

Penn Township Board

Special Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2026

5:15 pm – 6:02 pm

Cassopolis VFW

131 S. Broadway St

Cassopolis, MI 49031

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Penn Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Oli Olafsson at 5:15 pm.

2. Roll Call:

- Members Present: Supervisor Oli Olafsson, Treasurer Paul Rutherford, Clerk Rhonda Barnett, Trustee Roger Leach, Trustee Scott Peters
- Members Absent: None
- Quorum Present: Yes
- Others Present: Attorney Sara Seneca, Deputy Clerk Rachele Bogue

3. Purpose of the Special Meeting:

The special meeting was called for the specific purpose as stated in the posted meeting notice:

- Adoption of Temporary One-Year Moratorium on Data Centers
- Hiring a Professional Planner

4. Business Transacted:

- Agenda Item 1: Adoption of a Temporary One-Year Moratorium on Data Centers
 - Discussion:

Trustee Peters, Trustee Leach, and Clerk Barnett all spoke in favor of supporting the one-year moratorium with the option of extending the moratorium at the end of the one-year period. They mentioned that they were not opposed to adopting it as written but also mentioned that they would like a 3rd party attorney to review the moratorium and offer suggestions for potential amendments.
 - Motion:

Trustee Leach made a motion to adopt the proposed one-year temporary non-zoning moratorium regulatory ordinance regarding data centers and all related data infrastructure facilities and accessory buildings and uses, and to direct the planning commission to prepare a zoning ordinance text amendments for a temporary moratorium on data centers and all related data infrastructure facilities and accessory buildings and uses and allow for a review by a 3rd party attorney of the ordinance. Supervisor Olafsson supported the motion as amended.
 - Vote Result:

Roll call vote was taken-Peters-yes; Rutherford-yes; Barnett-yes; Leach-yes; Olafsson-yes. 5-yays/0-nays. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Hire a professional planner

- Motion: Trustee Leach moved to hire a professional planner to assist the planning board with changes and updates to the master plan and ordinances. Supervisor Olafsson supported the motion.
- Vote Result:
Roll call vote was taken-Peters-yes; Rutherford-yes; Barnett-yes; Leach-yes; Olafsson-yes. 5-yays/0-nays. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Public Comments

Public Comments were received.

VII. Adjournment

With no further business on the agenda, Trustee Leach made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Supervisor Olafsson supported the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm.

VIII. Minutes Submission & Approval

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda Barnett, Penn Township Clerk

Date

Approved by:

Oli Olafsson, Penn Township Supervisor

Date