

Mikado Township Planning Commission Meeting

September 3, 2026

Present: Carrie Mullins, Steve Sanderson, Jim Deller, Mauren Castern-French, Joel Mikazes

Absent: none

Guests: Clerk Rita Sands (briefly), Supervisor Craig Ostby, plus Shar, Cat and Brad from Gustin

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Pledge

Two new members were added to the Planning Commission, Maureen Castern-French and Joel Mikazes.

Motion to make Carrie Mullins temporary chair by Mikazes, seconded by Castern-French, the Ayes have it, motion passes.

Motion to accept the meeting minutes from June 4, 2026 made by Sanderson, seconded by Mikazes, the Ayes have it, motion passes.

With the two new members and a full commission, we reviewed the Planning Commission Bylaws with the changes that were made from the last meeting. We discussed the annual report and the potential that we may need to bring it back. It was noted that per the bylaws, we can always amend the bylaws as needed with a majority vote. We also discussed record retention and may need to keep physical copies of the minutes with the Township Clerk.

Motion to remove “and by resolution” from Section 2, Part A by Mikazes, seconded by Sanderson, the Ayes have it, motion passes.

Motion to adopt the Planning Commission Bylaws as amended made by Mikazes, seconded by Castern-French, the Ayes have it, motion passes.

Then we had a discussion as to who wanted to be the new Chairperson. It was decided that Joel Mikazes will be the pending choice till the meeting in December.

As for Secretary, Mullins will probably remain Secretary, but, per Section 1, part C of the Bylaws, Maureen Castern-French is willing to help where needed and perhaps take over note taking, meeting minutes, correspondence and attendance. This decision will also be made at the December meeting.

With Supervisor Ostby in attendance, the commission requested contact with the Township Lawyer to have the questions regarding the Zoning Ordinance answered, and all items returned (particularly the flash drive).

Joel Mikazes is willing to be on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mullins will pass that information along to the Township Board.

We discussed the timeline for the public hearing for the ZO and Workable Renewable Energy Ordinance changes. It was determined that we will have a Public Hearing at the December 3, 2026 regular meeting with notice given to the Township Clerk by the 23rd of October to be published in the October 28th Alcona County Review.

Public Comment: Shar, Cat and Brad’s concerns were regarding the potential for commercial solar in Mikado, data centers, and they commented on the potential for passing a moratorium.

Motion to adjourn made by Mikazes, seconded by Deller, the Ayes have it, motion passes.

Adjournment: 7:48 PM

Next Meeting: December 3, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the Mikado Civic Center