Since it is in a flood plain, we need an environmental engineer to help which should be done in the Spring. Received a County grant for headsets for safety and efficiency.

Mike Drew had promised a system to evaluate and repair roads efficiently. This 5-yr plan uses an AI and video to record all problems and assess the roads condition whenever the crew is driving the township roads. Now with advance planning process Milton Highway Dept can repair roads when and as needed avoiding redoing a whole subdivision for a few areas in need of repair.

E. Food Pantry (Dave Sezonov, Director) The Food Pantry received an amazing bounty of fresh produce from the community after Dave posted on our sign that it was needed.

F. S.A.L.T. Committee (Chuck Smith, Chair) 23 attended last meeting and heard Rita Brosnan talk about Senior House Sharing. Also counseling. Next month Sue Davidson from Glen Ellyn with talk about help with Medicare selection. Larry Gage is recovering from an aneurysm in his leg at Windsor Park. Arnie is a retired pharmacist. Senior Auto Inspection has 105 volunteers!
Retired Corporal Terry Albright will be taking the reins at SALT as Chuck Smith and Arnie step back from leading.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Audit Update We have completed FY 24 Audit in July. For FY 25 they are making visits We have an extension to November from the state but expect the audit to finish in January. This is the best we can do with what we were handed. Sikich is doing our investigative audit at their own pace. RFP for FY 26 coming in weeks.

B. Resolution No 2025-R-11, A Resolution of Milton Township in support of Illinois' America 250 Commemoration Many suggestions including for local schools to do reading of the Declaration of Independence take part in local parades and plant some trees. Motion by Trustee Pitts, Second from Trustee McGowen. On a Roll Call vote Trustees McGrath, yes; McGowen, yes; Siemer, yes; Pitts, yes and Supervisor Higgins-Beard, yes. Motion approved.

VI. New Business

A. Memorandum of Understanding with Milton Township Food Pantry Supervisor Higgins-Beard noted that this will make the relationship between these 2 separate entities clear.
Motion made by Trustee Siemer, Second by Trustee Pitts. Roll Call vote: Trustees - McGrath, yes; McGowen, yes; Siemer, yes; Pitts, yes and Supervisor Higgins-Beard, yes. Motion approved. Supervisor Higgins-Beard explained that the new Food Pantry Board could respond to this MOU once they are seated.

B. Resolution No. 2025-R-12, A Resolution authorizing a vehicle title correction (Ford E Series refrigerated vehicle) Motion by Trustee Pitts, Second by Trustee McGowen. On a Roll Call vote Trustees: McGrath, yes; McGowen, yes; Siemer, yes; Pitts, yes and Supervisor Higgins-Beard, yes. Motion approved

VII. Adjournment Motion to adjourn by Trustee Siemer, 2nd by Trustee Pitts. Voice vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Signed: Dan Bailey
Dan Bailey, Town Clerk

Date: 10/16/2025

Next Meeting Thursday, November 20th, 2025

Please note December 18th meeting 2025 will take place in Town Hall at the Assessor's Office

Assessor LeVan October Board Report:

On September 12, 2025, our assessment books were submitted to the Supervisor of Assessments (SOA) for the 2025 assessment year, payable in 2026. Due to unforeseen complications with the SOA's printer, the publication of assessment notices has been delayed by approximately six additional weeks. In the interim, we have been reviewing our sales ratio studies to achieve even a modest reduction in the townshipwide factor.

I want to commend the deputies for their dedication during what has been a particularly challenging assessment year. Their commitment has driven meaningful progress, and while we have achieved much, important work remains ahead.

The 2025 assessment list for Milton Township will be published in the following newspapers on **Friday, October 24, 2025**, commencing the 30-day appeal period.

Wheaton and Glen Ellyn Suburban Life Newspapers

Change of assessment notices will be mailed on Thursday, October 23, 2025.

The final date for filing assessment complaints with the Board of Review for Milton Township will be: **Monday, November 24, 2025**

The Assessor's Office remains committed to promptly and professionally responding to all assessment inquiries, ensuring the highest level of service to our property owners.

Chris E. LeVan, CIAO

Milton Township Assessor



1492 North Main Street
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
www.miltonassessor.com
(630) 653-5220