

Ford River Township Planning Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 07, 2025

The meeting was called to order by at 7:00 p.m.

Present: R. Fettig, J. Church, S. Ribble, R. Ness, K. Mineau

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

- Linda Laviolette – Comments regarding Church Brewery Fence Application. Complaints over parking on street, music and not following special use permit Section 604 #C – G- H.

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

- None

**Approval of Agenda**

- R. Ness made a motion to approve the agenda R. Fettig seconded. Unanimously Approves

**Public Hearing**

- None

**Minutes**

- Planning Commission meeting minutes from April 2025, were approved with a motion by R. Fettig, seconded by R. Ness. Unanimously Approved

**Reports**

- Zoning Administrator B. Jenshak provided the commission with the April 2025 Zoning Administrators Report.

**Permits**

4/11/25	Z1215	Tony Brunette	906-420-2683	R2	4020 Hwy M35 Escanaba, MI 49829	009-063-001-10	Zoning Permit Addition/Deck
4/18/25	Z1216	Bon Stenfors	906-399-1213	RR	3948 J.5 Rd. Bark River, MI 49807	009-067-003-00	Zoning Permit Camp
4/28/25		Mike Ammel	832-731-4827	R2	2874 Hwy M35 Bark River, MI 49807	009-082-003-00	Special Use Permit Pole Barn
4/28/25	Z1218	Dennis OConnell	Z1218	R2	4481 12th Rd. Escanaba, MI 49829	009-059-002-10	Zoning Permit Addition
4/28/25	Z1219	Steve Knope	Z1219	R1	E5261 Hwy M35 Escanaba, MI 49829	009-550-007-00	Zoning Permit Driveway Gate
4/19/25	Z1217	Jim Billy	Z1217	AP	5603 F. Ln Bark River, MI 49807	009-227-008-10	After The Fact Garage

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**Unfinished business**

- Master Plan- J. Church and B. Jenshak will look into Master Plan procedure.
- C. Detiege was asked to send any unfinished projects to K. Mineau, and J. Church has not received them.
- Cavicchoni special use permit still pending due to not 600 square feet and no second door. K. Mineau will call and tell them about options.

**New Business**

- Ryan Carrig from CUPPAD introduced the Planning Commission to additional information on municipal civil infractions to the proposed process for incorporating them into the ordinance as quickly as possible per the Township Board. Asked the members to please review these materials, as next month he will come with a draft text that focuses on the municipal civil infraction process, and particularly Sections 907 and 1204 of

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the current zoning ordinances. He will also have a draft text of a police power municipal civil infraction ordinance. At next month's meeting the Planning Commission will review the draft text

and tweak as needed to meet the Township's needs. We'll make any final decisions ahead of a public hearing then for the July meeting possibly and adopted by the Board that month. He will also go back and check the wording of the blight and noise ordinances to align with the new ordinances.

**Short Term Rental Renewals**

- Per lawyer's recommendation, no renewals will be sent out at this time.

**Special Use Permits/ ZBA Applications**

- Nault Special Use Permit tabled. Questions about parking and square footage.

**Communications**

- Letter from SBA Communications and Verizon Wireless informing us that they are going to upgrade the current tower. Asked if any additional requirements are needed. Planning Commission said no.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- None

**Board Comments**

- None

**Adjournment**

- A motion was made by J. Church. Seconded R. Ness.  
Unanimous Approval.  
Meeting Adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

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Jayne M, Church

Date