



Minutes – Planning Commission

Meeting – Wednesday, June 24th, 2026

**Meeting called by:** Chair Rick Sevey @ 7:00 PM

Solon Township Hall, 15185 Algoma Ave NE, Cedar Springs

**Members Present:** Chair Sevey requested Member Roll Call

Brad Carey \_\_X\_\_ Hal Babcock \_\_X\_\_ Mark Hoskins \_\_X\_\_ Keith Sawade \_\_X\_\_ Rick Sevey \_\_X\_\_  
Jon Tilburt \_\_X\_\_ Joe VandenBerg \_\_X\_\_

**Others present:** Attorney – Leisman; Zoning Admin – Gross; Supervisor – Ellick

### ***Pledge of Allegiance***

**Approval of Minutes** - Motion to accept May 27th, 2026, meeting minutes by Tilburt, second - Sawade, all Ayes, Carried.

**Approval of Agenda** - Motion to accept Agenda by Hoskins, second – Sawade, all Ayes, Carried.

**Public Comment** - Matters not the Subject of Public Hearing/Agenda Items: **Sevey:** Opened public comment on agenda items – Comments received: None

### ***Agenda Items to be reviewed by the Planning Commission:***

Agenda Item #1: DRAFT 5 – Scheduled Public Hearing - Ordinance Amendment Data Centers

**Sevey:** We have met several times with members of the public regarding concerns and recommendations, made several changes to Draft 5 Data Center Ordinance. We will review and consider all comments.

**Public Hearing: Sevey:** Opened public hearing with explanation of procedures and called for any public comment - Comments received:

**Lisa Platschorre:** Comments regarding noise pollution and the ill effects of electromagnetic field exposure; a lawsuit has been filed against the company that owns and operates the hyperscale data center, Dowagiac. The complaint alleges that residential properties within one mile of the facility have been affected by noise from the site which operates around the clock. The report says many data center complaints stem from routine operations, not backup generators; low frequency drone they can feel and hear. The Citizens Research Council recommends that local governments pay special attention to noise during permitting and require strong mitigation measures when projects are near homes. Data centers require massive electrical infrastructure to operate. This means new high voltage power lines and substations that will increase electromagnetic field (EMF) exposure to people, the health impacts of EMF exposure have been researched for decades. EMFs have been linked by published scientific studies to many serious health issues. Scientists have called for risk mitigation measures to research and reduce public exposure to EMF. The US does not have safety standards for exposure to EMF from data centers. Asking Planning Commission to extend the moratorium for time to study issues, create a stronger ordinance, and wait for stronger protections from state bills 1046 through 1051.

**Jamie:** Resident of Cedar Springs for 35 years, my kids went to school here, sad to think that we could lose our property values that we worked hard for. Worried about the low humming noise, I know they have decibel limits on the sound but not the low humming. Very concerned about the water that we use, no numerical statutes on usage. I urge people to take videos of their peaceful environment now so you have that as a record for later because this is a very important issue.

**Sharon Poole:** I know you are going to do the right thing for the people you represent. Doctors say wait to see if the health questions are valid. Erin Brockovich entered into the fight against data centers. If this was built in your backyard, you would be opposed to it completely. If you vote yes it will be in my backyard along with 200 to 300 other people that live in the Cedarfield community. You have the power to make this go away. The City of Cedar Springs said that if this is built, the engineers would look at the city water which you told us they were going to use for the data center. If city refuses, the data center could sink wells according to the stipulations required in your ordinance. They have over 4000 data centers when is enough enough? Please do not vote until House Bill 5594, Senate bills 1050, 761 to 763, Senate Bill 237 and House Bill 460 are voted on. Has

anyone on the Board been to a data center to see what is involved? If this was so good for our township, why did you sign a non-disclosure agreement? Please help to keep this township data center free, as other townships are saying no to them.

