

EMPIRE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT
January 16, 2024

Pursuant to section 19 of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, the Empire Township Planning Commission hereby presents the Empire Township Board with this annual report for the commission's activities during calendar year 2023.

1. Meetings: The planning commission held seven (7) regular meetings and two (2) special meeting.
2. Public Hearings: Conducted two public hearings in May and September to receive public input on the proposed updates to the Master Plan.
3. Plan Reviews: No plan reviews were conducted during 2023
4. Master Plan: Finalized updates to Empire Township Master Plan. Held two public hearings to receive public input and received input from Leelanau County Planning Commission. Delivered plan to Empire Township Board for review and input.
5. Personnel: 2023 saw the retirement of long-time PC Chair Richard Figura, and the appointment of Tom Petersen as the newest Planning Commission member. Duane Shugart was appointed as the new Chair of the Planning Commission.
6. Review of Neighboring Plans. Reviewed portions of plans from neighboring communities and the county as relevant to the township.
7. Budget request. We do not see the need for any increase in the planning budget. While there may be increased attendance at training programs, there seems to be sufficient funds available for that purpose if the budget remains the same.

Duane Shugart

Chairperson