

Office of the Town Clerk
South Rock Island Township, Illinois
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March 30, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes - Approved

Call to Order/Roll Call - The March 30, 2026, South Rock Island Township Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Supervisor Grace Shirk.

Elected Officials Present:

- Supervisor Grace Shirk , Clerk KJ Whitley, Trustees – Bill Sowards, Diana Hebbeln, Chris Elsberg, Jonah Sallows-Hines, Assessor Nichole Parker

Others Present:

- Stacie Young, SRIT Chief Deputy Assessor

Approval of the Agenda - **Elsberg** moved, and **Hebbeln** seconded, to approve the **March 30, 2026** South Rock Island Township agenda. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – **Sowards** moved, and **Hebbeln** seconded, to approve the **February 23, 2026** South Rock Island Township Board meeting minutes. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Budget & Appropriation Public Budget Hearing (for SRI Township) – **Shirk** moved, and **Elsberg** seconded, to open a Budget & Appropriation Public Budget Hearing_ Roll call vote. 5-Ayes Elsberg, Sallows-Hines, Shirk, Hebbeln, and Sowards. 0-Nays. Motion carried. **The** budget hearing was opened at 4:03 pm. No public comments were offered. **Elsberg** moved, and **Sowards** seconded, to close the public Budget hearing at 4:06 pm.

Reports

Supervisor’s Report (Record) - **Shirk** reported on Drug Take Back Day held April 25, 2026, with SRIT volunteers serving from 10:00 a.m. to noon (Whitley, Elsberg, Hebbeln) and Noon to 2:00 p.m. (Parker, Bill, and Edna Sowards). She also provided an update on federal requirements for the SRIT website to be ADA compliant by April 26, 2027, and shared information on upcoming community events, including a celebration for the 250th Anniversary of America scheduled for July 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Moline Township, 620 18th Street, Moline, Illinois.

Clerk’s Report (Record) - **Whitley** reported receipt of three FOIA requests related to meeting audio recordings and SRIT property information, noted that Statements of Economic Interest are due May 1, 2026, and provided updates regarding the township website, including that supplemental information not meeting U.S. Department of Justice ADA Title II web accessibility standards will be available on file at the Town Clerk’s office, as certain posted documents are not fully ADA compliant.

Assessor’s Report (Record) - **Parker** reported 259 Senior Freeze exemptions and stated that property sales, values, and building characteristics were provided in response to a recent request for information.

General/Emergency Assistance Report (Record) - The **February 2026 Client/Public/Senior Citizen Report** was provided with the agenda.

Treasurer’s Report and Authorization and Transfers of Town Fund and Relief Fund Bills – (Record) - The Treasurer’s Report for **February 2026** was presented and placed on record. The Township Board audited the **February 2026** bills and claims, which were also placed on record. **Elsberg** moved, and **Sowards**

seconded, to authorize payment of the Town Fund and Relief Fund bills and transfers in the amount of **\$56,617.65**. Roll call vote. 5-Ayes Sowards, Sallows-Hines, Shirk, Hebbeln, and Sowards. 0-Nays. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Executive session - Shirk moved, seconded by **Sowards**, for the Board, Clerk, and Assessor to enter into executive session to discuss employee salaries and performance, pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)). Roll call vote: 5 ayes: Sowards, Sallows-Hines, Shirk, Hebbeln, Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried. The Board entered executive session at 4:35 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 5:25 p.m. Roll call vote upon return: 5-ayes Elsberg, Sallows-Hines, Shirk, and Hebbeln, 0 nays; motion carried.

2026/2027 Township Budget (Record) – **Shirk** moved, seconded by **Sowards** to accept the 2026–2027 Township Budget with the following adjustments: inclusion (line item 6070) of life insurance for the Assessor Budget(MacDonald & Young), General Assistance Budget (Tollenaer), and Town Fund Budget (Miller, Shirk, Whitley, Parker, Sallows-Hines, Sowards, and Hebbeln); increasing the Assessor’s miscellaneous line item (6310) from \$600 to \$1,600 to accommodate for the anniversary bonus’ increases; a 3% salary increase for employees; and an adjustment of the full-time work week from 30 to 32.5 hours (an increase of 130 hours annually). Shirk will revise the draft budget accordingly and provide copies to the Board and the Clerk for the record. Roll call vote. 5-Ayes Elsberg, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Sowards, 0-Nays. Motion carried.

New business

Public Participation Policy Update (Annual Review) – **Elsberg** moved and **Hebbeln** seconded to approve the **updated Public Participation Policy**. Voice vote: 4 ayes Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried (Sowards had left the meeting prior to the vote).

Ordinance (2026-02) Adopting Procedures for Electronic Attendance – **Elsberg** moved and **Sallows-Hines** seconded to approve the Ordinance Adopting Procedures for Electronic Attendance. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Donations

Catalyst Awards for The Arc of the Quad Cities – **Elsberg** moved and **Hebbeln** seconded to support the Catalyst Awards for The Arc of the Quad Cities in the amount of \$250. Roll call vote: 4 ayes Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Multi-Generational Community Group – Following discussion, the item died for lack of a motion.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

Elsberg moved to adjourn the meeting at **5:38 pm** and the motion was seconded by **Hebbeln**. Roll call vote. 4-Ayes Shirk, Elsberg, Sallows-Hines, and Hebbeln. 0-Nays. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next SRIT Board meeting is scheduled for Monday ,April 27, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

THIS IS A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING APPROVED BY THE SOUTH ROCK ISLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD ON APRIL 27, 2026.

Seal—>

Township Clerk

4.27.26

Date