

**Elk Rapids Township Planning Commission Meeting  
Meeting Minutes – August 13, 2024**

The meeting of the Elk Rapids Township Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson Shen Smith at 11:30 AM at the Government Center, 315 Bridge Street, Elk Rapids, MI 49629.

**Present:** Shen Smith, Emile Sabty, Zach Amos, Tom Crandall, Gary Pepler, James Lundy and Matt Soper.

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Larry Nix, Zoning Administrator and William Derman, Township Attorney.

**Audience:** Mark Poniatoski.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the August 13, 2024 Agenda.  
**Motion/S: Amos/Lundy** Motion Carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the May 14, 2024 meeting minutes.  
**Motion/S: Soper/Lundy** Motion Carried.

**Public Comments:** None

**Township Zoning Administrators Report:**

- Larry Nix reported there was little activity for permits
- Wetland designation was discussed with the Commission with Administrator Nix explaining that regulations and permits would still be required with any change in the zoning.
- After reviewing the present zoning map the Commission discussed setting a Public Hearing to change the map only to reflect Environmental Zoning in specific areas to either R1 or Agricultural. No text changes will be involved

**Motion to set a public hearing to update a zoning map to reflect zoning correctly.**

**Motion/S: Smith/Lundy. Roll Call Vote**  
**Amos Yes**  
**Crandall Yes**  
**Soper Yes**  
**Lundy Yes**  
**Peppler Yes**  
**Sabty Yes**  
**Smith Yes**  
**Motion Carried.**

- Larry vocalized the idea that was suggested to remove the Group Retreat regulations in the Zoning Ordinance. He feels a lot of time was spent adopting the rules and feels that even though it has never been used, the language is now in record and would in his opinion be helpful someday. A discussion took place that involved the previous request for a Group Retreat should stay in the ordinance.

**Motion to leave the Group Retreat Ordinance wording in place was made.**

