

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1849

ALLEGAN COUNTY

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

August 3, 2026, 7pm Quarterly Meeting

1. **Call to Order.**

Chairman Mike Dozeman called the meeting to order at 7 pm, introduced the Planning Commission, opened with prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Roll Call.**

Members Present: Mike Dozeman, Fred Van Tubergen and David Brink.

Members Absent: Chuck Schaap and Rod VanGelder.

Public Attendance: GFD Chief Doug DenBleyker, Township Supervisor John Yonker, Lori Castello AIPC Township Planner.

Public attendance roster showed public attendance of 5 residents.

3. **Adoption of Agenda.**

Chairman Mike Dozeman gave opportunity for any additions to the agenda.

Chairman Dozeman presented a concern over an action of the Planning Commission on August 10, 2020, following a public hearing of a proposed ordinance in regard to short term rentals. Apparently, the amendment as proposed was not adopted by the Fillmore Township Board of Trustees into the ordinance text. Lori Castello suggested that proper action now is to submit another proposed ordinance amendment.

4. **Minutes of previous meeting.**

The minutes of the June 15, 2026, meeting were presented;

A Motion was brought by David Brink and 2nd by Fred VanTubergen to approve the minutes as presented, PASSED 3-0.

5. **Opportunity for public comment.**

None.

6. **New Business.**

None.

7. **Old Business.**

Continue the Master/Future Land Use Plan draft. Led by Lori Castello AICP, Township Planner.

Those in attendance were welcomed by Lori Castello to participate with questions, comments and suggestions as the Master Plan for Fillmore Township as drafted.

Lori Castello reviewed the progress of the plan to date, with a goal of presenting it for adoption by the end of 2026. The final text could be 60-80 pages, including 5 chapters;

- a. Mission statement and legal basis.
- b. Demographics.
- c. Physical characteristics.
- d. Community input.
- e. Goals and objectives.

For the meeting, Lori Castello presented and reviewed each chapter as drafted to this point.

Chapter 1. Mission Statement and Legal Basis.

In process yet based on input from these meetings and information gathering.

Chapter 2. Demographics.

Lori Castello reviewed the approximately 20 pages of information collected by the US Census Bureau and the American Community Survey.

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Chapter 3. Physical Characteristics.

Lori Castello presented maps that provide detail on characteristics and information needed for decision making regarding and uses and policies. Topography, hydrology, soils, prime farmland and transportation.

These maps generated considerable comments and questions regarding accuracy and usefulness. Lori Castello explained that each map is useful for information in that each shows a physical characteristic as it was when the map was generated. For example, the map showing prime farmland may not seem accurate since it does not take into consideration the cultural practices of farmers such as drainage and irrigation to improve lands in agricultural production.

Suggestions for additional maps and documents.

- a. Parcels enrolled in Farmland Preservation program (PA 116) and any conservation easements.
- b. Utility extension plans.
- c. Existing petroleum pipelines and natural gas mains.
- d. Livestock and poultry production.
- e. Current average yields of grain commodities are produced.
- f. An accurate map of current Township land use plan.

Chapter 4. Public Input.

Lori Castello is documenting the flow of information gathered from public input as well as input from adjacent Townships and the City of Holland. This will be contained in the final draft of Chapter 4.

Chapter 5. Goals and Objectives.

Lori Castello reviewed the current draft which as created by information and opinions derived from the survey, the public workshop and the Planning Commission meetings to date.

Three main objectives are listed along with strategies to carry out the objectives.

The three main objectives are not necessarily listed in order of importance, and objectives can be added or subtracted. These objectives and strategies generated considerable comments and questions which provided valuable public input as the

Master Plan evolves.

8. Planning Commission closing comments.

Invitation to 2 separate seminars on August 31, 2026, Lawrence MI and Dorr Township.

9. Public closing comments.

None.

10. Next meeting date.

Monday 5, 2026 at 7pm.

11. Adjourn.

There being no other business brought before the Fillmore Township Planning Commission;
A Motion was brought by David Brink and 2nd by Fred VanTubergen to adjourn at 8:50pm.
PASSED 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Brink, Secretary
Fillmore Township Planning Commission

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I, David Brink, Secretary, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of the meeting action as passed by the Fillmore Township Planning Commission Meeting on August 3, 2026, at 7:00 pm, which was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan.

Signed_____

Date_____

DRAFT