

LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2026

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 6:30 pm at Lake Township Hall (5153 Scenic Hwy, Honor MI).

Mark Janeczko called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members Present; Mark Janeczko, Carl Lightfoot, Jackie Randall, Kyle Orr and Michelle Erwin. Others Present; Mary Pitcher, Twp Supervisor; Maureen Jeannot, recorder; also, about 18 township residents (sign in list on file).

Motion by Jackie Randall to approve the agenda, seconded by Carl Lightfoot. The agenda was approved with no objections.

Motion by Jackie Randall to accept the minutes from the PC hearing/meeting on September 17, 2026, seconded by Carl Lightfoot. The minutes were accepted with no objections.

Public Input on agenda;

- Mark Janeczko read a letter to the LT PC from William Anderson, MD of PLIA in support of the 35ft. setback proposed.
- Greg Magel requested time during Public Input to talk about Light Pollution.
- Mary Pitcher commented in opposition to 6 dockages for safety reasons.
- Tom Kucera of CLWA asked 1) if a slope map was available, 2) when will final draft document be available, 3) when will the Township Board vote on the updated Zoning Ordinance?
- Mark Janeczko commented the Township Board should be voting on the Zoning Ordinance at their January meeting.

New Business;

- There was discussion regarding Amendments to the Draft Zoning Ordinance. In summary:
ADU's – The Commission members decided to hold off supporting this topic in order to acquire additional information from the Consulting Firm. There was concern about tying the size of an ADU to the size of the main dwelling, perhaps there is conflicting language with the science of land usage on a lot, also to look at and review aggregated lots.

DOCKS and DOCKAGES 2.19

(C) – The Commission members supported changing the number of dockages from 6 allowed to 4 allowed. Some felt there needs to be better definition of what counts as a dockage.

(H) – The Commission members are in support of solar lighting for docks with additional detail on solar panels used for hoists.

DWELLINGS ON MORE THAN ONE LOT 2.6 – “If a structure is to be located on a parcel of land containing 2 or more lots under single ownership, the entire parcel shall be considered a “lot” for purposes of this Ordinance” The Commission members felt more discussion and/or research is needed on this topic. Is there already an aggregation clause in the Zoning Ordinance?

PLANTINGS Article 4 – The Commission members agreed that native planting should be encouraged, not required.

POWER GENERATORS 2.18 – The Commission members support allowing power generators to be accessible, for service, snow removal, etc.

SHORELINE PROTECTION STRIP Section 4.4(E)2.E – “Grass clippings are to be removed from not less than 50 ft. from lake high watermark (change)” The Commission members will accept this change, staying with the PLIA language.

Some Commission members asked if a final draft of the full document could be made available in order to view all amendments.

- Mark Janeczko read A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED LAKE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD AND CONSTITUTING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF SUCH ZONING ORDINANCE. No action was taken as the Commission agreed to wait for additional information and a final draft for viewing before approving the resolution.

Old Business;

- Future Land Use Map – Mark Janeczko handed out a Future Land Use Map for review and pointed out changes discussed at previous meetings. (on file) He then read the following:

“Over the past months, during multiple public meetings the Planning Commission has expressed a desire to rezone properties located on the south side of Deadstream Road from Commercial Resort to Lakeshore Residential.

This is consistent with statement that exists in the 2023 Master Plan; however, the Master Plan is currently missing a Future Land Use Map. Changes to the Zoning Map should be consistent with the Future Land Use Map and Zoning Plan.

Per the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, these are required elements of a Master Plan. The updates to the Master Plan are not a shift in policy. They are taking the current goals and objectives of the Master Plan, and those that have been expressed by the Planning Commission and members of the public who have participated in the Zoning Ordinance amendment process and ensuring that they exist in the Master Plan in a way that’s consistent with state law. Most importantly, through the adoption of a Future Land Use Map.”

Motion by Mark Janeczko to submit the amendments to the Lake Township Board of Trustees, so they can review and distribute it to the surrounding government entities and utilities, to start the required 42-day public comment period. Second by Michelle Erwin. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion passed.

- Future Planning Commission Meetings are as follows:

Thursday, November 12, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Announcements; None

Public Input;

- Unknown person commented regarding ADU’s that the septic, impervious surface allowance and setbacks are already labeled.

- Tom Kucera (CLWS) commented 1) Over development ruins rural character and it’s a violation of the zoning ordinance if ADU’s are allowed on lots zoned for a single dwelling, 2) Suggests a legal

review of the timeline, 3) suggests '*requiring* native *and* non-invasive' in plantings, 4) disappointed none of the issues brought by the CLWS were entertained.

- Unknown person commented the Zoning Ordinance is an embodiment of the Master Plan.
- John Randall commented that the ADU's being allowed creates a quandary.
- Unknown person commented 1) in agreement with T. Kucera about invasive plants, 2) ADU's should be accepted but not for Short Term Rental use. Find a happy medium.
- Greg Magel gave a short presentation about Dark Sky and Light Pollution.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Next Meeting scheduled at Lake Township Hall: November 12 @ 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted
Maureen Jeannot, Recording Secretary