**Linda Blanchard, Thermal-Tec Roofing::** My brother and I have the distinctive pleasure of being on the northern border of the Moore property. When the road needs to come through to 17 Mile Road, it will go right across our property. We are directly impacted. We were asked to work with the Subcommittee and the Stop Solon Township Data Center volunteer group, I am asking for unity. We cannot do what we've been doing and be successful. We are a true supporter of the township and this team, they want to do the right thing. We've been very quietly building our business for 35 years in Cedar Springs, 43 years overall. It's important that we don't blame, we don't show anger, need to focus on solutions and stand together. We need to support each other, stop anger on all sides. Three objectives, extend the moratorium, create a strong ordinance and hire consultants and attorneys and better experts. We need to get smart, because knowledge is powerful. We don't have enough knowledge to be powerful enough. We need to get that knowledge and work together.

**Jan Heyboer:** These industrial facilities would consume vast amounts of water energy from the Great Lakes region, endangering 20% of the world's surface fresh water. Communities face rising utility costs, environmental risks, data centers have become a major political issue. Do we have an environmental and community impact analysis and report? Does it include a narrative description of the nature of the on-site activities and operations including the market area served by the facility, the hours of operation in the facility, the total number of employees and shifts, the times, frequencies and types of vehicle trips generated, the types of materials stored, and the duration period of storage of materials. Impacts which need to be considered include emergency service, rescue and fire protection, water supply, sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, municipal revenues and expenses. Also consider threatened and endangered species habitat, electrical grid, thermal and heat dissipation, wildlife habitat and green space, screening and buffer yards along all property boundary lines. Would there be ongoing regular inspections, and if so, by whom? What is benefit to this community? It seems that the citizens and residents of Solon Township are being forced to indirectly subsidize the profit margins of a data center. Why?

**John Nix:** I demand this revision does not go through, here are the reasons: five, seven, eight, nine A, 12, MM and K. The Moores had a total of 775 acres, some in Algoma, some in Solon. Gateway opened as revision states 800 acres in Solon, that is 1.25 square miles. To me, you are in favor of this; 572 are in Solon, 203 are in Algoma, why 800? That's a total of 775? Why are we letting more in? 110 acres is in light industrial, which you've already pre-approved. You went from 40 feet on the building heights, now higher, for what? What else are you guys not being transparent about? If we're going to make rules, it needs to be a blanket approach, don't start opening the gateway. This was written by Ross, he is a Right Place investor. This is 100% catered to the Right Place. I requested on May 12 for his oath of office, his bond and insurance. I got a printout from the Michigan State license that says he's licensed and he's in good standing. It's not what I asked for. If this goes down, I want to make sure that man's insurance and his bond and his surety bond can carry the load. Have you taken the oath to office? Have you guys taken the oath of office? You guys are here to represent the people. You supposedly took an oath to the Constitution. Well, then represent us because if you're not get off the board and put one of these people here. If you don't do what we want, I'm sure all of us will recall you with no problem.

**Chelsea Miller:** My grandfather had an 80-acre farm with the house that I live in now, my parents bought it. We use well water, I'm afraid that the well water will be destroyed and property value will be destroyed. Look at all of these people, this is who you represent, and we don't want it. What good is the money that will supposedly come from this? If we don't have water, if we don't have homes, if we're all dying of cancer and diseases caused by this, we don't want it. I think if you truly didn't want it, you wouldn't have signed the NDA, it's just disappointing. You see people come up here with passion, it's not surprising to me because you're threatening our lives, you're threatening the lives of our children, destroying our homes, destroying our water, destroying our lives and we have to be nice to you, I find that totally insulting and degrading.

**Kleinman:** Owned property and built a home in this area 40 years ago. I admit I use AI a lot, I suspect many do. I used it to evaluate the zoning ordinance. I don't understand all the terminology, found places in the ordinance where you give the zoning board the option to override the ordinance restrictions, that's unconscionable. They should not have the option to override the restrictions that are in the ordinance, should be iron clad. When I built my house, there were no wires, there was no 17 Mile Road corridor. If this data center is built, we need the most restrictive conditions that keep the quality of rural life, the silence of rural life, the visual character of rural life, the health of the community. Nothing referencing the lower frequency noises in the draft ordinance.

