

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
June 9, 2025 – 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, Julie Hosang, Michael Anderson, Mark Burns – Present;
Also present Danielle Burke, Recording Secretary, Ed Young, Zoning Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made by Burns to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Hosang. Ayes - 4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Jeremy Laakso, Ely Township Supervisor requested time during Unfinished and New Business.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

- A. Zoning Permits:
 - a. Christina Scala
 - b. Daniel McNeely
 - c. Jeremy Laakso amendment
 - d. Andy Engstrom
 - e. Leslie Askwith
- B. Violation(s): Nothing New
- C. Complaints: Nothing new
- D. On-going:

- a. Former Diorite School: Nothing new
- b. Carello/Beaupied: Nothing new. More Investigation in the next months.
- c. Jerzi's: Work to continue in spring. Supervisor Laakso sent an email to owner for status update
- d. Harsila's Junk Yard: Ongoing cleanup
- e. Dan Moore/Kona Lane: More correspondence to come
- 2. New Developments: None.
- 3. Training: None.
- 4. Phone Calls: None.

Ed Young, Zoning Administrator

OLD BUSINESS

- A. *US-41 Corridor Meeting Minutes*: Ruppel read the minutes from the May 13, 2025 US-41 Corridor Advisory Group
- B. *Master Plan/CUPPAD Updates*: Jessica Walter from CUPPAD presented the results from the Master Plan survey that concluded on May 31, 2025. She also went over the next steps for the Master Plan
- C. *Vacant Property Plan Update*: Personnel from Northern Michigan University did not attend the meeting but Ms. Walter from CUPPAD provided the Planning Commission with an update on how community members answered the survey question about how they would like to see the vacant land utilized. The option with the highest interest rate was the multi-use trail system. The community was not interested in a disc golf course. The Planning Commission stated that they would need to get the appropriate permits from EGLE for the wetlands that are on the vacant property.
- D. *Iron Ore Heritage Trail Meeting Updates*: Anderson stated that there have been talks of an extension on the east end of the trail by Lakanenland. Anderson took a ride with Bob Hendrickson and pointed out areas on the trail that needed better/more gravel. They also discussed whether to continue with a 10 or 12 ft wide trail.
- E. *Short Term Rental Ordinance*: The Planning Commission read over Richmond Township's STR Ordinance. Members were curious as to why the fees were so high. Hosang will reach out to Richmond Township to discuss fees.
- F. *Amendment to Zoning Ordinance: Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinance (CREO)*: Hosang made a motion to present to the Ely Township Board to amend the current Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinance, with support from Anderson. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Supervisor Jeremy Laakso addressed the board and what they're duties as a Planning Commission are supposed to be

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

BOARD COMMENTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. by Chair Ruppel

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Burke, Recording Secretary