

CLEON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
DATE May 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor, Joe Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.at the Cleon Township Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL Board Members present: Joe Carpenter-Supervisor, Amy Herrst-Clerk, Linda Cudney -Treasurer, Abe Canfield-Trustee. Absent: Todd Humphrey-Trustee

GUESTS and /or VISITORS: Dave Myers, Mark Griner, Dave Saunders, Ruth Griner, Suzique Couture, Barb Stanton, Jeff Stanton.

Dave Myers: Park update is moving along and all the components are on schedule. By next weeks end we should be able to start meeting to move forward on the project.

Suzique Couture: Recently had a barn fire and wanted to personally thank the Cleon Fire Dept for their great service and response. Would like to show support for furthering the fire department and all they do for our community.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Above

SET / AMEND THE AGENDA: Amend agenda to include the special meeting minutes from April 24th. Motion by Linda Cudney, supported by Amy Herrst to set the agenda with amendment. AIF

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Linda Cudney, **seconded** by Joe Carpenter to approve the Consent Agenda. AIF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

April 16, 2025 Board meeting minutes/April 24, 2025 Special meeting minutes

TREASURERS REPORT: *See attached*

BUDGET AMENDMENT/PAYMENT OF BILLS: *See attached for bills*

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

A. TRUSTEES

Todd Humphrey: Nothing to report

Abe Canfield: Nothing to report

B. TREASURER: Clean-up day is all set to happen June 7. Flags will go out to the cemetery by weeks end. Summer newsletter will be going out in June if anyone wants something specific in it, get that to Linda.

C. CLERK: I received the L-4028 from the county and we will need to get that prepared to send back to the county in August with the millage rates.

D. SUPERVISOR: Flags were replaced at the cemetery. We should think about replacing the rope and possibly the flag pole so that it can easily be changed out.

E. ZONING: 3 permits this month: shed, pole barn and garage.

F: PLANNING: *See planning minutes.* After having the attorney review the wind/solar power ordinance Cleon has, he stated that we are ok with our ordinance and it will stand if anything comes up. Rumor has it that 500-acre solar farm is coming to the township. If that happens because of the size it must go through the state to regulate but they must administer public hearings from our township.

G: MRCM:

H: FIRE DEPARTMENT: *See attached report.*

Mark attended the verbal presentation for the revenue sharing board.

After Consumers changed over the power for the new hall the fire generator transfer switch is no longer working. We will need to replace the switch and it could potentially be around \$1300 to repair. There is a possibility it can be covered by insurance or possibly by a Par Plan grant. Jeff Stanton also mentioned we should investigate Red Cross and getting certified as an emergency location again. They may be able to help with a grant or funds to get us back in compliance. **Motion** by Linda Cudney, **seconded** by Joe Carpenter to check with Red Cross to see if they can help. AIF

Mutual aid from Thompsonville may be up for evaluation and costs involved in the future. This is something we may need to consider next fiscal year.

We need to have our fire extinguishers refilled. Who is our contact at Legacy Fire?

Mark was questioned by the board about approving a 2-day training for a fire fighter. The turned in the time sheet was a total of 14 hours @ base wage for fire. This is considerably higher than we have had to pay to any township employee previously for training.

Because this was approved by Mark without the board authorization it will still be upheld because the fire fighter did get it approved by their supervisor but going forward a motion has been made to set a rate for all township employees.

Motion by Amy Herrst, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to approve that any township employee will get reimbursed for training or education at \$50 for half day or \$100 for a full day. Documentation may need to be submitted to support such training to the board for approval. AIF

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Board Member Action Plan Items:** all action plan items completed or in process of completion.
- 2. Township Hall Plans:** Mark would like ask the board to approve the addition of a concrete patio and sidewalk to the back of the new building. This will be used for a grill and outdoor space. The cost is \$3000. Mark has secured funds to cover ½ cost privately and the remainder \$1500 would need to be paid by the fire and general funds directly. This is a time sensitive matter because the final landscaping will be completed soon and that would alter the outcome. **Motion** by Amy Herrst, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to approve the concrete work in the rear of building for \$1500 from the fire/gen funds. **Roll Call**, 3 ayes 1 nay, **motion passed**.

The board would like to have the supervisor contact the Township attorney about the potential of having JML Design's insurance paying for the extra costs incurred with the missed contract documents involving USDA and the grant funds that pertain to use of prevailing wage.

3. **Proposed Township Park Plan:** See Dave Myers comment above.
4. **AED invoice:** The cost of purchasing two AEDs for our township and Springdale Township would cost \$ 3050 for both. We need to confirm Springdale wants to move forward but if so, Cleon will purchase both and get reimbursed from Springdale. Invoice is due by May 29th. **Motion** by Joe Carpenter, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to approve the purchase of the AED unit. **Roll Call** 4 ayes, 0 nays, **motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Canon Copier Lease: Our contract with the current copier is up. They would like to purchase a newer model and have us continue our lease with the new model. The cost would only increase by a few dollars currently. If we wait the tariff increase will be significant. **Motion** by Abe Canfield, **seconded** by Amy Herrst to approve the lease of the newer model of Canon copier. **Roll Call** 4 ayes 0 nays, **motion passed.**

CORRESPONDENCE: *See attached*

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: **Abe:** What will the repercussions be if we involve the attorney with the new hall project and JML Design?

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

SMARTrails update: Construction on trail from Thompsonville to Copemish is set to start and they have received the EDA Grant funds. The county also applied for a larger grant to possibly connect Thompsonville all the way to Kaleva.

The Legion will be hosting a 90th birthday party celebrating Millie Smith on Sat May 24th from 1-4pm. All are welcome!

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion** by Joe Carpenter, **supported** by Abe Canfield AIF

TIME: 7:58 PM

Next Board Meeting scheduled for June 18, 2025 at 7 PM

Minutes taken by Amy Herrst -Cleon Township Clerk

BOARD MEMBER ACTION PLAN:

Joe: Will communicate with Fred Campbell about the status of the new construction and the USDA deadline.

Will contact the attorney about JML Design and the potential for their insurance to cover costs associated with missteps taken with the prevailing wage dilemma.

Will get the invoice for the AEDs to the clerk to send out a check by Monday May 26th.

Amy: Will schedule the fire policy meeting once we get into our new facility.

Linda: Will reach out to Red Cross about updating our township hall as an Emergency Shelter and possibly helping us pay for our generator transfer switch with grant funds.
Will contact Springdale about the AED purchase.

Will reach out to Great Lakes Business and setup the new copier contract.

Will schedule a meeting with Brad Kluczynski for an asset management evaluation when Mark is able to meet as well.

Will be the liaison between USDA and the township board.

DRAFT