**Doug Schultz:** Board president of the Rogue River Watershed Partners, our mission is to protect, preserve, and promote the Rogue River, its tributaries, and watershed. This township is blessed with abundance of cold-water streams, many have a self-

sustaining brook and brown trout population. Three cold water tributaries in Rogue River run through Solon Township, Duke, Cedar, and Spring Creeks, each designated as Michigan Natural Rivers requiring special protection to ensure their continued high quality. Concerned that data centers would seriously degrade the quality of our streams if strong ordinance language mitigating their effects is not adopted by requiring data centers to have closed loop and/or recycled water cooling systems and requiring surface and groundwater assessment for hyperscale data centers is good start. I would ask that the ordinance also has language explicitly protecting streams in or near any data center footprint. These would include a 200-foot building setback from the stream, 50-foot vegetation buffers on either side of the impact stream or in a storm water design standard that includes infiltration of storm water run off rather than direct run off into the stream itself.

**Bob Gillenwater:** Moved here two years ago. We love rural areas, quiet, great people, and that's what we moved into, now this. Have you seen what a hyper center looks like? If you haven't, you all need to take a trip down about 30 miles northwest of Indianapolis. We were visiting our daughter a couple of months ago, this massive scar on the landscape was visible from miles away, and it's just at its infancy, and it is a scar on a beautiful Indiana agricultural landscape. Is that what we want for this community? I don't think so. You have the power to take your six-month moratorium, maybe a year moratorium. The Michigan State Legislature has indicated laws potentially coming, need guardrails on this, you should not be the ones setting these guardrails, needs to come from Lansing and set back another six months. If six months from now that isn't enough, because Lansing isn't done, then you set it back another six months.

**Robert Sittlerlet, Thermal-Tech Roofing:** It's very important for everyone to recognize that no one wants a data center. I don't believe these gentlemen are doing anything to purposely bring the data center in. These are reasonable people that you've elected and we're not giving them the opportunity. They don't know how to defeat a data center. We're putting all this weight on them. We need people who know how to defeat these data centers and come in here. Need people who know how to defeat this. We don't want them here. We're not getting anywhere blaming people that we voted in to protect us. What we need is people to come together, stop looking at this group as the enemy. These are the people that can be the voice, when that voice is being shouted at and spit upon no value in that. Need to come together as a community. Ordinance not strong enough, we don't have the representation from the present attorney, need people who know how to do this. We need to let them know that we are not going to kneel to them. They can take their billion dollars somewhere else. Collectively come together to work in groups to get right people and get them the knowledge that's necessary to keep these people out of our neighborhoods, and farmland. That's what's important, not to call bad names or accuse other people of things that they haven't done. I've gone up against billion-dollar companies and won, not going to do that by telling them that they're bad people, going to do that by taking the data that they produce and shoving it down their throat, that's what we need to do here.

**Joe Berlin:** I'm retired engineer and volunteered to help the board at last month's meeting. Reviewed the ordinance and had two meetings with the township supervisor, I've corresponded with the committee from the No Data Center group. I'm looking at this simply as the ordinance, they've done a very good job because there's nothing else out there. Needs to be enhanced and strengthened in many areas. One is in the environmental section needs to enhance the National Environmental Protection Act 1969 which covers community benefits, critical habitats, hazard materials, etc. Those documents take six months to prepare, that cost would be added to application fees when submitting their site plan. This report will be part of that. In communicating with the committee, they express real concerns about groundwater and groundwater extraction. The current ordinance does prohibit pumping of groundwater on the property, this is in one sentence in one part, would also include surface water. Concerns with groundwater, requirement for hydrological investigation to establish base conditions, ongoing quarterly monitoring they would be required to conduct. Can't have exclusionary zoning where you just say no, they can certainly set the highest standards and real-time monitoring that is posted online, so that people could see the data. Need more time to work on it.

