| SI Financial Group, Inc. Form 11-K June 28, 2018   |
|--|
| SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549  |
| FORM 11-K  |
| (Mark One)<br>x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934                   |
| For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017  |
| OR oTRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934                           |
| For the transition period from   |
| Commission file number: 000-54241  |
| A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:         |
| Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company Profit Sharing and 401(k) Savings Plan                                  |
| B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office: |

SI Financial Group, Inc.

Willimantic, Connecticut 06226

803 Main Street

#### REQUIRED INFORMATION

- 1. Financial Statements.
- 2. Supplementary Information.

Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2017

3. Exhibits.

Exhibit 23: Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

All other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Note: Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 have been omitted because they are not applicable.

# SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN E.I.N. 06-0591470 PLAN NUMBER 002

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016 AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

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#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Plan Administrator, and Plan Participants of the Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company Profit Sharing and 401(k) Savings Plan

#### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company Profit Sharing and 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2017, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Plan's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Plan in accordance with U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

#### Report on Supplemental Information

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2017, has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Plan's financial statements. The supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental schedule reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental schedule. In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including the form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In our opinion, such schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

We have served as the Plan's auditor since 2006.

/s/ Wolf & Company, P.C.

Boston, Massachusetts June 28, 2018

# SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

# STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS DECEMBER 31, 2017 and 2016

| ASSETS  | 2017                  | 2016                  |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Stock purchase account Investments, participant directed, at fair value | \$1,043<br>15,281,837 | \$1,029<br>13,701,265 |
| Total investments   | 15,282,880            | 13,702,294            |
| Notes receivable from participants                                      | 414,740               | 437,687               |
| Net assets available for benefits                                       | \$15,697,620          | \$14,139,981          |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

| Additions | to net | assets | attributed | to: |
|-----------|--------|--------|------------|-----|
| Auditions | W HCL  | asscis | attiibutcu | w.  |

| ٠ | r                 |      | • .  |    |
|---|-------------------|------|------|----|
| ı | <b>Investment</b> | act1 | VIII | 7. |
| ш | m v Comment       | acu  |      | ٧. |

Net appreciation in fair value of investments \$1,842,118
Interest and dividends 31,944
1,874,062

Notes receivable activity:

Interest income from participants 14,662

#### Contributions:

Participants' 843,128 Rollover 11,490 Employer 303,105 1,157,723

Total additions 3,046,447

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Distributions paid to participants 1,438,856 Administrative expenses and other 49,952 Total deductions 1,488,808

Net increase 1,557,639

Net assets available for benefits:

Beginning of year 14,139,981

End of year \$15,697,620

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

#### Note 1. Plan Description

The following description of the Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company Profit Sharing and 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan documents for a complete description of the Plan's provisions.

#### General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan that covers substantially all employees of the Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company (the "Bank" or the "Sponsor"). The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

#### Eligibility

All employees of the Bank who have completed 90 days of service and who have attained 21 years of age are eligible to participate in the Plan.

#### Contributions

Participants may make salary deferral contributions of up to 100% of earnings subject to Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") limitations. The Bank may make matching contributions for participants that elect to make salary deferral contributions. Currently, the Bank matches 50% of participants' contributions up to the first 6% of the participants' earnings. In addition, eligible participants may make catch-up contributions in accordance with, and subject to, the limitation of IRC Section 414(v). The Bank may also make additional discretionary profit sharing contributions, which are allocated among participants in the Plan in proportion to their compensation. Participants may also roll-over amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans.

#### Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their salary deferral contributions, employer matching contributions and earnings thereon. The portion of participants' accounts attributable to the Bank's additional discretionary profit sharing contributions vest as follows:

| Years of Service | Vested Percentage |
|------------------|-------------------|
|------------------|-------------------|

| 2 | 25%  |
|---|------|
| 3 | 50%  |
| 4 | 75%  |
| 5 | 100% |

#### Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of service, a participant may receive a lump-sum distribution equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account. Withdrawals may be made under certain other circumstances in accordance with the Plan documents.

#### Participants' Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Bank's matching and profit sharing contributions and (b) Plan earnings, and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participants' earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

#### Participants' Investment Options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, participants may direct salary deferral contributions and employer matching and profit sharing contributions to selected investments as made available and determined by the plan administrator. Participants may change their investment options any time via telephone or internet. Fidelity Management Trust Company ("FMTC") functions as the Plan's trustee and Fidelity Investments Institutional Operations Company, Inc.

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

("Fidelity") as the recordkeeper. The Plan currently offers investments in SI Financial Group, Inc.'s common stock, mutual funds and separately managed account funds (including a stable value fund).

#### Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their accounts from \$1,000 to a maximum amount equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. A participant may have no more than five loans outstanding under the Plan, with terms ranging from one to five years. Loans are secured by the vested interest in the participant's account and bear interest at a rate commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the plan administrator. As of December 31, 2017, interest rates on existing loans ranged from 3.25% to 4.25%. Principal and interest are paid ratably through bi-weekly payroll deductions.

