

SALEM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes, January 8, 2026

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance – 7 pm

Roll Call of Members – Berens – absent with notice. Striegle, Coupe, Pitsch, Oosterink, Meyers, Wagner – present.

Recognition of Visitors – Steve Cooper, SalemTownship ZBA.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Moved Pitsch Second - Wagner Action Carried

Comments from the Public: Kerry Lacey – questioned private drive/road off 136th. PCI located information that it is a bona fide private road, established in 2023. Needs road sign at road. Kevin DeWeerd - asked about wind energy, battery storage, data storage, etc. PC will be addressing.

Approval of the Agenda for the Meeting: Moved Striegle Second Coupe Action carried

Inquiry of Conflict of Interest

New Business

Backyard/hobby farming – discussion – sample presented – numbers might be too large for current times.

No roosters. Striegle suggested that in VR lots under 1 acre should be allowed five animals zero roosters.

For other parcels, up to 5 acres 5 animals no rooster per acre. Over 5 acres, 10 animals per acre plus 1

Rooster. Up to a maximum total 200 animals. Public hearing next month.

Battery storage – discussion – reviewed possible new ordinance text based on solar ordinance with some additions and changes. Definition, non commercial and commercial systems. Jason will add rules for access roads to projects.

Wagner asked about trays to prevent leaching (containment)??

Old Business

None

Reports

Township Board – Wayland Ambulance – new agreement. Large trees removed at Cemetery. Citizen Planner cost \$250 will be covered for PC members. Question to Jason about training requirements - there are none for PC or ZBA. Had Pickleball court meeting.

PCI – Second enforcement officer hired. John Kamps (meat store) now working with health department and has had fire department walk through. Mechanic shop on 146th – no update. Harmsen parcel – in probate. Hoppe property – no update.

Correspondence Received/Additional Comments - none

Other/Roundtable – Pitsch moved that a moratorium of 9 month on “data centers “ application be established in order for the PC to work on regulatory language for applicable ordinance. Second by Coupe. Motion carried. Striegle will take to Board meeting on Tuesday and Jason will send advice.

**Next Meeting – February 5, 2026 – Chapel at Sandy Pines expansion. SUP because Church.
At 6 pm ZBA will meet.**

Adjournment Moved Striegle Second Wagner Action Carried Time 9:03