**Tony Urban:** We are getting ready to celebrate the Fourth of July, 250 years of independence from the Red Coats. Those trying to take over our country, the Sons of Liberty wouldn't allow it. The same with Solon Township, we don't like those trying to take over our township. Say your prayers to stop the data center. With God, all things are possible.

**Amy Swagger:** Concerned property is adjacent to a PFAS site, the treatment lagoon on West Street. If they sink a well that could potentially affect the spread of PFAS that is already in the soil, would also require EPA involvement. Also, exclusionary zoning language, if we haven't fixed the language to make sure that we're not excluding them, that's where Saline lost, then waste regulation on the back end. If they're a closed loop system, a lot of them use the PFAs in the cooling one, and if they're the open loop system, the ones that use the groundwater or water in general, those can potentially have heavy metals in the releases that they have to do on the back end, we have to worry about the waste disposal for these things, they are going to generate waste of some sort.

**Joan M.:** Concerned about the signing of the NDA, you're supposed to represent the people, not hide things from the people, don't want people to yell at you but that was a huge betrayal of trust. People don't trust you. We said the Pledge of Allegiance, that's in the Constitution. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness come first, and we know that infra noise causes insomnia, aggression, hearing disorders, vascular diseases. You can't look at these people and say, I'm going to let your kid or your wife have a miscarriage. Civilization people came together as human beings, don't care what religion you are, to protect each other. Meta can go far on an island where there is nobody. They're billionaires. Also concerned how you can enforce any of this ordinance because these companies have so much money, cannot match them. Part of your moratorium after a year should include an escrow account that has a billion dollars in legal funds to fight them if they don't comply with the ordinance. You have to love other human beings to be a civilized leader before the almighty dollar. These people come first.

**Ryan Powers::** I'm a proud Navy veteran, so I live in the city of Cedar Springs. My family has lived here and worked the soil of West Michigan for almost 200 years. I'm very proud of that. I brought my kids here tonight because I believe in democracy. That's what I fought for in the war. Some of that speculation is on the actual demand and realization for AI. I work in tech, it's not guaranteed, this is speculative demand that we're building something for. We're not building something to fulfill an already existing need. That's speculation. There's some speculation on the environmental impacts of these. There's speculation on how bad the impacts could be. Something interesting that's happened, everybody that I know on the politically left, center, right, all agree on this, that this should not be done this way here. Your job is to represent these people whether you personally agree or not, that's your job to fight tooth and nail for what the people here want, and if you say everybody agrees on this, we're going to let it happen anyway. I don't know that I brought my kids here for that. I don't know where the benefits go. I know that the risk and pain lives here, so do these people. Do your job, please.

**Rachel Crowther:** I'm a Courtland Township trustee. Earlier this month, I spearheaded our 12-month moratorium in our township, and I encourage this board to extend your moratorium. This is an extraordinary moment. I know when I chose to run for trustee, I didn't think this would be part of my decision-making process was having a conversation about data centers. I thank you for what you're doing, oftentimes this is a thankless job, making these decisions on behalf of your community. You have an extraordinary job right now to serve your community in a way that you never expected. It is your duty to listen to the community. It is your duty to make decisions with them in mind. I appreciate everything you're doing. I do not know what it is like to go home and have folks from your community talking loud, using profanities. I'm sure you didn't ask for that, I'm sure your family didn't ask for that kind of attention. Your decisions are going to impact generations in these communities. Thank you for what you're doing, I encourage you to extend the moratorium because when I get to Lansing next year I will support those bills and make sure that 12-month moratorium in the state of Michigan goes through.

