

Laketon Township Planning Commission
June 10, 2026 Regular Meeting-APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairperson June Earhart called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge was led by Vice-Chairperson June Earhart.

ROLL CALL:

- Present: Eric Anderson, Chris Simpson, Paul Hoppa, Suzanne Hayes, June Earhart
- Absent: Bob Marine - Excused and Dave Meiras - Excused
- Also present: Zoning Administrator Heidi Tice, Township Supervisor Kim Arter, Recording Secretary Melissa Coates, 2 township residents

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Eric Anderson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Chris Simpson supported the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Suzanne Hayes moved to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2026 meeting with modifications that were discussed. Eric Anderson supported the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: NONE

CORRESPONDENCE

- **Monthly Permit Reporting:** ZA Tice presented the permits report and said they have started building the last homes at Bloomfield Acres.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fence Height Discussion -

- Suzanne Hayes spoke with residents that live nearby Dykstra and they would like to have an 8-foot fence.
- June Earhart asked if the taller fence would really cut down on noise.
- Paul Hoppa said that he researched and that it won't keep noise out it will possibly mitigate it. The fence would have to be built out of sound deadening materials.
- ZA Tice read Zoning Ordinance Chapter 3 General Provisions Section 3.20 Fences to the PC (Planning Commission).
- Paul Hoppa asked if trees or shrubbery can be taller than 6-foot.
- ZA Tice answered it can be, because it is landscaping.
- Suzanne Hayes said she is not in favor. She is not sure a taller fence would be safer, or that the noise reduction would be enough.
- Eric Anderson agreed.
- June Earhart agreed.
- Chris Simpson agreed that it won't help with the noise issue, but asked if it would help with the privacy concerns.
- Eric Anderson said that he took a bike ride on the bike path and looked at homes that have a 6-foot privacy fence, to check to see if there is a privacy issue. He said there is not a violation of privacy and that he couldn't see into the yards.
- Eric Anderson also mentioned that in the past when requests for a fence variance are brought to the ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals) they get denied.
- June Earhart asked PC if there is any more discussion.
- PC said no.

OLD BUSINESS:

Proposed shipping container language from the Township Board

- ZA Tice presented the proposed language.
- Eric Anderson said it was clear, concise and gets the job done.
- Eric Anderson made a motion to approve the new proposed language. Suzanne Hayes supported the motion. Motion carried.
- Chris Simpson made a motion for a public hearing at the July 8th meeting. Suzanne Hayes supported the motion.
- Roll call vote
- Ayes: Eric Anderson, Chris Simpson, Paul Hoppa, June Earhart and Suzanne Hayes
- Nays: None
- Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Kim Arter (Township Supervisor) updated the PC on the Horton Park renovations.
- McCormick is done with their part of the project.
- Meeting with Verizon/Frontier the week of June 14, 2026 about the removal of the utility lines.
- The sprinkler system was redone.
- The boat launch will not be opening until later in the year, due to the utility lines needing to be removed and dredging that needs to happen.
- There is a permit submitted to EGLE (The department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy).
- The lighting and electrical have been completed.
- A new bike rack, community board, garbage bins, landscaping and buoys for the designated swim area, will be going in soon.
- Drainage trench has also been installed to filter rain water before it gets to the lake.

BOARD REPORTS:

- **Board of Trustees – Eric Anderson** – Nothing further to report from Township Supervisor Kim Arter's public comment.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals – Suzanne Hayes** - No activity to report

Adjournment:

- Chris Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric Anderson supported the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Melissa Coates

Recording Secretary