

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
May 12, 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 Ruppel to approve the agenda, with support from Burns. Ayes –4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made by Hosang to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Burns. Ayes - 4, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

- A. Zoning Permits:
 - a. Joel Talbacka
 - b. Mya and Shay Grady
 - c. Jared Rogers
 - d. Spencer Harvala
 - e. Richard Petrocik
 - f. Ben Kivela
 - g. Michael Uren
 - h. Chris Wensaut
- 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. Slab on Brocky Lake: Zoning compliance permit has been issued
 - d. Jerzi's: Work to continue in spring
 - e. Lazenby CO RD CJ: Stopped by the neighbors and looked at the surveyed property lines and the shed in question appears to not be in violation. The shed meets the required setback and also appears to have been there since it was built in 1991
 - f. Harsila's Junk Yard: I drove by and it appears that cleanup is ongoing and progress is being made
 - g. Dan Moore/Kona Lane: Spoke with Dan Moore at the old Kone Lane Motel about using it as an apartment building. I notified him that he needs to apply for a zoning compliance permit for continued use as an apartment.
- 2. New Developments: Two rezone applications to review

Ed Young, Zoning Administrator

OLD BUSINESS

- A. *US-41 Corridor Meeting Minutes*: Ruppel read the minutes from the April 8, 2025 US-41 Corridor Advisory Group
- B. *Master Plan/CUPPAD Updates*: Jessica Walter from CUPPAD was unable to attend. Danielle Burke read an email from Jessica that stated that there were 166 completed surveys via the QR code.
- C. *Vacant Property Plan Update*: Ms. Andrea Daar brought the completed binder containing her classes final projects for the vacant land. She gave the planning commission an idea of what's to come in the future with the project as well as presenting information about collaborating with NMU's Construction Management program.
- D. *Iron Ore Heritage Trail Meeting Updates*: Anderson stated that he is officially on the IOHT committee. The committee is looking for suggestions for Summer 2025 maintenance. Hosang brought up that the sand near the end of the trail in Ely Township was not good for biking.
- E. *Short Term Rental Ordinance*: Planning Commission discussed the Short Term Rental Ordinance and what they would like it to contain. Items like parking, noise, safety, quiet time at night, etc. were brought up as ideas to include in our ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. *Amendment to Zoning Ordinance*: Tabled-will be moved to "Unfinished Business" for the June PC meeting.
- B. *Adult-Use Marijuana Distributions*: Planning Commission discussed that they would allow an Adult-Use Marijuana Distribution retailer, but there would have to be rules. They also talked about where a good location might be for one if a person wanted to open one in the Township.

Motion made by Hosang to approve having the opportunity to have an Adult-Use Marijuana Distribution retailer in the Township. Seconded by Anderson. Ayes - 4, Nays - 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

BOARD COMMENTS - None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. by Chair Ruppel

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Burke, Recording Secretary