Columbia Charter Township Planning Commission

Columbia Charter Township Hall
8500 Jefferson Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230
May 7, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Minutes

1. Call to Order -Chairperson Wanty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call – Chairperson Wanty called the roll: Present: Chairperson Todd Wanty, Vice Chair Taylor Aue, Britt Phenicie, Hollis Jeffreys, Mike McKay, Rick DeLand.

Absent – Krissie Barnes.

Recognized Guests: Brittany Stein, Jack Shelby, Elizabeth Lewis, Jason Cielen,

Randy Shiel, Fr Ken McKenna.

4. Approval of Agenda – Motion by Mr. Wanty and support by Mr. DeLand to approve the agenda. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Motion by Mr. McKay and support by Mr. Aue to approve the minutes from April 9, 2026, Planning Commission Meeting. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

6. Public Comments – Opened at 7:03pm Closed at 7:04pm, no public comments were presented.

7. Old Business - None.

8. New Business:

8a. Public Hearing called at 7:04

Special Land Use Permit and Site Plan Review:
Applicant/Owner: Lakeside Market & Spirits/Elizabeth Lewis and Jason Cielen
Location: 3035 Ocean Beach Rd, Clarklake, MI 49234
Parcel IDs: 000-19-15-376-023-00 & 000-19-15-376-022-00 (Combined)
Request: Special Land Use Permit and Site Plan Review applications for the use of tavern (as defined by the ordinance). The proposed use is intended to operate in conjunction with the approved convenience store use and restaurant use as proposed. Additional parking is proposed on-site east of the existing buildings for all required parking. The business (Lakeside Market & Spirits) is intended to function as a neighborhood market and eatery, offering made-to-order food, specialty grocery items, with a limited selection of alcoholic drinks. The property is zoned as Local Commercial (C-1).

The applicants/owners Elizabeth and Jason discussed in further detail their plans for the refurbished building, the additional lot to be used for parking and the mode and operating hours of the Market and type of small market, food and casual alcohol by glass business plan. No late hours or bar atmosphere are planned. Parking will be limited to 26 spaces.
Jack Shelby discussed the possibility of a wetland issue with a portion of the parking lot. He expects it to be a non- issue with EGLE and the Drain Commissioner has agreed to sign off if EGLE and JDOT do.
Brittany Stein presented her report and has recommended staff approval for the Planning Commission to recommend approval to the Township Board. The only item not in compliance will be the materials for the parking lot; the applicant is planning on asphalt millings rather than concrete or asphalt.

Public Comment opened at 7:35
Jason Cielen/Owner discussed the park lot materials as a way to save on budget, and to note both

lots are now combined.
Mark Chiemeliski owns the neighboring lot to the east and is working to reduce plant and tree growth to reduce water/wetland issues.
Elizabeth Lewis/Owner commented that there are other businesses using asphalt millings for parking lots.

Commissioner Comments.
McKay inquired as to the Liquor License, it was transferred with the property sale, and he feels the use of asphalt millings is adequate to absorb water run off better.

Motion by McKay Support by Aue to recommend Township Board Approval of the Special Land Use and Site Plan with the following conditions: use asphalt millings for the parking lot and pending the approvals from EGLE, JDOT and the Jackson County Drain Commissioner for the parking lot.
Voice vote, Ayes all. Motion carried.
Public Hearing Closed at 7:40

8b. Public Hearing Opened at 7:45
Special Land Use Permit and Site Plan Review:

Applicant/Owner: Oblate Fathers of St Francis DeSales
Address: 1150 Stahl Dr/1198 DeSales Dr. Brooklyn, MI 49230
Parcel ID: 000-20-32-176-001-01
Request: Special Land Use Permit and Site Plan Review applications to permit a new 1,200-sq. ft. single-story 4-bedroom dwelling unit with walkout basement. The purpose of this building is for a rectory to provide housing two resident Priests and any visiting Priests in the future.

Father Ken McKenna discussed the mission of the Camp and the history dating back to the 1940"s of providing camping, fellowship and religious instruction to youth members from around the country. It is also shared with other faith groups.
The additional housing is needed to serve the expanding mission and allow for separate housing from Seminarians and Novice Nuns that attend and help the operation. The well and septic application was presented.

Brittany Stein gave her staff report and recommended approval of the Planning Commission to recommend approval to the Township Board.

Public Comment: None.

Motion by Aue and Supported by McKay to recommend approval of the Special Land Use and Site Plan.
Voice vote, Ayes all. Motion Carried.
Public Hearing Closed at 7:59 PM

9. Public Comments 8:00 PM
Patrick Collins of Turk Rd, Brooklyn, MI commented on the great work by all involved.

10. Member Comments – None.

11. Announcements – Next meeting is schedule for Thursday June 11, 2026, at 7:00pm.

12. Adjournment - *Wanty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. The motion was seconded by DeLand. Ayes all. Motion Carried.*
Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted Todd Wanty