

MARATHON TOWNSHIP

Emergency Ordinance Establishing a Moratorium on Solar Farms

THE TOWNSHIP OF MARATHON ORDAINS:

Section 1. Recitations and Findings of Fact.

The Township Board finds as follows:

- (1) There is heightened interest in establishing large-scale residential and commercial solar farms in Lapeer County;
- (2) Existing Township ordinances do not adequately address significant operational aspects of solar farms, such as decommissioning requirements and buffering;
- (3) The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act empowers the Township to adopt ordinances to protect the public health, safety, general welfare, and property in the Township, including the compatibility of land uses within the Township;
- (4) The Township sees the need to study zoning ordinance amendments to better regulate the placement and operation of solar farms and recognizes that it needs time to do that; and
- (5) To permit the Township to investigate and develop appropriate regulations for solar farms, the Township authorizes adoption of this ordinance.

Section 2. Adoption of Moratorium.

1. Upon adoption of this ordinance and for a period of six (6) months thereafter, or until adoption of an ordinance regulating solar farms, whichever is earliest, the Township Board hereby establishes a moratorium on approval or consideration of proposals, requests, permits, or applications for the installation, placement, erection, or construction of solar farms within the Township.
2. This ordinance is being adopted on an emergency basis because of the present, pressing demand for solar farm installations and the recognition that existing Township ordinances do not adequately protect the health, safety and well-being of Township residents with regard to them.
3. The Township shall proceed promptly to investigate and consider appropriate zoning ordinance amendments concerning solar farms.
4. An aggrieved property owner may request and be entitled to a hearing before the Township Board for the purpose of attempting to demonstrate that this Moratorium will preclude all viable economic use of their property or otherwise violate applicable provisions of state or federal law. An aggrieved party shall, in writing and directed to the Township clerk, request a hearing that describes the grounds for the

request. The Township Board shall hear and decide that request at a regular Township board meeting within thirty days (30) of receipt of their request.

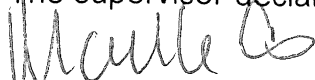
Section 3. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

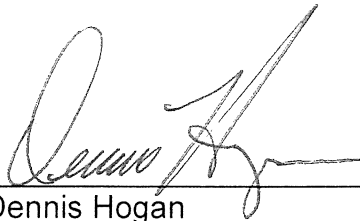
Voting for: Hogan, Coultas, Hollis, Glesenkamp. Sickner

Voting against: None

The supervisor declared the ordinance adopted.



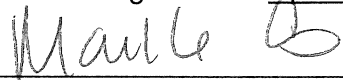
Michelle Coultas
Township Clerk



Dennis Hogan
Township Supervisor

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing is a true copy of Ordinance No. 2023-01 which was enacted by the Marathon Township Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held on April 12, 2023.



Michelle Coultas
Township Clerk