

Minutes

Clay Township
Clay Fire Territory
May 20, 2026
5:30 p.m.
Clay Fire Station 22
18355 Auten Road Classroom B
South Bend, IN 46637

Purpose: Regular township board meeting and any other matters that may legally come before this board.

❖ **Call To Order: 5:28 p.m.**

❖ **In Attendance-** George ann Ewald, Deputy Trustee; Jaren Kilan, Fire Chief; Derrik DeCraene, Parks & Grounds Manager; Michelle Shaw, Clay Board; Rob Thomas, Clay Board President; Kevin Conery, Clay Board; Carl Baxmeyer, SJC Board of Commissioners; Amy Drake, SJC Council & Sebastian Drake

❖ **Welcome– Introduction of Members in Attendance**

- Welcome Kevin Conery – Kevin was caucused in on May 2, 2026 to fill the vacancy left by Josh Gobel's resignation.

❖ **Township Business**

- Financials - George ann Ewald - Director of Finance & HR
 - January 2026– Interest Earned \$ 58,340.69
 - February 2026 – Interest Earned \$50,779.67
 - March 2026 – Interest Earned \$54,018.35
 - April 2026 – Interest Earned \$50,017.22
 -

Michelle Shaw made a motion to approve the January, February, March and April financials as presented. Rob Thomas 2nd. All in favor.

- An Updated Credit Card Policy and Resolution Authorizing Use of Credit Cards were presented for approval.

Rob Thomas made a motion to accept the new policy (Res. # 052026.1), Michelle Shaw 2nd. All in favor

Rob Thomas made a motion to accept Resolution Authorizing Use (Res. # 052026.2), Rob Thomas made a motion to accept, Kevin Conery 2nd. All in favor

- Assistance Office Update- George ann Ewald- Director of Finance & HR

- Direct Assistance Expenses to date \$8,014.76
 - Shelter \$6265.26
 - Utilities \$836.41
 - Burial/Cremations (1) \$600- Derrik DeCraene, Parks & Ground Manager, spoke about the indigent burial process.
 - Prescriptions \$89.64
 - Food & Household Supplies \$223.45

❖ **Park Update-** Derrik DeCraene, Parks and Grounds Manager

- New Pickle Ball Courts should be finished next week
- 35 New Picnic Tables are being assembled and set about the park
- New Playground Mulch to be installed late fall 2026
- Park Reservation Revenue to date \$1,975
- The spring storms of 2026 have thus far caused many trees to come down across the area, Clay Park and the cemeteries have not been spared. We are fortunate to have a great relationship with Watson's Tree Service who treats our park safety as a top priority.

❖ **Fire Department Update – Jaren Kilian, Fire Chief – see attached**

❖ **Old Business - none**

❖ **New Business – Township Budget workshop planned for July 8, 2026 at 5:30**

- ❖ **PUBLIC Comment-**Individuals wishing to speak will state their name, address, phone number(s) and topic. **Remarks are limited to two minutes**, and groups should appoint a single spokesperson.

- ❖ **Set next meeting:** August 27, 2026 5:30 at Clay Fire Station 2 on Auten Road.
This will be the 2027 Township Budget Public Hearing Meeting.

Adjourn 6:24 p.m.