**Joe:** I'm not accustomed to analyzing zoning ordinances in my spare time. I have a disagreement with how it uses the word small. Draft Five Ordinance classifies data centers up to five megawatts as quote, "small scale," and makes them permitted in light industrial zones. This entirely strips away the special land use process of the township. That means zero public notices, zero community hearings, and zero local oversight. While this sounds reasonable for some things, it sounds like a bad idea for a data center. How small is five megawatts? Turns out if you hooked up every single home in Solon Township together with one massive extension cord plugged it into an electric meter and doubled that power draw, that's about five megawatts. Giving blanket automatic approval to a single business that consumes double the energy of our entire residential population is unconscionable. One thing that is not small is the loophole that this draft leaves wide open for savvy investors. I did not see any language to prevent a developer from building one five-megawatt small scale data center right next to another, next to another, next to another, and having an interconnected hyperscale data center that completely dodges all the special land use processes, stricter zoning reviews, and public scrutiny. I strongly urge the township to get some support from Specialized Legal Counsel to rewrite this draft. Please extend the moratorium, give yourselves the time that you need to build a legally sound and non-exclusionary ordinance. Build an ordinance that protects our residents and preserves the Solon Township that our website proudly advertises; our charming rural character, rich agricultural heritage and the perfect blend of peaceful living.

**Andrew Smith, Solon Township:** We have a small family farm in Solon Township. Data centers are now competing in an already competitive field, and that is farming. We cannot compete with housing, data centers and land values in general. Open zoning like this makes farmland very advantageous for data centers to come in, pay double or triple land values, then box out young farmers like myself. There is a movement in farming, seeing a lot of people who don't like conventional farming, many want more regenerative farming. If we don't get more restrictive with zoning, it's going to box out having any type of competition within farming. Whether you do more regenerative or if you stay conventional, I'm just here asking to have higher restricted zoning and to extend the moratorium. For my kids' generation if they want to continue farming, there might be some land left.

**Abel Powers:** I'm the proud son of Ryan Powers, I'm barely 15 and I'm engaged in this topic and that should tell you something. I don't have a lot of knowledge, I can't say I'm an expert on data centers or anything at all but I'm just here to present my personal concerns. My friend lives really close to where they plan to build it, I don't feel like anytime I want to go over to his house having to listen to a low whining the entire time. I'm just trying to hang out with my friend, I don't have to think about my friend having to hear that every time. I know he won't be able to sleep. I hang out at the creek, I know it's not a sure thing that it would dry out if they're using all the water but it's a concern. I'm just not here to present my personal concerns. I'm close enough to think I would hear some of it and that's super annoying. I think you should think about that a little bit when you're considering this problem.

**Traci Beals:** My grandparents grew up in Cedar Springs as well as myself, they owned a restaurant on Main Street called the Cedar Springs Cafe. Big business is for big business, they take advantage of the small rural areas. We can set all these parameters and say you can only build a box this big, what if they build a box bigger? They pay the penalty, they pay the fine, they still build it, they don't care about community, it's going to stop growing. We're going to have homes that are not occupied anymore, it is going to become a wasteland for a big data center. I foresee Meijer closing; water, noise, etc. I see Cedarfield going bankrupt, residents moving. I concur with the one-year moratorium, get your information behind you so you can make the decision for your community.

**Cindy Patton:** During the January PC meeting, Mr. Babcock had mentioned it would be a great idea if the planning commission made a trip down to Dowagiac or Carlisle, Indiana. Just wondering if the team had a chance to do that yet. We're good at building homes, building farms and businesses. As Mr. Powers had mentioned, this data center project is speculative. We've never built one before, concerning to me that we're going to put this kind of thing in place without some stricter ordinances. We need to acknowledge that we're not pros, we need to really look for some extra outside consultation help. Also, the ordinance doesn't address Algoma Township that is just downstream, they're being covered by a decision that your board is making. I would like to ask the planning commission to add stronger protections that go back to the size of the project, no additional little baby things being brought on as well down the road, they require approval for each additional segment that they add on. Also, requiring township officials to disclose any conflicts of interest in this project. Lastly, if really was a great project that was going to bring millions of dollars to the school or community, why NDA's? It doesn't make sense to me. When the circus comes to town they advertise, you're bringing this to town, it was quietly brought in. Somewhere in the middle lies the truth.

