

**CLEON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
DATE MARCH 18, 2026**

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, Todd Humphrey-Trustee. Absent: Abe Canfield-Trustee

GUESTS and /or VISITORS: **Jeff Stanton** (planning chair), **Barb Stanton** (ZA), **Zach Vega**-Networks Northwest: Raising Manistee County Zoning Solutions Project
Cleon Fire Department: Mark Griner, Dave Saunders, and Ruth Griner

PUBLIC COMMENT: The date on the agenda is wrong and should read March 18,2026

SET / AMEND THE AGENDA: *With the above amendments.* Motion by Todd Humphrey, supported by Linda Cudney to set the agenda. AIF

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Feb 18, 2026 Board meeting minutes/ Feb 17 & 24, 2026 budget workshops min.

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 slated for June 8, 2026. Republic Waste is contracted. We also have permission to use the existing lot as long as we do a good job cleaning up after. Mileage is set by the IRS for .725/mi and will go into effect on April 1st. 2 CDs are coming due. 1 fire and 1 general. 6 months is the highest rate available.

Motion by Todd Humphrey, **seconded by**, Amy Herrst to allow Linda to renew the CDs at 6-month rate. AIF

C. CLERK: Our deputy clerk has found the original map of the Cleon Cemetery printed on linen paper. I would like to ask the board if we can have this preserved by matting and

framing it to hang in our new hall. **Motion** by Todd Humphrey, **seconded by**, Linda Cudney to allow Amy to get the framework done under \$300. AIF

We received a bid to mow from Milarch for the Cemetery this summer. With board consent I will reach out to the other prospects from last year to get more bids if possible. Possibly we could coordinate a community cleanup at the cemetery this year to start the season off.

D. SUPERVISOR: Nothing to report

E. ZONING: Barb wanted to make it clear that we need to have a formal complaint filed to pursue any complaint violations against property owners. This is required to issue tickets as well. The complaint will need to be in the minutes for official record but after that the names can be redacted. No new land use permits.

F: PLANNING: No meeting. Next meeting April 8, 2026.

G: MRCM: Keith Moore was appointed to the new manager position starting 3/1/26 Graders are out working on the secondary roads. Patching is being done on highways then primary roads next. Tree and debris cleanup going on. They are also starting the spring cleanup of roadways and blading in areas. Lots of trees down after this big ice storm.

H: FIRE DEPARTMENT: *See attached report*

Truck is in Saginaw being worked on currently. The thermostat on the generator needs to be tweaked but Mark can fix it. Mike Steele has applied to be on the fire department roster. He comes highly recommended by the chief and assistant chief. Pending a background check the board would like to **Motion** by Todd Humphrey, **seconded by** Linda Cudney to hire Mike under a 90-day probation period. AIF
We should look into grant writer and possibly an AFG micro grant for SCBA's.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Board Member Action Plan Items:** all action plan items completed or in process of completion.
2. **Township Hall Plans:** Temporary occupancy certificate is being requested. We are setting a move in date of April 15th but might ask the church group to help the 11th to move tables and chairs over.
3. **Thompsonville Mutal Aid Agreement:** **Motion** by Linda Cudney, **seconded by** Todd Humphrey to table the agreement. Joe will create a letter to the Thompsonville board expressing our current stance on the subject.
4. **Fire Meeting:** April 28 @ 530pm tentatively

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Approval of payment for new hall project: Change Order #5** was approved last month in the amount of \$62,715.
2. **Resolution to adopt the FY 2025-2026 Budget: #03182026;** *see attached*
3. **Adoption of Salary Resolutions for the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer;** *see attached*

4. **Meeting Dates for Township Board and Planning Commission established;** *see attached.* The Cleon Township Board has changed its meeting days to the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm. **Motion** by Amy Herrst, **seconded** by Joe Carpenter to meeting dates for the Cleon Township Board and the Planning Commission. AIF
5. **Adoption of Resolution to utilize financial institutions and invest public funds. #031820261 Motion** by Todd Humphrey, **seconded** by Amy Herrst to adopt the resolution. **Roll Call Ayes 4 Nays 0.**
6. **Budget Adjustments Motion** by Linda Cudney, **seconded** by Todd Humphrey to allow Clerk Herrst to make budget adjustments by current fiscal year end. **Roll Call Ayes 4 Nays 0.**
7. **Fire Recovery USA:** the board would like to enter into agreement for Fire Recovery USA to bill our fire calls. **Motion** by Linda Cudney, **seconded** by Joe Carpenter to adopt the service agreement. **Roll Call Ayes 4 Nays 0. Motion** by Todd Humphrey **seconded** by Joe Carpenter to adopt the Ordinance #03182026 for cost recovery. **Roll Call Ayes 4 Nays 0.**

CORRESPONDENCE: *See Attached*

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: **Todd:** Many questions surrounded the fire in Copemish last week. After speaking with the firemen on scene the response time was 10 min which is fast if you consider the call log time and prep. Our fire department did a great job with our truck and was prepared with full water tanks. We also received mutual aid from Thompsonville, Maple Grove and Benzonia. Thank you to all.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: **Mark:** Wants to commend the great condition of our new snowmobile trail and bridge to Kaleva.

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion** by Todd Humphrey, **supported** by Amy Herrst AIF
TIME: 9:05 PM

Next Board Meeting scheduled for April 15, 2026 at 7 PM
(Hopefully in the new building!)
Minutes taken by Amy Herrst -Cleon Township Clerk

BOARD MEMBER ACTION PLAN:

Joe: Will communicate weekly with Jamie Milarch and Fred Campbell about the status of the new construction. He will report back to the board at regular meetings.
Will run background on Mike Steele with Fire department. Amy will send it to Sheriff.
Will write a response to the Thompsonville Board and Amy will format it on letterhead and send it.

Amy: Will mat and frame the cemetery map.
Will reach out to the cemetery lawn companies for comparable quotes.

Linda: Will continue to be the liaison for the new Fire Station/ Township offices.

DRAFT