

**PINCONNING TOWNSHIP  
BAY COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
ORDINANCE NO. 22-02**

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LARGE AND  
MEDIUM SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS MORATORIUM**

At a meeting of the Township Board of Pinconning Township, Bay County, Michigan, (“Township”) held at the Pinconning Township Hall, on the 9th day of November, 2022, at 7 p.m., Whitney moved to adopt the following Ordinance, which motion was seconded by Hribek.

*An ordinance to enact a temporary moratorium until September 1, 2023 or an earlier time in which the Township adopts new regulations governing Large Solar Energy Systems and Medium Solar Energy Systems and rescinds this Ordinance, on the application, permitting, consideration, approval, location, erection, construction, and/or installation of any Large Solar Energy System or Medium Solar Energy System projects.*

**WHEREAS**, the Township Zoning Ordinance regulates, among other things, the Large Solar Energy Systems land use. Large Solar Energy Systems are generally a utility-scale solar energy project designed for generating electricity for off-site users. Likewise, the Zoning Ordinance also regulates Medium Solar Energy Systems, which are larger solar energy projects that serve one user; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 11, 2022, the Township Board passed a motion to establish a moratorium on the application, permitting, consideration, approval, location, erection, construction, and/or installation of any Large Solar Energy System or Medium Solar Energy System projects until the Township could draft new regulations to adequately regulate the land uses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township has a legitimate purpose in addressing the proper design, size, location, and operation of Large Solar Energy Systems and Medium Solar Energy Systems in the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township is reasonably concerned that application of the Zoning Ordinance as it is currently written could cause Medium and Large Solar Energy Systems to be established in inappropriate or inadvisable locations within the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to forestall such issues for the Township and to enact a temporary moratorium on Large Solar Energy Systems and Medium Solar Energy Systems until any necessary revised regulations can be enacted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township determines that the adoption of this ordinance, which is necessary to preserve the public peace, health, and safety by preventing the inappropriate location and establishment of Large and Medium Solar Energy Systems in the Township during the time needed to study, review, and potentially revise the Township’s Zoning Ordinance due to changed conditions within the Township.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Pinconning Township, Bay County, Michigan, Ordains:

**Section 1. Title:** This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the Pinconning Township Large and Medium Solar Energy Systems Moratorium.

**Section 2. Moratorium:** The Township enacts a temporary moratorium on the application, permitting, consideration, approval, location, erection, construction, and/or installation of all Large Solar Energy Systems and Medium Solar Energy Systems in the Township until September 1, 2023 or an earlier time in which the Township adopts new regulations governing Large Solar Energy Systems and Medium Solar Energy Systems and rescinds this Ordinance. However, the Township Board may pass by resolution an extension of this moratorium to a date following September 1, 2023 should the Township need additional time to promulgate appropriate regulations governing Large and Medium Solar Energy Systems.

**Section 3. Severability:** The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any part is declared invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction it shall not affect the remainder of the Ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect.

**Section 4. Repeal:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section 5. Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after publication.

YEAS: 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
NAYS: 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT/ABSTAIN: 0 \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED.

Signed,  
Sharon Stalsberg,  
Pinconning Township Supervisor