**Heidi:** Asking you to consider this community as a whole that is represented here this evening. Many of us here have different views on school issues, religion, or national politics, here now as one community to stand against a data center. They extract from communities, extract water, electricity, farmland, nature, peace, and quiet. Data centers do not give back substantially to the community in which they're placed, our family's future is at risk, representing past generations and future generations. This body of people here are asking you to make the ordinance stronger. Please extend the moratorium. There's time to make the ordinance stronger. Seek a second legal opinion to make the ordinance as protective and legally defensible as possible. Please consider these things to honor these stakeholders represented here and your fellow neighbors.

**Warner:** My husband and I moved here three years ago here wanting to build a family, potentially. I also speak from the health aspects side being a nurse and community member. My job is caring for people, there's been a lot of things said about health concerns. I'm an avid runner, I enjoy the parks around our place, worry about the environmental impact. Some good things with ordinance. I'm asking for more time with the moratorium and additional help to better work on it, so that we can continue fighting this fight.

**Anna Feldpausch:** Thank you for listening to us all here tonight. My husband and I moved to Solon Township about three years ago with the dream that our new home would be our forever home. Didn't move here to be within two miles of an 800-acre water-guzzling grid overloading, noisy industrial facility. Thursday last week, state legislators proposed a multitude of bills that could put into state law protections for Michigan from data centers. They cover some of the following: requiring reporting on how much water data centers are allowed to use, as well as stricter requirements for approval through a public hearing process, limiting the amount of power that data centers can use, so that will negatively impact residents' power reliability and affordability. Also, would require clean energy which means no coal or natural gas plants being built in people's backyards, no fossil fuel generators. One of the bills also codifies required community benefits that would have to be put in place prior to the project starting. Respectfully asking the PC extend the moratorium until these bills have a chance to make it through the state legislative process allowing the state time to protect us from data centers.

**Amy Rodriguez, Solon Township:** Solon Township residents for four years. What we're looking at is going to impact generations to come, ask that you look at the Industrial Revolution and what it did to the city of Detroit and all the vacant warehouses now. I don't want to see that happen here in Cedar Spring. I also have two grandchildren in Cedar Springs public schools, not sure if the other data centers are located as close to the schools as they are here in Cedar Springs and what the impact is on the students in their learning environment. Request the moratorium is extended and funds made available to us to hire someone that can look at that deeply and give us some information to adequately move forward.

**Katie Valtchev:** Requesting the planning commission make the ordinance as strong as possible, before an application is received. The ordinance should include stronger protections limiting the project size to 200 acres which aligns with what the township did to keep out solar. The proposed ordinance allows for 800 acres, the size of Meta's project, giving four times the acreage to data centers that are exponentially more harmful than solar panels, and could actually open the township up to lawsuits from solar developers. It also allows for medium and hyperscale data centers and light industrial zoning under special land use. It's important to acknowledge who the biggest tech companies in the world are targeting, small communities, retirement communities and townships with limited legal budgets. They're not putting these in Ada, where there's plenty of farmland and infrastructure. They're putting it next to people that they view as lesser than due to their socioeconomic status, level of education, age, and whatever variables they judge people on. Also encourage the township to seek a second legal opinion.

**Melissa Kaiserlain:** There's a lot of hearsay which scares me. If there is a conflict of interest with our legal advisors, they should have stepped down or been replaced. If this happens, the perceived tax value of our homes goes down, can't sell them, we decide to move out, no one's paying taxes. What does that do for Solon Township? Been here 23 years and run a fairly organic farm, considering moving. We already hear the highway, we don't want to hear a data center. The rest of our community is always also speaking, they don't want it either. The ordinances are really our best way to protect the whole township, to be legal about it, cover every angle, make it not appealing to them. And extend the moratorium for at least 12 more months.

