



**PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP**  
**Planning Commission Minutes**  
**April 6, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

6:00 PM

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge was recited.

**Roll Call**

Present: Chair Lisa Larkin, Secretary Cynthia Paavola, Board Liaison Jennifer Wiczorkowski, and members Richard Lefevre and Tom Ludwig. Township Supervisor and Zoning Administrator Steve Lang was also in attendance.  
Absent: Vice Chair Stacy Holmén, and member Michael Cermak.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Paavola, supported by Ludwig, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of 3/2/26 Minutes**

A motion was made by Wiczorkowski, supported by Paavola, to approve the 3/2/26 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Comments from the Audience (3-min. limit):**

A resident reported flooding on her property due to high lake levels and inquired about whom to contact. Lang advised her to contact the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

**Correspondence:**

None.

**Unfinished Business:**

**a. Zoning Ordinance Discussion**

The Commissioners discussed potential revisions to §§ 3.14 (Accessory Structures), 3.17 (Fences), and 3.21 (Greenbelts along Waterfront Property) of the Presque Isle Township Zoning Ordinance. Denise Cline, Deputy Director and Chief Planner of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), participated remotely and reviewed suggested changes submitted by Commission members.

Consensus was reached on the following proposed revisions:

**§ 3.14 (Accessory Structures):**



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**Planning Commission Minutes**  
**April 6, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.**

- Replace all instances of “lot” with “parcel.”
- Remove the maximum size limitations for accessory structures (2,400 square feet in the R1 district and 1,200 square feet in the R2 district) and replace them with a formula based on parcel size.
- Remove the limit on the number of accessory structures allowed (currently two).
- Remove the greenbelt requirement for accessory structures.
- Require a land use permit for all accessory structures regardless of size.
- Remove the 14-foot sidewall requirement for accessory structures in R1.
- Add a 14-foot sidewall requirement for accessory structures in R2.
- Remove § 3.14 (8), “Design of Accessory Buildings,” due to its subjectivity.
- Require an affidavit for accessory structures larger than 2,400 square feet stating that the structure will not be used for commercial purposes.

**§ 3.17 (Fences):**

- Allow shrubbery within 50 feet of the ordinary high-water mark, provided planted shrubbery does not exceed four feet in height.

**§ 3.21 (Greenbelts along Waterfront Property):**

1. Amend § 3.21 (G) to reduce the required natural vegetation cover from 60% to 40%.
2. Amend § 3.21 (E) to include garbage among materials prohibited from being burned within a waterfront greenbelt area.

The discussion concluded with no motion made.



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**Public Hearing:**

**a. Kurtycz Chicken Coop Approval**

Larkin opened a public hearing to consider a Site Plan Review application submitted by Kinnon and Tara Kurtycz for the construction of a 7.83'x17.25' chicken coop for eight hens. The subject property is located at 13889 Parallel Ave., Alpena, MI 49707, parcel no. 120-029-000-028-00.

Zoning Administrator Lang stated that the proposed structure meets all zoning requirements including space standards for chickens. A neighbor of the applicants also addressed the Commission and expressed no objection.

The Commission then considered the Special Use Review Standards set forth in § 6.3 of the Presque Isle Township Zoning Ordinance and determined that each criterion was either met or not applicable.

A motion was made by Paavola, supported by Ludwig, to approve the construction of the chicken coop. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports:**

- a. Zoning Administrator – S. Lang**
- b. Board Liaison – J. Wiczorkowski**
- c. ZBA Liaison – C. Paavola**

- a. A written report was submitted by Lang.
- b. A written report was submitted by Wiczorkowski.
- c. Paavola informed the commissioners that the ZBA had not met since the last Planning Commission meeting and would next meet on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

The Commission then discussed potential future agenda items and agreed to review the Dark Sky ordinance at the next meeting.

**Adjournment:**

7:36 p.m.

**Next meeting:** Monday, 5/4/26 at 6:00pm.