

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING PLANNING COMMISSION
5000 Okemos Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000, Township Townhall Room
Monday, July 14, 2025, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Vice Chair Snyder, Commissioners McCurtis, Fowler, and Brooks. Commissioner Rombach arrived late

ABSENT: Chair Shrewsbury, Commissioner McConnell

STAFF: Principal Planner Shorkey, Planning Intern Rommeck

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice Chair Snyder called the July 14, 2025, regular meeting for the Meridian Township Planning Commission to order at 6:33 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Snyder called the roll of the Board. All Board members were present except for Chair Shrewsbury and Commissioners Rombach and McConnell.

3. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Snyder asked for approval of the agenda.

Commissioner McCurtis moved to approve the July 14, 2025, Regular Planning Commission meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Rombach arrived during the discussion.

Commissioner Brooks moved to approve Minutes of the June 23, 2025 meeting as written. Seconded by Commissioner McCurtis. Motion passed unanimously.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

None

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. #25013 – Text Amendment – Sec. 86-758 – Landscaping

Principal Planner Shorkey introduced the item.

Commissioner Brooks asked for clarification on how perimeter landscape is calculated. Principal Planner Shorkey explained the calculation to the Commission. Commissioner Brooks said that the term interior landscaping is confusing considering perimeter landscaping. After discussion, Vice Chair Snyder suggested removing the word interior from the ordinance.

Commissioner Brooks asked if there is a specific section on parking landscaping elsewhere in the zoning ordinance. Principal Planner Shorkey said that this is the only section on landscaping in relation to parking. Commissioner Brooks asked how this update relates to the new parking space ordinance update. Principal Planner Shorey gave some hypothetical examples showing how the ordinance updates interact with each other.

Commissioner Brooks asked if there a need for a maximum square footage for perimeter landscaping. Principal Planner Shorkey suggested that there is no need for a maximum. After more discussion about perimeter landscaping, Vice-Chair Snyder complemented the updated ordinance. Commissioner Brooks agreed.

Commissioner McCurtis asked about the timeline for the ordinance update. Principal Planner Shorkey said that the Planning Commission would vote on the ordinance update at the next meeting and then it would be forwarded to the Board for approval and that it would probably be approved in September.

Commissioners indicated via straw poll that they would likely support the amended ordinance update. Principal Planner Shorkey said that Staff would supply a resolution to support at the next Planning Commission meeting.

B. #25014 – Text Amendment – Sec. 86-368 – Rural Residential Roosters

Principal Planner Shorkey introduced the item.

Commissioner Romback asked about the locations of the 5 complaints and whether they came from the same resident. Principal Planner Shorkey said that Staff would have to look into that question.

Commissioner Romback expressed concern about subsection 3 in the ordinance. After discussion, Principal planner Shorkey said that Staff could remove that update from that and that it would not affect the rooster regulation.

Commissioner Brooks asked if there is another section in the zoning ordinance that is similar that regulates how the townships handle animals. Principal Planner Shorkey said that dogs are regulated but it doesn't affect any other animals. After more discussion, Principal Planner Shorkey said that stricter rules take precedence between the Township zoning ordinance and HOA regulations.

Commissioners indicated via straw poll that they would likely support the amended ordinance update. Principal Planner Shorkey said that Staff would supply a resolution to support at the next Planning Commission meeting.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

10. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Township Board Update

Principal Planner Shorkey said that there was no update.

B. Liaison Reports

Commissioner Brooks said that his appointment to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority was approved by the Board.

11. PROJECT UPDATES

Principal Planner Shorkey pointed out the updated project report in the packet.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

14. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Snyder called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm

Commissioner Romback moved to adjourn the July 14, 2025 regular meeting of the Planning Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.