

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 2026

The Planning Commission Special Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Shaw at 7:01 p.m. at the Saranac Village Office, 27 N. Bridge Street.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Shaw, Tlapek, Trierweiler, Day, Hesche

Absent: None

Guests: Mark Culmer (CHO, via phone), Monica Brace (CHO), Olivia Nielson (CHO), Evan Smith (9 Main St. building owner), Jeanne Vandersloot (Zoning Administrator)

Motion was made by Day, supported by Trierweiler, to approve the Agenda of September 16, 2026. All yeas.

Old Business

Planning Commission members reviewed additional information provided by Mark Culmer, regarding the Special Use Permit Application and Application to Operate an Adult-Use Recreational Marihuana Establishment at 9 Main Street, which was reviewed by the Planning Commission at their 9/2/26 Regular meeting

The Planning Commission discussed the additional materials provided by Culmer and the memo provided by Vandersloot. Planning Commission members agreed that the planned odor control measures surpass the requirements.

The Planning Commission discussed potential conditions that may be placed on CHO if approval was granted after the Public Hearing. One possible condition would be that CHO keep a maintenance log for the filtration system. Another possible condition would be that employees not park on Main Street. Nielson and Culmer agreed that CHO could meet these conditions.

The Planning Commission set the date of October 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Saranac Village Office, 27 N. Bridge Street, for the next Regular Meeting and Public Hearing.

Public Comments

Culmer inquired if there was any way to hold the Public Hearing sooner. Culmer explained that the employees of CHO for the Saranac location are currently on the payroll at the Stanton location and their wages are only budgeted through the end of September.

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Shaw and Vandersloot explained that the State of Michigan requires that a 15-day notice be published in a local newspaper of general circulation, for a Public Hearing. The Village uses the Ionia Sentinel Standard as its local newspaper and the next deadline to publish is 9/22/26 at 10 a.m., with a publication date of 9/25/26. The Ionia Sentinel Standard only prints a hard-copy edition of the paper on Fridays. The earliest the Planning Commission could legally hold a Public Hearing would be 10/12/26. However, the Village Council has a Regular Meeting on 10/12/26.

The meeting was adjourned by Shaw at 7:25 p.m.

Steve Trierweiler, Secretary,
Village of Saranac Planning Commission