#### **Forfeitures**

Amounts of participants' forfeited nonvested accounts are first applied to Plan administrative expenses and are then used to reduce the Bank's discretionary profit sharing and matching contributions. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were no forfeited nonvested accounts.

#### Plan Amendments

The Bank reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time. No amendment or termination can divert Plan assets to persons other than Plan participants or their beneficiaries, or reduce any amount previously credited to participants' accounts. In the event of a termination of the Plan, all participants' accounts become 100% vested and shall be payable in accordance with the distribution provisions of the Plan.

#### Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies

#### Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of reported assets and liabilities and changes therein and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan documents. For the year ended December 31, 2017, there was one loan in the amount of \$12,719 that was deemed distributed. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2017 and 2016.

#### Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments in registered investment companies (mutual funds) are stated at their fair values based on quoted market prices. Units in the Managed Income Portfolio ("MIP") are valued at net asset value ("NAV") as reported by the insurance company and the MIP Trust Fund based on the underlying assets, which include a mix of mutual funds and managed accounts. Investments in SI Financial Group, Inc. common stock are valued at the closing

market price as of the last trade date of the Plan year. All underlying investment options are valued daily. This daily price is considered the selling price for transfers and withdrawals, and is calculated each day the principal market is open and are available to any participant in the Plan, unless restricted by the plan administrator.

Interest income on participant notes receivable is recorded on the accrual basis.

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

#### Fair Value Hierarchy

The Plan groups assets measured at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value.

Level 1 – Valuation is based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Valuations are obtained from readily available pricing sources for market transactions involving identical assets.

Level 2 – Valuation is based on observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets.

Level 3 – Valuation is based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets. Level 3 assets include financial instruments whose value is determined using unobservable inputs, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation.

In certain cases, inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, an investment's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Plan's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the investment.

#### Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

#### Administrative Expenses

The Plan's administrative expenses are paid by the Plan or the Plan's Sponsor as provided by the Plan document. Fees paid by the Plan for custodial and administrative services were \$49,952 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

#### Nature of Business of Sponsor

The Sponsor is a Connecticut-chartered savings bank providing a full range of financial services to individuals, municipalities and businesses through its twenty-four offices located in eastern Connecticut and Rhode Island.

#### Note 3. Investments

During 2017, the Plan's investments, including gains and losses on investments purchased and sold, as well as held during the year, appreciated (depreciated) in fair value as follows:

Registered investment companies \$1,940,609 Managed income portfolio 9,639 SI Financial Group, Inc. common stock (108,130) Net appreciation in fair value of investments \$1,842,118

Note 4. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Bank has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

#### Note 5. Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service issued a determination letter on December 20, 2011 stating the Plan qualifies under Section 401(a) of the IRC and, therefore, is not subject to tax under present federal income tax laws. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The Plan has been amended since receiving its determination letter. However, the plan administrator believes the Plan is designed and is currently operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

Tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the course of preparing the Plan's Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan, including the position that the Plan qualifies as a qualified exempt plan, are required to be evaluated to determine whether the tax positions are "more-likely-than-not" to be upheld under regulatory review. The Plan does not have any uncertain tax positions at December 31, 2017 and 2016 that require disclosure or accrual.

The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The plan administrator believes the Plan is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2014.

#### Note 6. Party-In-Interest Transactions

Shares of common stock of SI Financial Group, Inc., the parent holding company of the Bank, is an investment option under the Plan. Therefore, transactions related to SI Financial Group, Inc. qualify as party-in-interest transactions. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Plan held 157,954 and 159,126 shares of SI Financial Group, Inc. common stock, with fair values of \$2,321,924, or \$14.70 per share, and \$2,450,538, or \$15.40 per share, respectively. During 2017 and 2016, the Plan purchased 14,112 and 24,321 shares and sold 15,284 and 12,032 shares, respectively.

As noted in Note 1 above, FMTC is a directed trustee of the Plan and Fidelity serves as the record keeper to maintain individual accounts of each Plan participant. Certain Plan investments include shares of mutual funds that are managed by affiliates of Fidelity. Fees paid for investment management services are included as a reduction of the return earned on these investments. Fees paid by the Plan for custodial and administrative services amounted to \$49,952 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

#### Note 7. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for various investment options. Investments are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit ratings. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investments will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

#### Note 8. Fair Value Measurements

Below is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

Registered investment companies: Valued at quoted market prices, which represent the net asset value of shares held by the Plan at year-end.

Managed income portfolio: Valued at the net asset value ("NAV") as reported by the fund. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. This practical expedient would not be used if it was

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

determined to be probable that the funds will sell the underlying investments for an amount different from the reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily.

