

PLANNING BOARD MEETING
JULY 28, 2026

PRESENT: Crystal Tomion, Rich Meyer, Steve Hullings, Matt Perry, Jeff Eckert and Jeremiah Tomion - Alt.

Also present Tom Davie, Town Supervisor; Glenn Quackenbush, Town Councilman; Tom Fulkrod, Code Enforcement Officer; Kevin Roy Martin, Eldon Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hoover.

Crystal T called meeting to order at 7PM

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Rich M made the motion to accept June's meeting as written, with one correction that needs to be made. Matt P second the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

APPEAL #150PSPR-26:

Eldon Martin at 728 Rte 14A would like approval to have a road side stand at this location. Crystal T stated that the stand has already been built. They have made a driveway that is very helpful to get customers safely off the road. Rich M mentioned that there were small signs alongside the road. Crystal T also stated that the signs are not off the right away, that a few are literally right next to the road, and that they are a concern. Maybe move them further back into the lawn, being that close to the road could be a distraction for the drivers. Jeff E complimented on the new driveway that Eldon M had put in to get customers off the road, and hopefully not backing up into the highway. Tom F stated that removable signs are allowed during the season, but should be on owners part of the right away. Eldon M stated possibly putting a sign on the side of the stand with what is being offered to sell. The board made a suggestion to do a hanging sign with the items for sale by using "chain link" so to be able to change items that are offered. Tom F stated that if this was done using 1 inch X 2 inch boards, Eldon M would not have to come back and get a special use permit.

Crystal T asked if there were any more questions or comments. Tom F stated he would like to see a sign there stating "No backing up into the highway". Mainly to cover the Town of Benton and Eldon M in case of an incident.

FINAL ACTIONS: Jeff E made the motion to accept #150PSPR-26 pending a sign being in place stating "No backing up into the highway".

Rich M second the motion. All in favor.

The motion was carried.

APPEAL: #152PSPR -26:

Mark Hoover at 1251 Rte 14 would like to have a road side stand.

Previously he had a small table in front of the house selling tomatoes. As time has gone by there have been more items added to sell. There are growing concerns that there have been more customers stopping to buy the produce. This area is not a safe place to stop due to the fact that there is not enough room to safely pull back out onto the highway. Tom F stated that there have been a few "close calls" with people either pulling back onto the road or backing up into the road. Crystal T asked if the stand would be a long term situation. Mark H stated that they enjoy doing the stand and that the children would be taking over. Suggestion was made that it would be possible to move the stand down by the house away from the road area for their safety and the safety for others. Tom F told Mark M that he would need a better solution by next month's meeting to keep the stand open.

Mark M stated that sounded ok to him.

FINAL ACTIONS:

Rich M made a motion to postpone #152PSRP-26 until the next meeting with the hopes of coming back with a plan for parking and making the area safer. Jeff E second the motion. All in favor.

The motion carried.

The board then started reviewing solar laws from different townships in preparation for future Town Of Benton Solar Codes and Laws. Matt P made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rich M second the motion. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:07PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mindy Johnson
Recording Secretary