Meeting Minutes

Planning Commission Public Hearing
Saturday, August 1, 2026, 9:00 am
Present – 20

I. Meeting Call to Order – Owens

II. Pledge of Allegiance – Owens

III. Roll Call of Members – K. Brozovich

1. Present – Allen, T. Brozovich, Buttermore, Nothstine, Owens, VanVynckt
2. Also Present - K. Brozovich (non-voting member)

IV. Adoption of Agenda – Owens

- Motion to Adopt agenda by VanVynckt, supported by Allen
- Motion carried

V. Adoption of the Minutes of last meeting – Owens

- Motion to Adopt minutes as written by Allen, supported by T. Brozovich
- Motion carried

VI. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

- None

VII. Report of Township Board Representative to Planning Commission – T. Brozovich

1. The proposed 9 month moratorium on Data Centers was presented and approved by the Blue Lake Township Board on July 8, 2026

VIII. Report of Planning Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals – Buttermore

1. None

IX. Public Comment

1. Owens reviewed the email from Shawn Brozovich regarding the posting of Squaw Lake Rd NE as a 25 mph speed limit and a request to file the paperwork to restore the name of Squaw Lake instead of the renamed East Indian Lake. Both topics will be brought to the next township board meeting on August 8, 2026
2. Question on how proposals/topics can be brought to the Planning Commission for discussion. They can be sent through an email, a call to Owens, or attendance at a meeting
3. Comments on the accessibility of the proposed ordinance changes on the BLT website and difficulty finding the documents. K. Brozovich will work on making documents easier to find

X. Planning Commission Member Comments and Input

1. None

XI. Public Hearing – Public comment after each item below

1. Revised Section 2.02 – Definitions; refined wording for Clubs
2. Revised Section 3.03 – Animals – expansion to enable maintenance of chickens. Emails and letters from several property owners both in favor and against the ordinance were reviewed
    - Public Comments – there is currently a rooster on a property within the township that is not zoned Agricultural. Suggested contacting Robert Frank, Zoning Administrator, to address the issue
    - Concerns over chickens wandering onto neighboring properties were voiced. Recommendation to refer issue to the Zoning Administrator if a resolution could not be attained from working with the chicken owner.
    - Lots of discussion about having chickens on lake front property and the possibility of chicken waste getting into the lake.
    - A property owner that also owns property in Massachusetts commented that it was nice to hear discussion where all of the participants were respectful and non-confrontational even if they had different viewpoints.
3. Adding Section 3.23 Clubs
4. Revised Section 4.12.2.16 Include “Clubs” as a permitted use in Commercial & Industrial District

XII. Old Business

1. Data Center discussion – Moratorium and potential zoning updates
    - Public Comment – general agreement that a Data Center is not wanted in the township. Glad that the 9 month moratorium was approved and that we are working on ordinances that will address utilities, water usage, noise, light pollution and environmental concerns. The proposed notional schedule for addressing the Data Center Zoning Ordinances (DCZO) was reviewed and everyone was comfortable with the timing. A suggestion was made that if it got to the point where the clearing of land was done to accommodate a Data Center and then it was not built that the company building it would be responsible for restoring the property.
    - Public Hearing was closed at 9:57 am

XIII. New Business

1. Proposals to the board from Public Hearing items
    - Motion to submit the ordinance changes related to Clubs as written to the Blue Lake Township Board for approval was made by T. Brozovich, supported by Allen. Motion carried
    - Motion to submit the ordinance changes related to Chickens as written to the Blue Lake Township Board for approval was made by Buttermore, supported by Allen. Motion carried

XIV. Planning Commission Member Comments and Input

1. The PC expressed appreciation to the attendees for coming to the meeting and participating in the discussions
2. There is an open position on the PC board that needs to be filled

XV. 2026 meeting schedule:

1. The meeting dates for 2026 are as follows:
    - October 27, 2026

XVI. Adjournment

1. Motion to Adjourn by Owens supported by Allen
    - Adjourned at 10:33 am

Respectfully Submitted by: Attested to:

_____ _____

Karan Brozovich, Secretary Jim Owens, Chairperson

These minutes are not official until approved by the Blue Lake Township Planning Commission at the next scheduled meeting.