Georgette Peterson, Supervisor
Susan Wilson, Clerk
Jeff Douglas, Treasurer

Ted Swanson, Trustee
Matt Kuzma, Trustee

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP
52022 34th Avenue, Bangor, Michigan
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 19, 2026

Georgette Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Roll Call: Matt Kuzma, Ted Swanson, Jeff Douglas, Susan Wilson, & Georgette Peterson all present.
Others Present: Scott Graham, Arlington Township Attorney

Peggy Douglas asked if she could talk about the website with her Planning Commission report.

Approval of Agenda: Ted Swanson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, supported by Susan Wilson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda Reports:

Assessor's Report – in Board Packet
Supervisor's Report – **Georgette congratulated Jeff Douglas on receiving the Conservationist of the Year award and Tony Stocchiero (member of the Planning Commission) on receiving the Farmer of the Year award from the Van Buren Couty Conservation District.**
Clerk's Report
Marijuana Coordinator's Report

Motion was made by Ted Swanson to approve the Consent Agenda Reports, supported by Susan Wilson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Douglas to approve the July 15, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes, supported by Matt Kuzma. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports

Law Enforcement: Deputy Daniel

There was a total of 73 calls for the month of July. A couple of new blight cases still need to be investigated. An update regarding blight on Flagler Avenue was given. General information was shared but could not go into specifics. The deputy is working with the Road Commission and the Township Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector on the issue. It is a process which takes time. The Zoning Administrator has posted a violation notice on the property and mailed it to the property owner. A truck with trailer has been impeding the roadway, continue to contact 911.

Fire Departments:

Arlington, Bangor City, and Bangor Township (ABB): Derek Babcock

There was a total of 38 calls for the month of July, 12 of those calls were for Arlington Township (8 medical, 3 accidents, and 1 power line down). The new training facility project continues and will hopefully open in late October. Two new members will be entering the fire academy. On Saturday, 9/5/26 from 7am to 10am, a pancake

breakfast will be held at the fire station. A back pack give away will be held on Wednesday, 8/26/26, starting at 6pm.

Lawrence Township Emergency Services (LTES): No report.

Senior Service's Report: No news to report.

Commissioner's Report: Kurt Doroh

The commission is working with an architect on facility planning. Nothing has been set in stone. Brittany Rathbun is the new executive assistant that has been hired. A budget for 32.9 million will be coming up for approval.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Douglas

Approval is needed to pay the July 16, 206 to August 19, 2026, expenses. Checks with 8/19/2026 dates are post board approval payments; checks dated prior to this date were issued prior to board approval per township policy or were previously approved by the board.

> **Ted Swanson made a motion to approve payment of the expenses as outlined above. Susan Wilson supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Matt Kuzma, Ted Swanson, Jeff Douglas, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson were all in favor. Motion carried.**

The Adams Community Bank CD for $250,000 is set to expire on 8/31/26. A decision needs to be made about reinvesting; do we want to move this to another CD or MM for 1 year or 18 months, depending on best available rates.

> **Georgette Peterson made a motion to reinvest the Adams Community Bank CD to another CD for 1 year or 18 months depending on the best available rates. Ted Swanson supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Matt Kuzma, Ted Swanson, Jeff Douglas, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson were all in favor. Motion carried.**

Jeff asked to move $31,000 from the JP Morgan MM to the MBL checking account to cover August and estimated September expenses.

> **Ted Swanson made a motion to move $31,000 from the JP Morgan MM to the Marijuana Business License checking account to cover August and estimated September expenses. Matt Kuzma supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Matt Kuzma, Ted Swanson, Jeff Douglas, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson were all in favor. Motion carried.**

Jeff asked for approval of the 2026 millage request which goes to the County Board of Commissioners (L-4029).

> **Georgette Peterson made a motion to accept the above L-4029 millage request for the County Board of Commissioners. Jeff Douglas supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Matt Kuzma, Ted Swanson, Jeff Douglas, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson were all in favor. Motion carried.**

Planning Commission Report: Peggy Douglas

The Planning Commission (PC) met on July 23 where the May meeting minutes were approved, which also finalized the Master Plan. The final plan was submitted to SWMPC so they could notify and/or distribute it to the appropriate entities. It was also placed on the Township website. McKenna submitted the complete Zoning Ordinance draft in late June, and it was sent out to the PC members. Two members of the PC were not at the July meeting, so the commission did not review the draft Zoning Ordinance. The next PC meeting is in September with

October thru December meetings still scheduled. Renewable Energy, Solar & Battery Storage and Data Centers are ‘hot topics’ in townships. Webinars and seminars have occurred and are upcoming which PC members may attend.

The website is coming along slowly. Overviews regarding Township commissions and departments are being developed and will be submitted to them for their review and input. Peggy is wanting to make the Township’s website more informative and user friendly.