SI Financial Group, Inc. common stock: Valued at the closing market price as of the last trade date of the year.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the plan administrator believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2017 and 2016. There were no liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

| at December 31   | , 201  | / and 20     | 016.          |
|--|--------|--------------|---------------|
| December<br>31Level 1<br>2017                              | Leve 2 | el Level     | Total         |
| Assets: Registered in set and 1,935 companies Common       | \$     | <b>_\$</b> - | -\$12,183,935 |
| stock<br>of<br>SI 2,321,924<br>Financial<br>Group,<br>Inc. | _      | _            | 2,321,924     |
| Investments at \$14,505,859 tair value                     | \$     | -\$ -        | -14,505,859   |
| Managed income portfolio (1)                               |        |              | 775,978       |
| Total investments  |        |              |               |

at fair value \$15,281,837

December Level Level Total 31Level 1 2016 Assets: Registered investment,236 \$ -\$10,504,236 -\$ companies Common stock of SI 2,450,538 2,450,538 Financial Group, Inc. Investments at \$12,954,774 \$ **-\$ -12,954,774** value Managed income 746,491 portfolio Total investments

There were no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

There were no transfers between levels for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

\$13,701,265

8

at

fair value

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup> In accordance with ASU 2015-07, certain investments that are measured at fair value using NAV per share practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the statements of net assets available for plan benefits.

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017

Investments Measured Using the Net Asset Value per Share Practical Expedient

The following table summarizes investments for which fair value is measured using the net asset value per share practical expedient as of December 31, 2017 and 2016. There are no participant redemption restrictions for this investment; the redemption notice period is applicable only to the Plan.

| December 31, 2017                | Fair      | Unfunded    | Redemption Frequency (If | Redemption Notice |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
|                                  | Value     | Commitments | Currently Eligible)      | Period            |
| Managed Income<br>Portfolio Fund | \$775,978 | n/a         | Daily                    | 12 Months         |
| December 31, 2016                | Fair      | Unfunded    | Redemption Frequency (If | Redemption Notice |
|                                  | Value     | Commitments | Currently Eligible)      | Period            |
| Managed Income<br>Portfolio Fund | \$746,491 | n/a         | Daily                    | 12 Months         |

#### Note 9. Reconciliation to Form 5500

A reconciliation of net assets in the statements of net assets available for benefits and net assets on Form 5500 as of December 31, 2017 and 2016 are as follows:

|  | 2017         | 2016         |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Net assets available for benefits as reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits | \$15,697,620 | \$14,139,981 |
| Adjustment for defaulted loan deemed distributed   | (12,719)     | (12,314)     |
| Total net assets per Form 5500   | \$15,684,901 | \$14,127,667 |

A reconciliation of the net increase in the net assets per the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 to the Form 5500 is as follows:

| Net increase in assets as reported in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits | \$1,557,639 |
|---|-------------|
| Adjustment for defaulted loan deemed distributed  | (405)       |
| Net increase in net assets per Form 5500  | \$1,557,234 |

SAVINGS INSTITUTE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY PROFIT SHARING AND 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN E.I.N. 06-0591470 PLAN NUMBER 002 SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR) DECEMBER 31, 2017

| Identity of Issuer Description of Investment (1)          |   | Units/Shar         | es Value (2) |
|---|---|--------------------|--------------|
| Collective Trusts:  |   |                    |              |
| Fidelity Investments (*) Registered Investment Companies: | Managed Income Portfolio - Class I                | 775,978            | \$775,978    |
| Vanguard Group, Inc.                                      | Vanguard Windsor II Fund                          | 3,726              | 250,068      |
| Fidelity Investments (*)                                  | Spartan® 500 Index Fund                           | 14,275             | 1,333,986    |
| Harbor Capital Advisors, Inc.                             | Harbor International Fund                         | 10,284             | 694,356      |
| T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc.                            | T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund                   | 27,524             | 1,724,383    |
| Clearbridge Investments, LLC.                             | Clearbridge Small Cap Growth Fund                 | 24,558             | 857,814      |
| John Hancock Investment Mgt. Svcs., LLC                   | J. Hancock Disciplined Value Mid Cap Fund         | 31,460             | 733,322      |
| Fidelity Investments (*)                                  | Spartan® Small Cap Index Fund                     | 2,398              | 48,728       |
| Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC                         | Wells Fargo Advantage Emerging Markets Equit Fund | <sup>y</sup> 1,135 | 29,985       |
| Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P.                      | Goldman Sachs Small Cap Value Fund                | 4,525              | 274,799      |
| Fidelity Investments (*)                                  | Spartan® Mid Cap Index Fund                       | 9,033              | 189,520      |
| Fidelity Investments (*)                                  | Spartan® Inflation-Protected Bond Index Fund      | 19,824             | 195,071      |