

# Columbia Township Planning Commission Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday January 28, 2020 7:00 pm

1. Call to order by Chairperson Mahr at 7:03
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Gaede, Briescke, McKay, Mahr, Wanty, Jeffreys, Absent: Reynolds  
Visitors: Rick Church, Township Code Enforcement Administrator, Mark Eidelson-Land Plan
4. Public Comments: None
5. Motion to approve the agenda made by Wanty; support by Jeffreys, Ayes all
6. Motion by McKay, support by Brieschke to approve the minutes of January 15, 2020. Ayes all.
8. Purpose of the meeting: **Master Plan Workshop**- Final reading of the Survey
9. Old Business:
  - a. Report out on the Meeting with Supervisor Elrod, Clerk Marsh and Treasurer Calhoun on the Master Plan update. Option 1 appears to be the path to have the Township Board approve the Master Plan. Regular reports will be submitted to the Board by Land Plan as progress is made. The Board will follow Land Plans guidelines. Update: The Board did choose Option 1 at the latest Township Board Meeting and the Letter of Intent and Survey, as well as the Abstract to revise the Master Plan. Reviewed the Press Release revisions.
  - b. The Special Use zoning needed for the operation of the Wedding Barn located at 12109 M-50 and owned by the Burkeen's was tabled in July to allow the owners to revise their plan and site plan as needed. No action or communication has been taken by the owners to date, even though it was in operation.  
Resolution: The Columbia Township Planning Commission recommends the denial of the Site Plan, due to the lack of action on the owners (Greg and Debbie Burkeen) part. Motion: Gaede, Support Wanty. Ayes all.
- c. Third reading of the survey and approval. **Survey review questions:**
  1. Revise # 1 and 2 as noted and combine, strike the commuting question.
  4. Revise to Township Board. Revise and add unsure option to each question3-8.
  9. Is this still active? Review with Region 2. **Strike from the survey.**
  10. Add Quality of Life.
  11. Revise enforcement to implementation.
  12. No change.

13. Add availability of goods and services. **Pick 3 only.**
14. No change
15. No change
16. **Strike**
17. Eliminate the size of lots and add, **Should we control growth and density?**
18. **Revise multi-family to unable to own or not interested in maintaining a home.**
19. Replace no opinion with unsure.
20. Delete
21. Replace ordinance with a plan to encourage to preserve, Gaede discussed the Township and the need for a resolution to implement PA 116 as requested by Jackson County.
22. Strike millage, revise to add a plan to encourage the protection the environmental resources and sensitive areas.
23. Revise to incrementally improve and remove funding to improve.
24. Change funding to explore.
25. Replace funding to explore and create.
26. Replace wording with, how much extra would you be willing to pay to support. \$50, \$100, \$150
27. Sewer question: Strike from survey.
28. Water question: Strike from survey.
29. Light Manufacturing, eliminate when measured at the property line of the manufacturing site.
30. Light Industrial locations, add other option.
31. Revise more business to additional commercial development.
32. No change
33. Revise my residence to, how would you best describe your home/residence, if you reside here.
34. Strike home area location.

Public Comments:

10. New Business:

The next Planning Commission meeting is Tuesday February 11, 2020, reviewed the Meeting Schedule for the Master Plan revision, Mark advised we keep the end date flexible in 2021.

Discussed various forms of communication with Land Plan to save time and money such as video communication/"Go to Meeting systems".

It was also discussed that the strategic plan for the Township be done as a separate document and plan and not be part of the Master Plan.

Commissioner Comments:

Gaede asked about the Cement Solar Farm preliminary site plan, not further action has been noted.

Mahr: General discussion on the revision of the Master Plan and communication to the Board.

Public Comment: None.

Motion to adjourn by McKay, support by Brieschke ayes all.

Meeting adjourned 9:10

Respectfully submitted,

*Todd Wanty*

Todd Wanty-Secretary