

**Hamilton Township Planning Commission
Hamilton Township Hall
April 13, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Sherry DeLoach, Steve Petersen, Justin Klein and John Young

ABSENT: William Lawson

STAFF PRESENT: Bob May, Zoning Administrator
Robin Young, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: Nine Guests

1. Call to Order/Pledge/Roll Call

Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve January 12, 2026, regular meeting minutes by DeLoach/2nd by Petersen. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

None

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by DeLoach/2nd by Klein. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Limited Public Comment

-Rich Conway gave an overview of public comments that were being made about a possible cell tower in Hamilton Township. He said that no permit has been pulled for a cell tower in that location.

-Josh Docekal said the cell tower being talked about would be an eyesore and he would hate to see the flashing red lights from his porch.

6. Presentation by Jared Parker, Floodplain Engineer with the Water Resources Division at EGLE.

Parker stated that Lake of the Woods has new flood plain maps available. He gave a brief overview of the changes. He noted that EGLE always appreciates the community keeping an eye on flood plains and wetlands and encourages them to contact EGLE with any questions or concerns.

Parker said that Hamilton Township was current on the flood plain ordinance.

7. Old Business

a. Approval of 2026 Planning Commission Budget.

Motion by DeLoach/2nd by Klein to approve the 2026 Planning Commission budget. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Cell Towers

Young explained that the current ordinance for cell towers was amended two years ago on the township attorney's recommendation, to reflect State requirements. There is little that Hamilton Township can restrict per State requirements. He said that the commissioners can revisit the ordinance and look at further restrictions.

The following items were discussed:

- Prioritizing cell towers to be located on township property.
- Maximum setback requirements.
- Height restrictions.

May explained that the company that had put in a request for a proposed cell tower site within Hamilton Township has not contacted him since the first communication. He did not receive a completed application. May noted that in doing approximate measurements it is possible that site would not be viable due to ordinance height restrictions and that may be why he has not heard back from them.

Young said that the Planning Commission would need further input from the township attorney before continuing with any ordinance amendments. The cell tower discussion will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

c. Data Centers and Crypto Mining continued general discussion

Young gave an overview of what was being discussed at the State level.

Young said that the Hamilton Township Board was going to vote on passing a moratorium for twelve (12) months on data centers/crypto mining at the April 14, 2026, township meeting. The township attorney had created a resolution for that moratorium.

The Planning Commission will revisit this as future information becomes available.

8. New Business

None

9. Limited Public Comment

-Jan Petersen requested to see the resolution on the data center/crypto mining moratorium.

-Docekal said that in New Carlisle, IN the data center has ruined the community because it takes up all their water.

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by DeLoach/2nd by Klein. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Submitted Electronically By: Robin Young, Recording Secretary

