

ROME TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2025
Rome Township Hall

Rob Apoian called the meeting to order at 8:00pm. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Pat Bournes, Scott Peters, Rob Apoian, Matt Minnick, Kevin Fisher, Sheril Wilt and Leo Oswald were all present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy Supervisor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Kevin Fisher made a motion to approve the May 22, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Rob Apoian; motion carried 7-0.

Kevin Fisher made a motion to approve the May 22, 2025 special meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Scott Peters; motion carried 7-0. It was noted that the meeting minutes reflected Matt Minnick as the Planning Commission Clerk; it was requested that the minutes reflect Matt Minnick as the Planning Commission Secretary instead of the Clerk.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Wind Energy Ordinance/Systems.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Scott Peters made a motion to add Wind Energy Ordinance/systems to the June 26, 2025 agenda. Motion seconded by Pat Bournes; motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Pat Bournes was questioning the validity of State control of the wind/solar energy projects due to current pending litigation.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Leo Oswald updated the Planning Commission on business conducted by the Rome Township Board. Business included approval of the Rome Township Solar and Battery Storage ordinances. The Township approved some work to be done at the Forrister Road cemetery. The Township Board also appointed a new Zoning Administrator due to the resignation of current Zoning Administrator Scott Gosselin. The Board approved the Special Use permit for 10654 W. US 223. The Township Board was also notified that our current auditor is no longer interested in doing business with Rome Township. Township Board is also looking into a new sign for the Township Hall. During this period of the meeting, Matt Minnick ask Mr. Oswald if the Rome Township Cost Recovery Ordinance had been approved as it does not appear to be available on the Rome Township website. Mr. Oswald was of the opinion that it had been approved. Member Minnick also asked if anything could be done or if the Lenawee County Road Commission could be contacted regarding maintenance of Cemetery Rd; as it is growing grass in the middle of the "Road".

PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT: Chair Apoian asked about the seal coating being done in the Township and who was responsible for that work. Chair also asked about seeing the Township was considered a better organizational method/process.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Review Rome Township “Wind Energy Systems” ordinance.

Scott Peters presented the Planning Commission with his suggestions to the Wind Energy System ordinance as prepared by Foster-Swift Law Firm. Those changes included the following:

Section 4(a) – Replace AA-1 and AA-2 with Renewable Energy Overlay District

Section 11 – Replace “with the first inspection” with “prior to the start of construction and”.

Section 13 – Removed in its entirety. Renumber remaining section(s) starting with Section 13.

It was decided that the Planning Commission Secretary would forward the revised document with the requested changes to the Township Supervisor for forwarding to Foster-Swift Law Firm to make the requested changes. The Planning Commission would then review the modified document at the July 2025 meeting.

MEETING DATES: The next Planning Commission meeting will take place on July 24, 2025 at 8:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Pat Bournes moved to adjourn at 8:37pm. Scott Peters seconded; motion carried 7-0.



Matt Minnick
Secretary
Rome Township Planning Commission

Robert Apoian, MD
Chairman
Rome Township Planning Commission