

Powell Township
101 Bensinger Street
Big Bay, MI 49808
Planning Commission – Regular Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2023
Draft

- 1. Call to Order:**
Chair, Moran, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance:**
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 3. Roll Call:**
Members Present: Mohrman, Moran (Chair), Gaines, Hall, Tull, and Korstad
Members Absent: Hudson
- 4. Approval of Agenda:**
Hall made a motion to request a recording secretary this was seconded by Gaines, all in favor-motion carried
Agenda approved (Tull/Korstad)
- 5. Approval of Minutes:**
Approval of the May minutes (Mohrman/Gaines)
- 6. Call to the Public: Time for Citizens to be Heard:**
Phil Bakken N4359 Lighthouse Rd, Big: Submitted a Petition for amendment Of zoning ordinance text. The board received a packet of information Regarding Prohibitions on rocket launch sites, structures, and activities. Mr. Bakken is requesting that we schedule a public meeting for September 2023.
Dennis Ferraro 238 Eagles Nest Rd, Marquette, MI spoke about the packet That he presented to the board. He stated that the Conservation Law Center has prepared a legal basis for this petition. He also stated that this Law firm is also willing to represent us pro bono for any future law suits

Mohrman made a motion to meet in August, and look at setting a date at For a public meeting at the August 15, 2023, meeting. This was seconded

by Gaines. All in favor motion carried.

7. Updates from the Zoning Administrator:

Nine (6) permits were issued since the last update: (1) 5/20/23 LR Swadley pole barn(2) 6/10/23 Gene Champagne, garage (3) 6/7/23 Chris Sutter, residential addition (4) 6/17/23 Clare DePue, fence (5) 6/24/23 Brent Griffin Residence with attached garage (6) 7/8/23 Kerri Rabitaille Garage

8. Unfinished Business:

a. Tiny house on Lake Independence. Kristen Bressette attended the meeting to give us an update on the progress with addressing this property. She reported that building codes is requiring a well and septic for the addition and that it is going to take a little longer to resolve the non-conforming structure.

b. Non-conforming properties: Howard sent us a list of how many non-conforming properties are in Powell township with no explanation. We are going to get with Howard and get a list of the properties and see how we can incorporate those properties in the future land use map.

c. Future Land Use. A couple of members are going to meet with Howard to discuss what his suggestions are for the changes to the future land use map. We are requesting to meet on August 5, 2023.

9. New Business:

a. Fences: We have recently had an issue with a permit that was issued for a fence. The State of Michigan no longer has specific rules for fences. We need to enhance the current fence ordinance. Mohrman handed out copies of other townships fence ordinances to look over and come up with one that fits our township. This topic was tabled.

10. Board Discussion:

Blight: Gaines reported that she is still gathering information to determine what the best approach to resolving the blight issue. Possibly looking at the zoning enforcement person.

Shipping containers: There was a request for permit for a shipping container that was turned down. We need to address this through our

ordinances.

11. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

12. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. (Hall/Tull). All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Mohrman