

## **Columbia Charter Township Planning Commission**

### **Columbia Charter Township Hall**

8500 Jefferson Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230

**April 9, 2026, at 7:00 PM**

### **Minutes**

**Call to Order** – Chairperson Wanty called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call** – Secretary Krissie Barnes called the roll:

Present: Chairperson Todd Wanty, Krissie Barnes, Britt Phenicie, Hollis Jeffreys, Mike McKay, Rick DeLand, Taylor Aue

Absent: None

Recognized Guests: Brittany Stein

**Approval of Agenda** – Motion by Aue and support by Barnes to approve the agenda. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Wanty and support by DeLand to approve the minutes from February 4, 2026, Planning Commission Meeting. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

**Public Comments** – No public comments were presented. A moment of silence was observed in honor of former Planning Commission members Bob Jenson and Flip Reynolds. Public comment opened and closed at 7:03 p.m.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Election of Officer – Vice Chair**

Motion by Wanty and support by Deland to appoint Taylor Aue as Vice Chair. Ayes all. Motion carried.

#### **New Business**

##### **Master Plan Update –**

Discussion took place regarding the Master Plan update, including review of existing land use maps, zoning maps, and newly provided maps (roads, elevation, hydrology, soil types, and school districts).

Brittany Stein presented updated mapping materials and noted several areas for improvement, including readability, labeling, color differentiation, and inclusion of road identifiers. The Commission discussed the importance of clearly distinguishing between existing land use, zoning, and future land use.

Additional discussion included:

- Updating and improving map clarity and usability
- Utilizing GIS resources through the County for enhanced mapping
- Reviewing census, demographic, and housing data to support the Master Plan narrative
- Noting about continued residential growth within the Township, particularly around lake areas
- Identifying potential future planning considerations along major corridors such as US-127 and M-50

Brittany Stein will begin drafting portions of the Master Plan, incorporating data and feedback provided by the Commission

**Public Comments** – Opened at 7:35 p.m. Closed at 7:35 p.m. No public comments were presented.

**Member Comments** – Discussion was held regarding the potential for data center development within the Township. Members noted that while the current zoning ordinance references data centers in a limited capacity, the Master Plan does not address large-scale (hyperscale) development.

Concerns included:

- Water usage and environmental impact
- Need for updated ordinances or potential moratorium
- Importance of aligning Township and Village planning efforts
- Lessons learned from recent developments in surrounding communities

Additional discussion included future land use considerations along major corridors, demand for commercial development, and the importance of balancing growth with preservation of residential and agricultural areas.

**Announcements by the Chairperson or Zoning Administrator**

a. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

**Adjournment**

Wanty moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by McKay. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,  
Krissie Barnes