

## Workshop Meeting of the Livonia Town Board Held at the Livonia Town Hall Monday, May 5, 2025

Supervisors present: Hass, Hiller, Kukowski, Kluge Jr, and Spencer.

Staff present: Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Jewett.

Others present: Township Attorney Troy Gilchrist was present by zoom. Brad Schumacher County Commissioner.

The Workshop Meeting came to order at 4:00 p.m.

Cannabis: Attorney Gilchrist stated he felt the county was taking a position that was different than any other county in the state. There are 3 levels to consider with cannabis licensing, registration and zoning. Licensing is being held by the state, and they are handling that. Registration for cannabis says it may allow towns and cities to do it, but the county may do if towns consent to county to do it. Zoning will default to the county. The county would like the township to enter into a Joint Power Agreement and pass their ordinance. Discussion from the town board about the resolution that Troy drafted versus the joint powers agreement and who could be liable in different scenarios, costs, zoning, and the ordinance the county wants us to pass. Township Attorney advised the town board to send the county the resolution and have Clerk Treasurer Fiedler appoint the county to handle the registration on the Office of Cannabis Management website. There is a sample resolution on the MN Association of Townships website also. Hiller would like the board to think about which route the township wants to take and decide at the next meeting. No action taken.

**Solar**: The township adopted an interim ordinance to look at solar in the township. Discussion about putting a cap on the amount of megawatts allowed in the township, who would enforce that, what type of regulations we might have, how those regulations would impact the county and their zoning and current joint powers agreement and their ordinances. Once the solar farms reached certain sizes the township would not have any permitting or zoning regulations over them.

**JPA**: Discussion regarding the joint powers agreement that has been in place for years and why that was adopted at that time. The town board tried updating that agreement and the county dismissed their changes. Talked about revisiting that agreement if that's what the town board wants.

**Zoning**: Discussion about the process that the township would have to start to take over our own zoning. Things like notifying the county, hiring a planner, adopting ordinances, going through comprehensive planning, appointing a planning commission, appointing a board for appeals and adjustment, and public hearing process. Also talked about the different permits like building permits, building inspections, septic inspections, and shoreline that the county does and the fees those generate. Discussion about zoning authority and how strict the township can be compared to the county.

The Workshop meeting concluded at 5:07 pm.

Dated this 19th day of May 2025.

Chair or Vice Chair

Clerk/Treasurer or Deputy Clerk/Treasurer