

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
July 13, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Taped and In-Person

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ruppel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Randy Ruppel, Lance Miller, Kenneth Junak, Tom Tembreull– Present

Also present Dawn Schuhknecht, Recording Secretary & Ed Young, Township Supervisor/Zoning Administrator – Dotty Lajoie

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Miller to approve the agenda, with support from Tembreull. Ayes –4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made by Miller to approve the minutes from June 8, 2026, meeting and public hearing. Seconded by Junak. Ayes -4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Zoning Permits:

-Jaedan Pascoe storage shed

-Pearson's demo permit

-Gary and Susan Haney shipping container

Violation(s):

-Nothing new

Complaints:

- 444 County Road CKK Neighbor complaint of debris blowing into his yard, unsightly lawn and unsafe structure. Investigation to follow

On-going:

-Former Diorite School: email sent to Attorney, ongoing

- Carello/Beaupied: Jamie Carello called me, we had a lengthy phone conversation. He stated he has been cleaning up his property, he read off load slips for the scrap yard to me and told me what they entailed and said he will give me another follow up at the end of July.
- Leaf cabins Debra has been in contact with Supervisor Laakso, ongoing
- Jerzi's email sent, ongoing
- Harsilla's clean up ongoing Tanya is working on getting grants to help, ongoing
- Lajoie bunk house no permits letter sent, Dawn hand delivered letter, no response yet. I will contact attorney to see what next steps can be.

New Developments.

- Nothing new

Training: None

Phone Calls and Emails;

- Email from Kellane Smith regarding minimum lot size and if a structure could be rebuilt if it were destroyed. It is in TD district and a plotted lot, therefore minimum lot size becomes irrelevant.
- Email from Michael Zumbach from the ATF in regards to zoning and if firearms can be transferred at 50899 County Road 581. Have not responded to him yet, need to investigate the property history more and look for existing permits.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. *Master Plan/CUPPAD Updates:* Dotty Lajoie from CUPPAD attended. Dotty went over the next steps in the Master Plan process.
- B. *US-41 Corridor Meeting Minutes:* Chair Ruppel passed around the US-41 Corridor minutes for commissioners to read
- C. *Iron Ore Heritage Trail Meeting Updates:* None
- D. *Discussion of options for 40 Ely Township property* – Tembruell talked about walking the property with Habit for Humanity and how they would work with the township on grant applications to build on property. Tembruell did not have a chance to reach out to the Negaunee Senior Living but will bring that to the board next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS—

- A. *Short Term Rental Ordinance Discussion* – After discussing fee schedule, amount of units allowed per square mile, cost of enforcement of ordinance, and issues with noise to residents on neighboring property the issue was tabled until additional information could be obtained from Michigamme and other sources.
- B. *Handicap swing for parks* – Discussion was made to recommend to the township board to purchase 2 ADA compliant swings for the Diorite and Ely parks. Motion was made by Miller, seconded by Junak. Ayes – 4 Nays - 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

BOARD COMMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. by Chair Ruppel

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Schuhknecht, Recording Secretary