

Blue Lake Township

Kalkaska County, Michigan

Minutes

Planning Board Special Meeting

April 17, 2021 9:00 a.m.

6 Present

- I. Meeting called to order at 9:08 a.m. - Sawasky
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – Sawasky
- III. Roll Call of Members Present: Bond, Southwell, Sawasky, Shaw, Gruley, Peterson
Also in attendance: Shearer and Campbell
A total of 60 residents participated at the meeting:
Residents who attended in-person = 13
Residents attending via Zoom = 47
- IV. Opening of the Meeting – Sawasky
The meeting is being held to discuss if the residents who live on Starvation Lake wish to submit an application for a TLWC - Michigan Public Act 72 of 2020, MCL 324.80112a provides that if a political subdivision (local unit of government) believes a temporary ordinance is needed for the use of vessels on a water body subject to its jurisdiction, the political subdivision can request a temporary (6 months) Local Watercraft Control (LWC) to regulate the use of vessels and other contrivances on waters within their jurisdiction.
- V. Procedures and Rules - Sawasky
- VI. Recognition of Correspondence Received – Peterson
112 residents were sent letters requesting their input regarding a TLWC on Starvation Lake. Correspondence was received from 12 residents who were unable to attend the meeting. Of those 12, five residents were not in favor of submitting the TLWC application, and seven residents were in favor of submitting the TLWC application for 2021.
- VII. Public Comments
47 residents attended the meeting online, and 13 residents attended the meeting in person. The following issues were discussed:
 - A. The TLWC can only be requested once, unless a permanent one is being requested by the Township.
 - B. Concerns were addressed regarding a decline in property values; however the Township does not wish to request a permanent TLWC, so property values will not decline.
 - C. Residents discussed erosion issues and damage to trees, however that is all due to the high water levels and is hardly caused by high wakes on the Lake.
 - D. Residents stated that most of the people who use Starvation Lake are respectful and do not create a wake near the shoreline, therefore the wake could be monitored by the residents.
 - E. Residents also acknowledged that the high water levels were cyclical and expected; however the level of the water has never been this high before.
 - F. It was also proposed that an association be created in an attempt to further pursue options for the lake instead of a TLWC.
- VIII. The Planning Board asked the Residents to respond individually with their input if they wanted to pursue a TLWC for 2021. Of the residents at the meeting, 23 stated they did not want a TLWC and 8 stated they were in favor of a TLWC.
- IX. Close public hearing – Sawasky

- X. Planning Board members voted on record to determine if a Temporary Local Watercraft Control Application should be submitted for the year 2021 based on the input from the residents.

Votes were recorded as follows: Bond (no), Southwell (no), Sawasky (no), Shaw (no), Gruley (no), Peterson (no). The Planning Commission, in a unanimous vote of 6 to 0, determined that there was not sufficient support to move forward with a TLWC. A letter will be sent to the residents surrounding Starvation Lake to report the outcome.

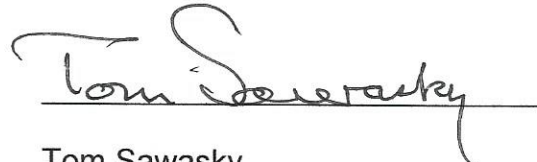
- XI. Adjournment –

Motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. was made by Peterson and supported by Gruley, motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tina Peterson
Planning Board Secretary

Attested to:


Tom Sawasky
Planning Board Co-Chair