

**NORVELL TOWNSHIP  
TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**ORDINANCE NO. 53**

**AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, LICENSES,  
OR APPROVALS FOR, OR FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OF, COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY  
SYSTEMS**

**Section 1: Definition.** “Commercial Solar Energy Systems” means a utility-scale commercial facility that converts sunlight into electricity, whether by photovoltaics (PV) or various other solar technologies, for the primary purpose of wholesale or retail sales of generated electricity.

**Section 2. Purpose and Findings.** The purpose of this moratorium is to provide sufficient time for the Norvell Township Planning Commission to fully explore, analyze, research, and make recommendations to the Norvell Township Board regarding any potential zoning amendments applicable to Commercial Solar Energy Systems. In support of this Ordinance, the Norvell Township Board has determined the following:

A. The integration of these Commercial Solar Energy Systems within the Township's existing land uses requires suitable regulations and controls to ensure compliance with the Township's Master Plan and for the protection for the health, safety and welfare of all of the Township's residents.

B. The Township wishes to consider whether amendments to its Zoning Ordinance to regulate the establishment and use of Commercial Solar Energy Systems are necessary in order to better protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Township residents.

C. Imposing a moratorium, on a limited temporary basis, is reasonable and necessary in order to allow the Township Planning Commission time to fully explore, analyze, research and develop any proposed zoning amendments and make recommendations to the Norvell Township Board.

D. A moratorium should be imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, and approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment and use of Commercial Solar Energy Systems for twelve (12) months or until the Township amends its Zoning Ordinance regulating Commercial Solar Energy Systems and such amendments take effect, whichever occurs first.

**Section 3: Moratorium.** A moratorium is hereby imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, or approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment or use of Commercial Solar Energy Systems, so long as this Ordinance is in effect.

**Section 4: Term of Moratorium; Renewal.** The moratorium imposed by this Ordinance shall remain in effect for twelve (12) months following the effective date of this Ordinance, or until Commercial Solar Energy Systems regulatory amendments to the Township's Zoning Ordinance become effective, whichever occurs first. Before this moratorium expires, the Township may by resolution extend the moratorium for up to an additional twelve (12) months to allow sufficient time to complete amendments to its Zoning Ordinance, if necessary. If an extension is adopted, the Township will publish notice of the extension.

**Section 5. Validity and Severability.** Should any portion of this Ordinance be found invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

**Section 6. Repealer Clause.** Any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect. However, this Ordinance shall not be construed as a repeal or an amendment to the Township Zoning Ordinance; rather, it is a temporary moratorium until such time as this Ordinance expires or amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance regulating Commercial Solar Energy Systems take effect, whichever occurs first.

**Section 7: Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately following publication.

**NORVELL TOWNSHIP  
TOWNSHIP BOARD  
ORDINANCE 53**

**NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION:**

**AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, LICENSES,  
OR APPROVALS FOR, OR FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OF, COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY  
SYSTEMS**

On December 14, 2022, Norvell Township (the "Township") adopted Ordinance No. 53 An Ordinance to Impose a Moratorium on the Issuance of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals for, or for Any Construction of, Commercial Solar Energy Systems (the "Ordinance"). The following is a summary of the Ordinance. A true copy of the Ordinance is available at the Office of the Township Clerk, 106 E. Commercial Drive, Norvell, Michigan 49263.

**Section 1. Definition.** This section defines "Commercial Solar Energy Systems."

**Section 2. Purpose and Findings.** This section describes the purpose and findings of the Ordinance made by the Township Board.

**Section 3. Moratorium.** This section imposes a moratorium upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, or approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment or use of Commercial Solar Energy Systems, so long as this Ordinance is in effect.

**Section 4: Term of Moratorium; Renewal.** The moratorium imposed by this Ordinance shall remain in effect for twelve (12) months following the effective date of this Ordinance, or until Commercial Solar Energy Systems regulatory amendments to the Township's Zoning Ordinance become effective, whichever occurs first. Before this moratorium expires, the Township may by resolution extend the moratorium for up to twelve (12) months. If an extension is adopted, the Township will publish notice of the extension.

**Section 5. Validity and Severability.** This section provides that if any portion of this Ordinance is found invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

**Section 6. Repealer Clause.** This section provides that any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give the Ordinance full force and effect. Notwithstanding, this section further provides that the Ordinance should not be construed as a repeal or an amendment to the Township Zoning Ordinance; rather, the Ordinance is a temporary moratorium until such time as the Ordinance expires or amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance regulating Commercial Solar Energy Systems take effect, whichever occurs first.

**Section 7: Effective Date.** This section provides that the Ordinance shall become effective immediately following publication.

  
Jeff Oswalt, Township Clerk  
106 E. Commercial Drive  
Norvell, MI 49263  
(517) 536-4370