

Portland Township
Ionia County, MI
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Portlandtownship.org

The Portland Township Planning Commission met on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Portland Township Hall for its quarterly meeting, public hearings for the Rodriguez home based business, Township commercial zoning amendment for recycling, and 517 Heating business location and site plan review.

Chairman Ross Schneider called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Planning Commission members present included: Ross Schneider, Mark Simon, Michael Kolp, Kevin DiPiazza, and Tony Dixon; Andrew Huhn and Julie Krzeminski were not present.

Motion made to approve the December 10, 2025 Planning Commission minutes by Mark Simon, seconded by Tony Dixon and carried.

There were no changes to the agenda.

There was no public comment made.

Old Business: A public hearing was held for the proposed Township commercial zoning amendment proposal to include new language regarding recycling. No public comment was made. Motion to approve the amendment made by Mark Simon, seconded by Mike Kolp and carried unanimously by all PC members present.

Public hearing was held for the Kelli Rodriguez wedding ceremony home based business special use application. Resident Tim Kerekes during the public hearing portion inquired about the business and how it would be conducted on her property. No issues were presented or address. Motion to approve the special use application made by Mark Simon, seconded by Tony Dixon and carried unanimously by all PC members present.

Lastly, the planning commission revisited discussion on proposed zoning ordinance amendments regarding data centers. Nic Schneider Zoning Administrator stated he had received a rough draft amendment from the Township attorney and was in the process of reviewing the proposed language and estimated that a final draft would be ready around June 2026 and for a TBD public hearing.

New Business: A site plan review and concurrent public hearing was conducted for 517 Heating, who has purchased 3 acres of commercial property along I-96 and adjacent to Knox Rd. Proprietor Brian Stephenson presented his site plan and business location details, which included placement of two primary buildings on the 3 acre lot, 60' x 100' and 40' x 60' sized buildings which will be used for office space, storage, equipment, etc. The business will utilize well and septic and is anticipated to share a driveway with Portland Poured Walls, a neighboring business. No zoning ordinance issues were identified. Public hearing was held and no public comment was made. Motion to approve the site plan as meeting zoning ordinance requirements made by Mark Simon, seconded by Kevin DiPiazza and carried unanimously by all PC members present.

Public Comment: None

Motion to adjourn at 7:34 PM made by Mark Simon, seconded by Mike Kolp and carried.

Kevin DiPiazza

Portland Township Planning Commission Secretary