Public Comments:

Residents brought up the following concerns:

- Flagler Avenue: blight, sanitation/septic issues, health department, 911 notification. Per the deputy, residents can take pictures of the truck and trailer impeding the roadway (which was mentioned earlier) with a date/time stamp and submit to the law enforcement in order for citations to be issued.
- Alternative Uses of Marijuana Licensing Funds
- Discrepancy Regarding Certain Expenses
- Attorney’s Affiliation with Township and Legal Fees
- Journey to the Well Rental (Woodland Drive) - Non-Conforming Property & Speed Limit on Road (Easement)
- Elections
- Shoreline Application for Marijuana Processing

New Business:

Planning Commission (PC) Fee Schedule for Special Land Use Applications: Peggy Douglas

The PC reviews all applications regarding Special Land Use, Rezoning, and Site/Sketch Plan applications. The fee to review Special Land Use applications is currently at $600.00 for regularly scheduled PC meetings and $1,000 for calling a special PC meeting.

Ted Swanson made a motion to keep the fees associated with Special Land Use applications at the current cost. Georgette Peterson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Planning Commission (PC) Fee Schedule for Rezoning Application: Peggy Douglas

The fee to review Rezoning applications is currently at $700.00 for regularly scheduled PC meetings and $1,100 for calling a special PC meeting.

Ted Swanson made a motion to keep the fees associated with Rezoning applications at the current cost. Jeff Douglas supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Planning Commission (PC) Fee Schedule for Site/Sketch Plan Applications: Peggy Douglas

Currently there is no fee schedule associated with reviewing Site/Sketch Plan applications and drawings. There was some discussion with this occurring at Special Land Use or Rezoning application meetings. The attorney stated there may be times when the PC will meet only to review the Site/Sketch Plan drawings i.e. a change to the drawing.

Ted Swanson made a motion to charge a fee of $500.00 for Site/Sketch Plan review meetings, when they do not involve a Special Land Use or Rezoning application. This fee is applicable to both regularly scheduled and special meetings. Georgette Peterson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Fee Schedule for Variance and Non-Variance Applications: Peggy Douglas

There are four fees currently associated with ZBA meetings. One is specific to Variance applications, another for Non-Variance applications, another for regularly scheduled meetings, and another for unscheduled meetings. All ZBA meetings are scheduled as needed. There are no regularly scheduled meetings. Non-Variance meetings are to hear appeals on administrative decisions made or to interpret the zoning ordinance.

> **Jeff Douglas made a motion to only have one fee, $500.00, for all ZBA meetings. Ted Swanson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Land Fee Schedule (Division, Combo, Line Adjustment): Peggy Douglas

The current fee for land modifications is $200.00. It was suggested to obtain the Assessor's input on the subject and to table the discussion.

Township Forms: Peggy Douglas

The attorney stated that there is no need to bring forms to Board meetings to obtain approval by vote.

2027 Road Planning Form: Georgette Peterson

The road commission needs this form completed and returned to them by 12/31/26 so they can plan for next year. Watch for roads that need repair as you drive through the township and make note of it.

Old Business:

Key/Lock Change Estimates: Peggy Douglas

Estimates were given by Michigan Security & Lock, Security & Hardware Solutions, and J&J Locksmiths. A cost for the interior door (broken handle/latch) was not given by Michigan Security & Lock. J&J Locksmith gave a thorough estimate with a cost for each line item (totaling $626.38). Should the interior door only be fixed/rekeyed and wait on the remaining doors for a later date/time?

> **Jeff Douglas made a motion to have J&J Locksmith fix the inside door handle/latch and rekey the remaining outside doors at this time. Ted Swanson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Short Term Rental Ordinance: Georgette Peterson

The Planning Commission will be charged to create an ordinance on Short Term Rental for the Board to review.

Attorney Report: Scott Graham

Township Attorney Graham reported on the completion of the Stoneco litigation. The court ruled that Stoneco had a valid Special Use Permit (SUP) based on its acquisition of the Smith property and SUP. The court rejected the Township's position that no valid SUP existed. The court further ruled that the Township interfered with Stoneco's right to engage in mining. Lengthy negotiations followed and the Township agreed to pay Stoneco the total sum of $450,000 over 7 years. Stoneco's damage claim to the court was for $4.2 million dollars. The settlement includes the Township's denial of any wrongdoing. Attorney Graham reported that the Township's legal position was one he recommended to the Township based on the facts and the law.

Closed Session Regarding Elections

> **Ted Swanson made a motion to go into Closed Session at 8:47pm. Jeff Douglas supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

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Ted Swanson made a motion to adjourn Closed Session at 8:56pm. Matt Kuzma supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ted Swanson made a motion to return to Open Session at 8:57pm. Matt Kuzma supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Jeff Douglas motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9pm. Seconded by Matt Kuzma. All in favor. Motion carried.