

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
June 8, 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

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 the May 11, 2026 meeting and public hearing. Seconded by Tembreull. Ayes -4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Zoning Permits:

- Wendy Highland addition and decks
- Jesse Wright demo permit

Violation(s):

- Nothing new

Complaints:

- Nothing new

On-going:

- Former Diorite School: email sent to Attorney, ongoing
- Carello/Beaupied: Letters sent, ongoing no response yet
- Leaf cabins Debra has been in contact with Supervisor Laakso, ongoing
- Jerzi's email sent, ongoing
- Harsila's clean up ongoing Tanya is working on getting grants to help, ongoing

- Lajoie bunk house no permits letter sent, ongoing
- Ehrhardt septic and site no permits letter sent. Responded, permits filed
In 2022 with Erin

New Developments.

- Nothing new

Training: None

Phone Calls and Emails:

- Received an email from Nicholaas at Marquette County asking questions about Pearsons's re-zone
- Received an email from Jaedan Pascoe with questions about filling out a zoning compliance permit for a pole barn and what kind of documentation he needs
- Received an email from Kara Kelly from MSU for the Zoning Administrator Certificate Program and Dawn will get me registered for that course
- I had a couple phone calls and an onsite visit with Xavier Paris at Kona Lanes; his neighbor keeps calling the cops on him for his music.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. *Master Plan/CUPPAD Updates:* Dotty Lajoie from CUPPAD attended. Dotty went over the next steps in the Master Plan process. Dotty went through Section 7 of the Master Plan and had discussion regarding any changes. Dotty asked Dawn to invoice for mileage reimbursement for Lance and Randy for attending classes in Gwinn
- 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:*

NEW BUSINESS—

- A. Discussion of options for 40 Ely Township property. Lance presented potential tax revenue that the township could collect from various housing options. Ken is looking into affordable housing and assisted living.
- B. Board discussed the budget and options for spending the parks 10k. They asked Miller to get together a wish list
- C. Board discussed holding a Public Hearing for the Barnes-Hecker property to rezone the property from RP to PL4. Motion by Miller to hold a Public Hearing for a contingent split of property for the purpose of rezoning from RP to PL. The motion was seconded by Junak. Ayes – 4, Nays -0 Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Schuhknecht commented on how she would like to see smaller homes without HOA's in the 300K range.

BOARD COMMENTS –

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. by Chair Ruppel

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Schuhknecht, Recording Secretary