**Julie Baker:** I have nine years of experience being a realtor, I work with a lot of buyers that come from out of state that are relocating here. As people are getting priced out of Rockford, a lot of people are looking to Cedar Springs to move to. It's a great community. I treat my clients like I would want my mother treated, I am telling people just be careful, I'm guiding people away from within a two-mile radius of the site. I don't want them to buy a home and then get mad at the realtor. We're not disclosing, I think it should be in the seller's disclosures. I invite you guys to take a little time on this extended moratorium and really work on the zoning.

**Sarah Smith:** I have lived here for 53 years. My son bought a home across from township office. I am here today is because I feel the Lord told me I need to pray for each and every one of you and come up here and just pray. So that's what I'm going to spend my time doing. Dear Father, we just come to you today, and we thank you for who you are and what you've done for us. I just pray for these board members that you would indwell in them and just let your knowledge that you have of what's going to happen and what is going to come to fill them, give them a heart for what you want, Lord. I do not believe that this is what you want is a data center. I truly believe that it is of the devil. I know you might not like to hear that, but I really believe that is what the Lord has told me to tell you. I just pray, Lord, that you would release your knowledge, help them to find information that they need to do to make wise choices for each and every one of us that live here in this community and have lived here. I just pray, Lord, that you would give peace and unity to each one of us to be able to speak their mind with a calm and collected heart. Lord, I just pray that you would just fill this room so greatly with your presence, you are here with each and every one of us. I just pray that you would remove the devil from this building, these people, their minds, just clear their minds and allow them to hear your word, and I pray that you would each spend time with the Lord on every decision that they make, in Jesus' name.

**Jane Wetzel:** I've lived in Algoma for 20 years and Cedar Springs. I work for a medical software company, the solutions we produce, we have a team behind us and we have QA team behind them to test everything to make sure we have the best product possible. I'm thinking that you guys need to bring in some experts in specialized areas that can fill in the gaps, and that way produce a better product. When you want a good product, you want a good team behind you guys. I recommend you extend the moratorium to get the time needed to get your team together and produce a good product.

**Julie:** My husband and I worked very hard our whole lives to be able to buy our dream home, a homestead that we could pass on to our kids and our grandkids, this data center is really disrupting our ability to provide them a safe place to live. This is a generational thing, we want to be able to leave our homes for our kids and our grandkids. We love it here. We're so glad that

we found Cedar Springs in Solon Township. Concerned about water and aquifers. There are no limitations on the amount of water that can be used by these data centers. Who's going to rebuild our wells? Water is vital to life, it's vital to farms, it's vital to people. Concerned about the noise, moved here for peace in the country. Also concerned about the wildlife around us and our night skies, what is that overbearing light going to do? I'm very much for the idea of bringing in outside council to help us strengthen what we're putting in place to protect the people in this community and extend the moratorium to allow our state to put in place the policies that are going to protect our communities and our waterways here in Michigan.

**Dwight Poulsen:** Lived here for 30 years, my wife worked at the township office for 10 years. My nephew and myself are fourth and fifth generation farmers, been on the farm my whole life, need to save our farmland. We can't hardly support and feed the people we have now. If we lose 800-acres of beautiful farmland it would be devastating. I appreciate what you guys are doing. I like this gentleman's suggestion, getting more help for you guys to get more information. Looks like corporate greed.

**Melanie Powers:** I'm 13 years old, I am thinking about the next generation, like all of you people's children and grandchildren. I'm a part of that next generation, I'm thinking that there might not be a future in Cedar Springs if we have this giant thing that's causing a lot of pollution and losing our water. Thinking about protecting the next generation.

**Sue Jacobs:** I am 85 years old, My husband is a couple years older. We moved here for the peace and quiet. We have great grandbabies that are going to be growing up in this area. I want the world to be a better place for them than what this data center is proposed to be. I want them to have a happy life, good water, see the birds fly, watch the deer. All those good things are here now. I want them to remain here now.

