

Draft
Milton Township
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2025

Members present: C. Weinzapfel, L. Atkinson, J. Beebe, J. Renis, B. Veliquette

Also present: B. Hefferan, Sheriff Hoch, S. Kopriva, J. Petersen, and 16 audience members
Weinzapfel called the meeting to order at 9 am and the Pledge was recited.

Motion to approve the Agenda with the correction of the date of the next meeting on October 20, 2025 by Atkinson/ Renis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Renis/ Atkinson.

Renis: Yes

Atkinson: Yes

Beebe: Yes

Veliquette: Yes

Weinzapfel: Yes

Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments regarding agenda items:

J. Heaphy spoke in favor of the Fence Ordinance. G. Seifried spoke on behalf of ESLA in support of the Shore Protection Amendment. S. Mohr spoke in favor of lighting and noise ordinances.

Sheriff's Report: Sheriff Hoch spoke of the department's continued work against illegal drugs. Update on Antrim County murder case. Update on new personnel and the Public Safety Center ballot proposal. 228 calls in August.

Fire Department: Provided in packet.
Nine calls for service for last month.

EMS Report: Provided in packet

Zoning Report

STR Ordinance Review/Moratorium: We will be meeting with the attorney on the 29th. This is a public meeting at 9 am.

Planning Commission: As presented by Bill Hefferan.

Permits with delinquent taxes ordinance update will be discussed at the meeting on September 17 during the special meeting.

County Commissioner: As presented by Bill Hefferan. The county has started budget discussions for 2026. Update on the reason the Public Safety Center is a safety issue for county employees, if construction bond initiative passes in November, all construction costs will be paid out of current revenue, with no tax increase. If tour is desired, contact the jail administrators.

Library Report: Not provided.

Unfinished Business

- a. Insurance: We are in the process of comparing insurance companies for the township. We are reviewing costs and coverage. Weinzapfel will make a spread sheet for review.
- b. Fence Ordinance: S. Kopriva gave a brief overview of the fence ordinance and history. There was a public hearing and the planning commission decided not to recommend approval of the ordinance

Motion to approve the Fence Ordinance #2025-01 as amended by Atkinson/Renis. Amendments to require permit, require finished side of fence to face neighbors, and no fences within 25 feet of the shoreline.

Veliquette: No

Atkinson: Yes

Renis: Yes

Beebe: No

Weinzapfel: No

Motion denied 3-2.

- c. Shoreline Protection Ordinance: Kopriva gave some history on this ordinance amendment. Discussion of what “work” is, if pruning is allowed, keeping fences out of the 25 foot Protection Strip, and some other points that needed clarification. S. Kopriva stated that she will make edits for review and will bring back to the board.

New Business

- a. Daily assessment of civil infractions when not in compliance: Kopriva explained process. It is costly and time consuming when a resident does not comply with the zoning ordinances.
- b. Private Street Name Approval as requested by County:
 - 1. Anchor Drive (first choice)
 - 2. Compass Drive (second choice)

Motion by Weinzapfel/Renis to approve Anchor Drive. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Public Comment – same guidelines as above apply.

A. Osmer thanked the board for Fence Ordinance consideration and hopes the discussion is not over. S. Mohr agreed and reiterated desire for noise and light ordinances. J. Grammer expressed opinion on meeting time and zoning.

Next board meeting is October 20, 2025 at 9:00 am.

Special meeting to discuss STR Ordinance Monday September 29, 2025 at 9 am.

Meeting adjournment by order of the chair at 10:59 am.

These minutes are subject to approval at the October 20, 2025 meeting. A copy of these minutes is available at MiltonTownshipMI.gov.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Beebe, Clerk