

Village of Lawton
REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION
125 S. MAIN, LAWTON MI 49065 269.624.6407
Tuesday, September 02, 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, B. Allen, P. Chmiel, M. Dudek, and S. Knudstrup. Absent: C. Knapp. Also Present: T. Hackenberg and M. Leonard.
- 3. Approval of Agenda:** S. Knudstrup, supported by M. Dudek, made a motion to approve the Planning Commission Agenda as presented. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** R. Rathbun, supported by P. Chmiel, made a motion to approve the Planning Commission Minutes of August 05, 2025, with the correction of a name error. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.
- 5. Public Comment / Communications:** T. Hackenberg stated that he received a flyer via email regarding classes on zoning and citizen planning offered by MSU if any of the commissioners were interested.
- 6. Public Hearing to Amend Cell Tower and Solar Ordinance:**
 - A. J. Peterson opened the public hearing at 7:02pm.**
 - B. Public Comment**

The Village received a letter from the attorney recommending that the Planning Commission postpone approval of the ordinance. During his review, he identified discrepancies between the solar ordinance and the cell tower ordinance. He also stated that he will attend the next public hearing to explain the changes made. J. Peterson suggested that the Planning Commission invite the Village Council to attend the public.
 - C. J. Peterson closed the public hearing at 7:10pm**
 - D. Recommendation to Council for approval**

The Planning Commission will not be making a recommendation to the council to approve Ordinance 04-2025.
- 7. New Business: Set Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance Updates**
 - A. P. Rathbun, supported by P. Chmiel, made a motion to set Public Hearing on October 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers. Motion approved by acclamation.**
- 8. Public Comment / Hear from the Audience:** None.
- 9. Planning Commissioner Comments:** T. Hackenberg reported that there are no updates on Safe and Easy Storage, as he has left messages but has not received a response. He noted that a new house on Ewing Road has secured financing and that a pole barn will be constructed prior to the house. J. Peterson stated that the Erickson Garage property has several blight concerns, which T. Hackenberg is currently reviewing. B. Allen reported that there is a

contract pending for the purchase of the Stafford & Sons building. There were some environmental concerns regarding the property, and EGLE has recommended completing a Baseline Environmental Assessment (BEA).

10. Adjournment: P. Rathbun, supported by S. Knudstrup, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31pm. Motion approved by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melina Leonard