

**Laketon Township Planning Commission**  
**September 10, 2025 Regular Meeting-APPROVED**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Bob Marine called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Pledge was led by Chair Bob Marine.

**ROLL CALL:**

- Present: Eric Anderson, Chris Simpson, Paul Hoppa, Dave Mieras, Bob Marine, June Earhart and Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes.
- Absent: NONE
- Also present: Zoning Administrator Heidi Tice, Recording Secretary Melissa Coates and Township Supervisor Kim Arter.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** June Earhart moved to approve the agenda as presented. Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Dave Mieras moved to approve the minutes of June 11, 2025 as presented. Paul Hoppa supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** Kim Arter Township Supervisor spoke about why she asked for the shipping containers to be put on the agenda. The township staff are getting more and more questions about them as well as seeing an increase in use across the township. She is worried more will show up, so she wanted to put something together to begin a discussion.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- **Monthly Permit Reporting:** Zoning Administrator Heidi Tice presented all permits from 6/1/2025 - 8/31/2025.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Request from Kim Arter Township Supervisor to look into shipping containers (Ocean/Train/Non-Wheeled):** ZA Tice went over the letter from Kim Arter. She explained that these containers do not fall under the definition of accessory building, but under personal property. This is due to not being able to assess the containers as they are not permanent structures. During her research of other local Townships, they don't have any ordinances on them, however she was able to find one for the City of North Muskegon. Eric Anderson asked if these containers can be defined as temporary structure? ZA Tice said they would have to be anchored. Chris Simpson asked if the definition can be changed. Eric Anderson would like to see a timeframe put on them and also extend to include Pods moving containers with the shipping containers. Paul Hoppa mentioned no front yard, no year round, no longer than 3 months. ZA Tice suggested putting shipping containers and Pods into ~~temporary~~ ACCESSORY structures. Paul Hoppa asked Heidi if she can broaden her search to farther out municipalities to see what ordinances are already established. Eric Anderson made a motion to have ZA Tice develop language in

temporary structure ordinance for including shipping containers and Pods. Second was made by June Earhart. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Yard Sale Ordinance:** ZA Tice presented to the board the Yard/Garage Sale of Goods ordinance which is as follows:
  - **Section 3.34 Yard/Garage Sale of Goods**
    - All yard/garage sales conducted in a residential district shall be restricted as follows:
      1. No more than four (4) sales of three (3) days duration each shall be held by a property owner during any one (1) calendar year.
      2. Said sale shall be limited to residential household items, including items of clothing.
      3. Because of the congestion of parking within residential districts, sales shall be restricted to single household.
      4. Parking for sales cannot obstruct the roadway.

Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes asked what this means for neighborhood sales. Dave Mieras mentioned some HOAs have restricted sales to one weekend a year. Eric Anderson mentioned “restricted to single household” might be tricky to define. ZA Tice suggests taking out #3 in the proposed ordinance. Paul Hoppa mentioned that four sales a year is too many and believes two would be more comfortable. Lessening the number would lessen the amount of parking in the street as it is not safe. Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes said we need to strike a balance with the number limit.

A motion was made by Chris Simpson to change from 4 sales a year to 3, having the ordinance read 3 sales of 3 days per calendar year

Second was made by Dave Mieras.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes-Eric Anderson, Chris Simpson, Dave Mieras, Bob Marine, June Earhart, Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes

Nayes: Paul Hoppa

ZA Tice asked if the rest of the proposed ordinance is okay. Chris Simpson asked if we are trying to limit bulk buyers. ZA Tice answered yes.

A motion was made by Eric Anderson to the changes previously voted on for #1 in the ordinance, also to keep numbers 2 and 4 and strike #3 completely out.

Second was made by Chris Simpson.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes-Eric Anderson, Chris Simpson, Paul Hoppa, Dave Mieras, Bob Marine, June Earhart, Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes

Nayes: NONE

ZA Tice asked when the public hearing should be scheduled for the yard/garage sale of goods ordinance.

Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes suggested PC meeting on November 11, 2025.

A Motion was made by Dave Mieras to have the public hearing on November 11, 2025. Second was made by Eric Anderson. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Township Supervisor Kim Arter updated the PC on Horton Park Improvement Project that will begin in the next couple of weeks and the deadline for finishing is June 30, 2026. The park will be closed during this time and will have barriers blocking it to prevent people from driving their cars into the construction area. Kim Arter also updated on the Scenic Drive Initiative, waiting on funding which is currently waiting in Congress to be voted on. She is also working on funding for completing the trail down Dykstra.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

- **Board of Trustees-Eric Anderson-** Kim Arter Township Supervisor, updated PC on all the projects
- **Zoning Board of Appeals – Suzanne Lockwood-Hayes-** No Report. Refer to the June meeting minutes.

**Adjournment:**

- Dave Mieras made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris Simpson supported the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Melissa Coates

Recording Secretary