

MARATHON TOWNSHIP

PLANNING COMMISSION QUARTERLY MEETING

Minutes

March 10, 2025

Smokey Meinecke, Chair
Sandi Glesenkamp, Secretary
Terry Miner
Charlie Brockriede

Sheila Dennis
Rosalee Perdue
Justin Church

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman, Smokey Meinecke. Roll call was taken. All members present. Guest included Dennis Hogan and DTE Representative, Rebecca. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

A motion was made by Glesenkamp with support by Dennis to approve the agenda with the addition of battery storage in new business. All votes aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Church with support by Perdue to approve the minutes of December 9, 2025, minutes. All votes aye, motion carried. The January 9, 2025, minutes were read with a motion by Perdue and support by Dennis to approve. All votes aye, motion carried.

Public Comment: Rebecca from DTE made a short presentation regarding the Township's CREO in comparison with the State of Michigan's siting and DTE's Best Practices. All and all, Marathon Township has a very workable ordinance. There was a brief question and answer session.

Supervisor Hogan brought up the subject of Battery Storage which is an agenda item. Hogan also mentioned the need to put the Wind Energy Ordinance in Ordinance 200 as opposed to a stand-alone ordinance.

New Business: Copies of the Wind Energy Ordinance were presented for review. A suggested placement in Ordinance 200 was Section 15 which is currently blank. A public hearing will be required for this change.

There was discussion about attending webinars that would be presented at the Township Hall. For April 24 at 3:00 the topic will be *The Housing Element of a Master Plan*, followed by May 22 at 3:00, *Missing Middle Housing*. This material should be helpful as we update the Master Plan. All members are interested in attending.

Another handout titled *Making Defensible Zoning Decisions with Conditions* was handed out for study.

The need for a Battery Storage Ordinance was discussed with another handout for sample zoning of "BESS" (Battery Energy Storage System). The PC will begin working on this ordinance at next meeting.

Old Business: Follow-up on Amy's Angels. J. Church expressed the Fire Department concerns that an illuminated sign will be required identifying the property. The fire inspection is pending due to the unpaid invoice.

A motion was made by Miner with support from Dennis to adjourn. All votes aye, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by _____
Sandi Glesenkamp

Approved _____
Smokey Meinecke