

**Arna Township Planning Commission
Public Hearing Minutes
for July 20, 2026**

The Arna Township Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Zoning Administrator Bob Brewster at 5:00 PM. In addition to Bob, the Planning Commission members attending were Walt Hodgeman, Andy Allen, Bill Sieberlich, and Secretary and Board member Cheryl Wickham. Guests were John Heinsch, Carol and Reggie Washington, Bill Kennedy, Ruth & Gary Ament, Mike & Kathy Lenarz, Pete Imbrone, Brent Hodgeman, Wanda Larson, Tammy Hodgeman, Drew Julien, Glen Sladek, Emily and Andrew Zaccardi, David Hughes and Tracy Erickson.

The pledge to the flag was recited. The minutes from the July 1, 2026 Planning Commission meeting were read by Cheryl and a motion was made by Andy and 2nd by Walt to accept. All yay and motion carried.

The Board discussed the current violation list. We have not heard anything from Landherr yet. All other's on the list are okay. The Board also discussed the handout information received from the Zaccardi's, who are requesting an Interim Use Permit from Arna Township. Bob encouraged all the members of the Planning Commission to keep notes and ask questions during the hearing phase. This part of the meeting was recessed at 5:30 PM, to be resumed after the Public Hearing.

Bob opened the public hearing at 5:30 PM and introduced the members of the Board to the audience. Bob passed out a copy of his hearing agenda to the other members of the Planning Commission. Bob explained the night's agenda to the people in attendance, and how testimony would be taken. The hearing and public comment would then end, followed by the Planning Commission making a Findings of Fact and a Conditions of Operation, for which the public could stay and listen to if they want after the hearing is over. Bob then read five documents (Exhibits A to E) into the hearing record.

Testimony was started by the Zaccardi's. Emily Zaccardi spoke of their plans for a Short-Term Rental they wish to have in Markville. She stated they have done this in other areas with no problems. Bob asked questions about sewer capacity, number of bedrooms, and alarm systems when the septic tank needs pumping. Zaccardi's seemed to satisfy these requirements.

Testimony from others in attendance then began a little after 6 PM, and several residents living within the Zaccardi's neighborhood stated their concerns, the majority wanting the application to be denied, with two stating why they were in favor of it being approved. The Hearing closed at 7:50 PM when there were no further questions from the Planning Commission, and no more testimony offered by the public.

The regular Planning Commission meeting was re-opened and the Finding of Facts were developed. One concern in particular was whether or not Short Term Rentals need to be licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health. The Board felt they should be, especially considering potable water. Since the Zoning Administrator and the applicant differed on these particulars, it was decided that before the details of this permit are finalized, Bob will research MDH licensing once more in order to get a definitive answer.

A draft of the Conditions of Operation were reviewed and a lot of time was spent discussing Condition #8 due to the amount of testimony received on those issues. The Zaccardi's will need to agree and sign off on these conditions in order for the IUP permit to become valid. A motion was made by Walt and a 2nd by Andy, all yay about these draft conditions of operation. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 11:00 pm, to be resumed after the MDH can be queried.