**Kara Bolt:** Through FOIA requests, we found out The Right Place approached Cedar Springs leadership on October 24, 2024. The Bugle broke the story January 6, 2026, which is 440 days, that's 14.66 months. We have a six-month moratorium. I think actions speak louder than words. All these people are still very concerned about this language that we've put together. So, even though you may not have been part of the problem, let's be part of the solution. Our moratorium should be a minimum of the same amount of time that you've kept it quiet from the community. Doesn't cost you anything to do a moratorium. It doesn't affect you. Let's just kick this can down the road and figure it out.

**Mark:** I moved to the area about a year ago. I'm about a half a mile from the site. I can show you a slide show of all beautiful sunrise pictures I've taken over that field. I'm not here to add facts, just here to make an observation that if there's ever been a public mandate you guys are looking at it right here. You have the power to tie this thing up in a week and slow it down.

**Nick:** As a man you're called to protect your family. I stand here just as a man, a normal everyday guy. If someone comes to me from a big corporation and tells me that they can take better care of my kids than I can, I don't trust them. I was raised to do the right thing even if it's hard to make the right choice, don't see any benefit to the community here with the short time while we're here on earth. Decisions that we make impact for a lifetime, even after we're gone. Please hold off on this. History's proven that when you rush in, things go sideways real quick, so please just wait. This is so new, it's so fresh, whatever evidence has been presented already isn't that solid. But history's proven that when things like this come up as big as they are when you rush it goes really bad.

**Lee Thompson:** We've lived here for almost 50 years, moved here for peace and quiet. What is all of this data gathered for? What does it do? Why do we need it? Why does a farmer need this much data to take a 12 bottom plow out in this field, I don't get it so could somebody please answer me as to why we need all this to data. What does it do? What are you going to use it for? Nothing. I think it's a waste of time, the risk far outweighs the benefit.

**Laura Marshall:** I'm hearing a lot of questions about why we don't have the environmental impact studies, is it a money issue? Is it a lack of information from other sources, other sites? Why is there such a deficit of the environmental impact information? I think that would be relevant to the discussion and helping you make a decision moving forward. I just want to live a simple life, raise my kids. This is devastating to me. Friends of mine live in Louisville, there is one south of Lansing, they're all finding these data centers. Big money, they want to collect as much data on us as they can to figure out how to manipulate us into spending more of what we barely have. I see the benefit for the big corporations, I don't see any benefit to our community.

**Sevey:** Public Hearing closed. I thank everyone for coming up. I think we've got some really good ideas, and we are now going to discuss Draft 5 and review the comments.

**Hoskins:** I've been on the committee, want to thank the ones that have come forward that we've talked to. There have been quite a few and we've had individual discussions with people from the community. I would thank them for the questions that they've had and the time they spent with us.

**Sevey:** Motion to table Ordinance Amendment – Data Centers - DRAFT 5 and send back to Subcommittee to have ready for July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting by Sevey, second – Sawade, all Ayes, carried. We will look into extending the moratorium that ends in August.

**Babcock:** State legislature is considering six-or-12 month moratorium that I just heard that may be in the works.

***Unfinished Business:***

1. N/A
- 2.

***Open Discussion for Issues not on the Agenda:***

1. Planning Commission Members: N/A
2. Correspondence Received: N/A

***Report of Township Board Representative - Hoskins:*** N/A

***Report of Board of Appeals Representative - Tilburt:*** N/A

***Report of Zoning Administrator - Gross:*** N/A

***Additional Public Comment - Sevey:*** Opened public comment only with explanation of procedures and courtesies.  
Comments received:

- Suggestion for residents to write a letter to the township to extend the Data Center moratorium for 12 months and consider it in July instead of August
- Creating a community group that would be assistive to this group, putting something in the local newspaper and on the website and work to eliminate the data center
- Those who attend the PC meetings because of the data center issue should continue to come to meetings and get to know the Planning Commission members.

**Sevey:** Public Comment is closed. Thank you Frost Creek Church for allowing us to have our meetings here.

***Adjournment:***

**Sevey:** Motion to adjourn by Sawade, Second Hoskins, all Ayes, Motion Carried. Meeting Adjourned: 8:38 pm.

*Next Scheduled Meeting:* Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Township Hall



