

Penn Township Michigan
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2026 | 6:33 PM

Penn Township, Cass County, Michigan

I. Call to Order

Chairman Carl Sparks called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Carl Sparks, Nick Dussel, and Shadrick Yoder.

Members Absent: Roger Leach and Craig Danzy.

Also Present: Township Attorney Ronald Redick, Mika Meyers.

II. Opening

Shadrick Yoder led the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Nick Dussel.

Proof of meeting notice was acknowledged.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Shadrick Yoder to approve the agenda. Seconded by Nick Dussel.

Motion carried.

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed, with a correction replacing "Planning Board" with "Planning Commission."

The minutes were approved as corrected.

V. Old Business

None.

VI. New Business – Public Hearing

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Section 6.26, Data Center Moratorium

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing regarding the proposed data center moratorium.

Township Attorney Ronald Redick reviewed the proposed ordinance and applicable legal requirements.

Public comments and Planning Commission discussion addressed data center development, infrastructure, water usage, zoning regulations, and proposed amendments.

VII. Proposed Ordinance Amendments

Motion 1 – Expanded Definitions

The Planning Commission considered amendments expanding the definitions of data centers and related facilities, including data processing, cryptocurrency mining, and associated infrastructure.

Motion carried.

Motion 2 – Early Termination Procedures

The Planning Commission considered an amendment to Section D3 clarifying that early termination of the moratorium must follow the zoning ordinance amendment procedures established under the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.

Motion carried.

VIII. Recommendation of Data Center Moratorium

Nick Dussel made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed Section 6.26 Data Center Moratorium, including the approved amendments, and forward the recommendation to the Cass County Planning Commission and Penn Township Board.

Seconded by Shadrick Yoder.

Roll Call Vote:

Carl Sparks – Yes
Nick Dussel – Yes
Shadrick Yoder – Yes

Motion carried unanimously, 3–0.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Nick Dussel to adjourn. Seconded by Shadrick Yoder.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Dussel
Secretary, Penn Township Planning Commission

Chairman Print: _____ Chairman Signature: _____

Secretary Print: _____ Secretary Signature: _____

Minutes subject to approval by the Planning Commission.