

**Village of Lawton**  
**REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**125 S. MAIN, LAWTON MI 49065 269.624.6407**  
**Tuesday, August 05, 2025 - 7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

- 1. Call to Order:** J. Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:** Present: J. Peterson, P. Rathbun, P. Chmiel, M. Dudek, and C. Knapp. Absent: B. Allen and S. Knudstrup. Also Present: T. Hackenberg, and M. Leonard.
- 3. Approval of Agenda:** P. Rathbun, supported by D. Dudek, made a motion to approve the Planning Commission Agenda as presented. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** P. Chmiel, supported by C. Knapp, made a motion to approve the Planning Commission Minutes of June 03, 2025, as is. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.
- 5. Public Comment / Communications:** None.
- 6. New Business:**

**A. Set Public Hearing for Cell Tower Zoning Amendment**

J. Peterson apologized to the Planning Commission, explaining that the Village must schedule a new public hearing for the proposed cell tower zoning amendment due to procedural errors in the previous version.

The revised amendment, prepared by the Village's legal representatives, includes provisions that better define the authority of the Village Manager, outlining what actions can be taken without needing to bring the matter before the Planning Commission. Additionally, the original amendment lacked the necessary legal language to protect the Village in the vent of potential litigation.

The Planning Commission agreed to hold the Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 02, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers.

**B. Updates Needed on Zoning Ordinance Codification**

It's typical for municipalities to update their codification annually; however, it has been several years since the Village last completed an update. To address this, the Village has partnered with CivicPlus to organize and codify its ordinances.

While the codification process is still underway, it is expected to be completed and available for review at the next Planning Commission meeting.

During the process, CivicPlus identified several discrepancies in ordinance definitions, including missing or incomplete explanations. As a result, a public hearing will need to be held in October to review and approve the necessary corrections.

- 7. Unfinished Business:** None.

**8. Public Comment / Hear from the Audience:** None.

**9. Planning Commissioner Comments:** None.

**10. Adjournment:** M. Dudek, supported by P. Rathbun, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29pm. Motion approved by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melina Leonard