

**Banks Township Special Board Meeting
and Public Hearing
Ellsworth Community School
Thursday March 5, 2026**

Meeting was streamed on YouTube and was available as a recording on the township's YouTube Channel, @BanksTownshipMIgov. Also, can be found on the township website, www.BanksTownshipMI.gov.

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm By Supervisor Busman.

Members present: Supervisor Alex Busman, Clerk Julie Chellis, Treasurer Katy Postmus, Trustee Marv Rubingh, Trustee Richard Friske.

Supervisor Busman led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

1. **Approve the agenda: Motion** by Julie Chellis to approve the agenda, support by Richard Friske. **Motion Carried. All yes.**
2. **Public Comment: 6:09pm-6:17pm**
 - a. **Paul Michanowicz:** Petition last September was lawful.
 - b. **Jaris Rubingh:** Antrim County Commissioners meeting discussed drunk driving and mental health counseling. Public Safety Center is a \$27M dollar project.
 - c. **Mitch Distin:** General information. Data Centers.
 - d. **Brad Waterman:** Would like housing for young adults discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

3. **Acceptance of Resignation:** Supervisor Busman thanked Jerry and Jan Rasmussen for their years of service and hard work. **Motion** by Alex Busman to accept Jerry and Jan Rasmussen's resignation, support by Richard Friske. **Motion Carried. All yes.**

6:19pm Motion by Marv Rubingh to recess the regular meeting and go into Public Hearing for Repeal of Zoning, support by Katy Postmus. **Motion Carried.**

4. **Board Comment:** Alex Busman spoke on behalf of board members. Marv Rubingh also commented.
5. **Letters mailed and emailed:** Dave and Donna Heeres, Gregory Zimmerman, Mary Froling, Bruce Leidal, Hannah and Tanner Yurk, Dave Daniels, Jack and Ardith Tornga, Becky Richards, David and Debra Trumble, Dave and Bard Bersuder, Heidi Hornaday, Donald Miles, Dwain Abramowski, Phil and Laura Edwards, Julie Waterman, Catherine Drayton, Pat Chapman, Thomas Mann, Robert and Maureen Lagerstorm, Ray Bier, Tyler and Anna Bier, Andy Farbman, Leslie Lee, Katherine Cowell, Lela Vancil, Dennis and Diane Jensen, Sarah Rosso, Linda Spevacek, Lean Bigos, Arlene Westhoven, Lee Gorgs, Paula Leach, Torch Lake Protection Alliance, Rob Keller, Jenny Cornea, Friends of Clam Lake, Barbara Carton, Bill Vandercook, Judy Passon, Ann Schwandt, The Watershed Center TC, TIP of The Mitt Watershed Council, Theresa Schurman, Richard and Kasey Friske, Jon and Evelyn Friske.

PUBLIC HEARING ON REPEAL OF ZONING 6:28pm -7:40 pm

***Minutes corrected at the regular board meeting on March 23, 2026, by the Banks Township Board of Trustees.**

6. **Public Comment:** Don King, Vicki Kemp, Patti Wiltse, Martha Boprie, Stuart Smith, Judy Kern, Pat McGuire, Sue Winter, Doug Seaney, Tara John, Sue Swain, Shirley Johns, Laurel Westhoven, Steve Cobb, Rick Evans, Luke Borgeling, Pat Michanowicz, Jon Friske, Tom Richards, Mitch Distin, Rob Essenberg, Mitch Treadwell, Tyler Strange, Bill Vandercook, Walter Rosenthal, Paul Michanowicz, Jesse Anderson, Dave Rasmussen.

7:47 Motion by Richard Friske to close the Public Hearing, resume Regular Meeting, support by Katy Postmus. **Motion Carried.**

7. **Repeal of Zoning:** In-depth discussion was held by board members. **Motion** by Richard Friske to adopt the ordinance to repeal zoning, support Marv Rubingh. * **Motion Carried. Roll Call Vote: Richard Friske: Yes, Marv Rubingh: Yes, Katy Postmus: No, Julie Chellis: No, Alex Busman: No. Motion Failed.**

8. **Zoning Ordinance:** Discussion held on current ordinances and making changes. **Motion** by Julie Chellis to have the Planning Commission make changes on soil extraction, moving some uses from Special Use to Use by Right, ADUs,* ~~and other possibilities~~) and RV ordinance within 6 months, support by Alex Busman. **Motion Carried. Roll Call Vote: Richard Friske: Yes, Marv Rubingh: Yes, Katy Postmus: Yes, Julie Chellis: Yes, Alex Busman: Yes.**

9. **Public Comment:**

- a. **Don King:** Thanked the board
- b. **Doug Seaney:** Thanked the board
- c. **Paul Michanowicz:** Ways to do things differently
- d. **Mitch Distin:** Data Centers
- e. **Dave Rasmussen:** Thanked the board
- f. **Mitch Treadwell:** Thanked the board

10. **Board Comment 8:48pm-8:51pm:**

- a. **Richard Friske:** * Hopeful and encouraged. **FRUSTRATED AND DISAPPOINTED BUT MOVING FORWARD POSTIVILEY.**
- b. **Alex Busman:** Deck explanation.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:51pm

Minutes recorded and submitted by:

Julie Chellis, Banks Township Clerk