

**PLANNING COMMISSION
ERIE TOWNSHIP
ERIE, MICHIGAN
Regular Meeting
May 20, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Bill Jacobs called to order the Regular Meeting of the Erie Township Planning Commission on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Erie Township Hall, Erie Michigan.

2. ROLL CALL

Bill Jacobs	Present
Dave Cousino	Absent
Dr. Larry Guinn	Present
Dan Taylor	Absent - Excused
Paul Perry	Present
Robert Schwartz	Absent - Excused
Manny Evola	Present

Also present: Building and Zoning Official Mike Demski and Recording Secretary, Kimberly Cousino.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Manny Evola moved supported by Dr. Guinn to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Paul Perry moved supported by Manny Evola to keep the officers the same. Motion carried.

Chairman: Bill Jacobs

Vice-Chair: Danny Taylor

Secretary: Paul Perry

Recording Secretary: Kimberly Cousino

6. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Paul Perry moved supported by Manny Evola to appoint to the battery storage ordinance sub-committee: Paul Perry, Dave Cousino, Bob Schwartz. Bill Jacobs will replace Bob Schwartz if he is unable to commit to the committee. And appoint to the master plan sub-committee: Manny Evola, Pau Perry, Danny Taylor. Motion carried.

7. MINUTES APPROVAL

Manny Evola moved, supported by Paul Perry to approve the December 17, 2024 Regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comment:

Diane La Plante questioned if updates were made to Ordinance #121, Truck Route Ordinance, raised concerns about truck traffic going off approved truck routes during I-75 construction and accidents as well as the condition of Sterns and Suder Ave. due to a property being used as staging ground for the Summit St. bridge construction.

B. Communications: None.

C. Budget Report: Paul Perry moved supported by Dr. Guinn to approve and place on file the budget report. Motion carried.

Paul Perry moved supported by Manny Evola to amend the agenda adding planner to new business. Motion carried.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Master Plan Update

Paul Perry moved supported by Manny Evola to forward the current draft of the Master Plan to the township board. Motion carried.

B. Battery Storage

Paul Perry stated the sub-committee has met a few times to review sample ordinances and documents from the state regarding battery storage, they will be ready to present their recommendation to the entire committee either at the June or July meeting.

C. Zoning map

Mike Demski provided committee members with an updated zoning map that reflects recent changes to Ordinance 117.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Storage containers for use as accessory structures – board request

The township board has requested the planning commission to review the use of storage containers as accessory structures in the township, they are currently allowed for temporary use and property owners do need to obtain a permit from the building and zoning officials office. Mike Demski stated that the Michigan Construction Code is supposed to address them in the newest edition, which is not yet available. Discussion was held. Bill Jacobs stated he would like to hold off on forming a committee until the next meeting when they should have all members present.

b. Planner

Bill Jacobs will like to add hiring a planner to the next meeting agenda.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Diane La Plante inquired on the permit status of the restaurant next to Weber's in Lost Peninsula; Mike Demski responded they have applied for permits through his office, right now there will be no changes to the site plan therefore they do not need to come before the planning commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Paul Perry moved supported by Manny Evola to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Kimberly Cousino
Recording Secretary