

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**3845 K RD., BARK RIVER, MI 49807**  
**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 30, 2026 AT 7:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m. by K. Mineau.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by K. Mineau.
3. ROLL CALL K. Mineau, R. Ness, J. Church, R. Fettig, J. Hoffmeyer. All present.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS (limited to 3 minutes per person)

Todd Kangas spoke during this time with questions about zone regions and suggestions.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: None
6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve by J. Church, supported by R. Ness.
7. CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS: Motion to approve by J. Church, supported by R. Ness.
8. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Motion to open made by R. Ness, supported by J. Church.

AMENDED, roll call was omitted in the original draft.

ROLL CALL: K. Mineau, R. Ness, J. Church, R. Fettig, J. Hoffmeyer. All present.

9. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Motion to close by R. Ness, supported by J. Church.

AMENDED, roll call was omitted in the original draft.

ROLL CALL: K. Mineau, R. Ness, J. Church, R. Fettig, J. Hoffmeyer. All present.

17. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

(Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per person)

AMENDED, public comments were omitted on the first draft.

William Taylor is opposed to Short Term Rentals in residential districts. Brought up many points against the STR.

Nick Kirkpatrick is opposed to Short Term Rentals. Spoke of concerns about where he lives on Portage Point Road.

Mark Miller spoke in favor of Short Term Rentals for senior citizens who are in need of extra income during the winter months while they are in warmer climates.

Joe Lasnoski feels that the Short Term Rentals should be in a commercial zone or not at all.

Debbie Thiem has concerns for safety. Last year there was an attempted break in at their home and garage. The people who attempted the break in were from Sandy Shores Cottages.

18. BOARD COMMENTS:

R. Fetting thanked everyone for coming out, and their input so we know which direction the Ford River Township Planning Commission should go.

J. Hoffmeyer pointed to the Ford River Township Zoning Map, and commented that the township is mainly a residential community. Asked for a show of hands in either support or against the STR. Seventeen people attended the meeting, two were in support of the STR, thirteen people were opposed, two were abstained as they were FR Board members.

R. Ness commented that we are looking to place the Short Term Rentals in the future for the commercial zoned area of the township.

J. Church commented that the Planning Commission will be going over the ordinance again and the ordinance will move forward to the Ford River Township Board. Licensing is in place. Citations are now passed with the Ford River Township Board and will begin to be handing those out. Letters have come in opposing the STR.

19. ADJOURNMENT: Motioned by J. Church, supported by R. Ness

At each regular and special township meeting which is open to the public, members of the public shall be afforded time, subject to reasonable constraints, to comment. Public comment is not a question-and-answer period. It provides individuals with an opportunity to express their comments regarding any subject matter. .

**Speakers shall be:**

1. Recognized after providing their name and address.
2. Limited to three minutes.
3. Comments shall be presented in a professional demeanor and not in a threatening, profane, vulgar, or abusive manner.
4. The speaker shall refrain from making personal attacks upon any township board or employee.
5. Topics shall be relevant to the business matters of the Ford River Planning Commission.

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Julie Hoffmeyer, Secretary Ford River Planning Commission

\*signed copies can be found at FRT Hall