



**MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 09, 2026
28 S DRAKE AVE
CLAYCOMO, MISSOURI 64119**

Those in attendance: Chairman Terry Bradich, Chairman Pro-Tem Mark Benton, Trustee Larry Barrera, Trustee David Jett, Trustee Renee Keelin, Village Clerk Melody Wymore, Police Chief Matt Coonce, Fire Chief Steve Shaumeyer, Zoning Board Chairman Dale Goeller, Park Board Chairman James McKee

Meeting Start: Chairman Bradich called the Regular Meeting of March 9, 2026, to order at 7:03 PM.

Trustee Barrera led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bradich turned the meeting over to Police Chief Coonce. He reminds us that there was an armed robbery at Zedz last month. He had Certificates of Commendation, and they were presented to Officer Firkins, Detective Cooley, Investigator Shaw-Ellis, and Captain Lorensen.

“In recognition of your outstanding performance and dedication to duty.

Your swift actions and ability to work efficiently were essential in apprehending an armed robbery suspect following the incident on February 18, 2026.

Your investigative assistance was critical in presenting the case to the Clay County Prosecutor’s Office, resulting in the issuance of an arrest warrant on March 2, 2026, in the amount of \$75,000 for:

- Robbery in the First Degree
- Kidnapping in the Second Degree
- Armed Criminal Action

Your professionalism and commitment to justice are commendable and greatly appreciated.”

Investigator Shaw-Ellis thanked everyone for the award. She stressed that it was very much a team effort.

Trustee Benton motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2026; Trustee Barrera seconded. Roll call: Trustee Barrera: Yea, Trustee Jett: Abstain, Trustee Benton: Yea, Trustee Keelin: Yea, Chairman Bradich: Yea. Motion carried.

Trustee Barrera motioned to approve the Payment of Bills for February 19, 2026, through March 5, 2026, seconded by Trustee Jett. Roll call: Trustee Barrera: Yea, Trustee Jett: Yea, Trustee Benton: Yea, Trustee Keelin: Yea, Chairman Bradich: Yea. Motion carried.

Chairman Bradich brought for discussion: Business License for Summit Skin Care INC at 244 E US 69 HWY. A representative was present to answer questions. Trustee Jett motioned to approve Business License for Summit Skin Care INC at 244 E US 69 HWY. Seconded by Trustee Keelin. Roll call: Trustee Barrera: Yea, Trustee Jett: Yea, Trustee Benton: Yea, Trustee Keelin: Yea, Chairman Bradich: Yea. Motion carried. Chairman Bradich welcomed them to Claycomo.

Gentleman from A-1 Motors was present to discuss the nature of his Business License. He has a license to sell vehicles from his location but must repair them indoors or at another location, out of sight from the public.

OLD BUSINESS

- Police Chief Coonce: Still have 2 full-time positions available. We have 1 potential candidate, but he is not post-certified. 2 part-time reserve officers have been hired. Det. Larry Fish will take over the open position left by the retirement of Det. Sgt. Billy Aaron. Rob Knapp was also hired as a part time patrol officer. As it is becoming increasingly difficult to fill the full time positions, he may consider using more part time officers to fill that void. Chairman asked about our dispatch contract. We still have another year on our contract. There have been several issues with our current dispatch team.
- Fire Chief Shaumeyer: Fire has been having issues with incorrect information from our current police dispatch team also.
- Village Clerk Wymore: Republic will have their final pick up on (Thursday) March 26. Trash carts need to be available for pick up at 5AM. Red Gate will deliver our new trash carts on (Wednesday) March 25. Red Gate will take over as the new trash service for Claycomo on FRIDAY, April 3. Friday will be our new regular trash day.
- Public Works: No old business.
- Park Board (Jim): Absent
- Zoning (Dale): No old business.
- Trustee Barrera: Businesses in general are having a hard time hiring. Dollar General had to close early, because they didn't have staff. Foster's had 4 employees that didn't come in for work on that day as well. It just seems like people don't want to work.
- Trustee Jett: Apologized for not being at the last meeting. He thanked Officer Rivers for his assistance in helping remove a dead animal from the street when nobody else was

available. His willingness to help anyone at any time without complaint and many times, without even being asked, is very much appreciated.

- Trustee Benton: No old business.
- Trustee Keelin: No old business.
- Chairman Bradich: No old business.
- Residents: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

- Police Chief Coonce: No new business.
- Fire Chief Shaumeyer: No new business.
- Village Clerk Wymore: No new business.
- Trustee Barrera: Claycomo Citizens Alliance has been running the pantry when he is unable to be there due to other obligations. Debbie Jacks has been running the pantry 5 days a week. She goes above and beyond to help the people in our village. Trustee Barrera recognizes her for all her hard work and dedication. All board members shared their appreciation as well. Trustee Barrera asked for Board member's opinions of limiting or eliminating the sale of single shot liquor bottles (like Kansas City is trying to do in "high-crime areas"). Chairman Bradich would not be supporting that. His reasoning is revenue, tax rates, and budget. Chief Coonce says that he is not concerned with the small alcohol bottles. Trustee Jett added that if they can't get it in Claycomo, they will get it someplace else. Trustee Benton would like to see it pass. He is tired of picking up the trash along his street. Trustee Barrera is not in favor of it passing. They will just buy the bigger bottles, and most of the bigger bottles are glass. That would lead to even more problems. He states that he doesn't see Claycomo as a "high-crime area". Chief Coonce agrees. Trustee Hoppe-Keelin is not in favor. She feels it would appear that the Board of Trustees is micromanaging businesses.
- Trustee Jett: Discussion on (gambling) machines in our gas stations. Chief Coonce added that the State of Missouri considers them to be "legal". Trustee Benton informed us that there is a bill trying to get passed to illegalize these machines. Chief Coonce agrees that if that happens, it changes everything. Dale from zoning added that there are several Village ordinances that prohibit gambling. Trustee Jett informed that the State statutes override our Village ordinances. Chairman Bradich says they should be taxed for revenue for the Village. Trustee Jett reminds us to be aware as the days get longer and warmer, there is potential for more crime related issues in the neighborhood. Trustee Keelin added that a safety tip on wearing light colored clothing if you are walking outdoors at night should be shared either by Police or Neighborhood Watch. Trustee Benton asked Village Clerk Wymore about the surveys for more streetlights from Evergy. She said she would reach out to her contact at Evergy. She asked for input for troubled areas.

- Trustee Benton: Added his concern about the dark streets.
- Chairman Bradich: There was vandalism at the Surplus Property. They tried to remove the “No Trespassing” sign. Cameras will be added.
- Trustee Keelin: No new business.
- Public Works: No new business.
- Jim from the Park Board: Absent
- Residents: A resident reminds others to be vigilant and keep an eye out for each other. If you see something, say something!
- Dale from Zoning: Meeting on Feb. 17 at 7pm at E&D

- Executive Session: No

Motion to Recess: Trustee Barrera motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of March 9, 2026, seconded by Trustee Jett. All yeas. Motion carried.

Meeting End: Chairman Bradich thanked everyone for coming.

Village Clerk Melody Wymore

Chairman of the Board Terry Bradich