

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
March 9, 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 Danielle Burke, Recording Secretary & Jeremy Laakso, Township Supervisor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made by Miller to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2026 meeting. Seconded by Junak. Ayes -4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Township Supervisor Jeremy Laasko discussed County Road CKL and the box culvert that is failing. Holes have been patched but need replacing. It would cost about \$210,000 to redo the road. Supervisor Laakso wants the Planning Commission to thing of pros and cons of turning that road into a cul-de-sac, which would be cheaper.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

- Zoning Permits:
 - o Phil Cobb state permit for mobile repair facility
- Violation(s):
 - o Lajoie bunk house no permits
 - o Ehrhardt septic and building site no permits
- Complaints:
 - o Nothing new
- On-going:
 - o Former Diorite School: Nothing new.
 - o Carello/Beaupied: Nothing new.
 - o Carlson gate. Nothing new
 - o Leaf cabins
 - o Jerzi's
 - o Harsila's

- o Jared Rogers
- New Developments:
 - o Lajoie bunk house
 - o Ehrhardt septic and building site
- Training: None
- Phone Calls and Emails:
 - o Quinnell's called in regards to parcels they had rezoned back in 2022 asking what they were rezoned to and why it was never updated on the online maps. Ongoing conversations
 - o I called Amy Stephens in regards to the files she sent over for Quinnell's, they were incorrect parcel numbers. She has since sent me over the correct files.

Ed Young, Ely Township Deputy Supervisor

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. *Master Plan/CUPPAD Updates:* Dotty Lajoie from CUPPAD attended. Dotty went over the next steps in the Master Plan process. This month was about the future land use map for the Master Plan. She described the future land use map as a zoning map but more generalized (R-1, R-2, R-10 would all be considered residential, etc.). She explained by it is needed in the Master Plan. She requested the Greenwood & Diorite water system maps as well as the CREO ordinance. Next month, she will be at the meeting discussing fine tuning more of what we talked about this month
- B. *Election of Officers:* Planning Commission voted on the following positions-
 1. Chairperson: Randy Ruppel
 2. Vice Chairperson: Lance Miller
 3. Secretary: Tom Tembreull
- C. *Township Owned Property:* Does the township want to donate the land for development with stipulations, donate to the Marquette County Land Bank, or leave it as public land. Office Manager Burke plans to create a letter that can go out to the Greenwood Water residents with their next water bills to ask their opinion
- D. *US-41 Corridor Meeting Minutes:* Chair Ruppel passed around the US-41 Corridor minutes for commissioners to read
- E. *Iron Ore Heritage Trail Meeting Updates:* Each Planning Commission member was given a list of items from the IOHT to gather input on which trail updates or improvements should be prioritized next.

NEW BUSINESS—None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

BOARD COMMENTS – Tembreull asked about the Barnes & Hecker donations and how it's being funded. Supervisor Laasko explained where it's coming from and how the committee is doing it.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m. by Chair Ruppel

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Burke, Recording Secretary