

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING PLANNING COMMISSION
5000 Okemos Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000, Township Townhall Room
Monday, February 9, 2026, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Vice-Chair McCurtis, Commissioners Shrewsbury, Snyder, Brooks, McConnell, and Nahum

ABSENT: Chair Rombach

STAFF: Principal Planner Shorkey

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice-Chair McCurtis called the January 26, 2026, regular meeting for the Meridian Township Planning Commission to order at 6:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair McCurtis called the roll of the Board. All Board members were present except for Chair Rombach.

3. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair McCurtis asked for approval of the agenda.

Commissioner Snyder moved to approve the February 9, 2026, Regular Planning Commission meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Nahum. Motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Shrewsbury moved to approve Minutes of the January 26, 2026 meeting as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

No additional communications.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. None

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Parking Ordinance Discussion

Principal Planner Shorkey introduced the draft parking ordinance update and summarized the memo.

Commissioner Brooks asked Principal Planner Shorkey to describe the changes in the ordinance since the last meeting. Principal Planner Shorkey described the most recent changes and updates.

Commissioner Brooks asked if the examples made staff alter any of the proposed changes. Principal Planner Shorkey said that the sticking point was the 20% number. Principal Planner Shorkey said that Staff was comfortable with the ordinance otherwise. Commissioner Brooks asked if the 20% number would fit. Principal Planner Shorkey said that it would in some cases but in some cases, it would create nonconformities.

Commissioner McConnell asked about parking in a redevelopment. Principal Planner Shorkey discussed and noted that increasing a nonconformance would require a variance. Vice-Chair McCurtis asked how parking could expand if it is landlocked. Commissioner Shrewsbury discussed the ordinance and suggested finding a way to allow for flexibility in the ordinance and for common sense to prevail on a site-specific basis. After discussion, Principal Planner Shorkey said that Staff could discuss and discussed some possible solutions.

Commissioner Brooks discussed the ordinance in light of the Master Plan and said that setting the parking maximum would give a policy mechanism for allowing too much parking lot. Commissioner Brooks said that 20% seems reasonable and discussed other communities' parking ordinances and the elimination of parking minimums. Principal Planner Shorkey said the parking lot maximum language could go the other way and only apply to certain land uses and suggested updated the parking requirements in that case.

Vice-Chair McCurtis asked what the next step is and asked if it reasonable for Staff to determine what the maximum number should be. Principal Planner Shorkey suggested writing up various potential paragraphs for the parking maximum language and scheduling a public hearing for the ordinance. After discussion, Principal Planner Shorkey said that he would schedule the public hearing for the March 23rd meeting and present the parking maximum options.

B. Chicken Ordinance Update

Principal Planner Shorkey introduced the draft chicken ordinance update and pointed out the changes in the ordinance since the last meeting.

Commissioner Shrewsbury pointed out a typo in the section numbering. Commissioner Brooks asked about the number of allowed chickens and rabbits in the ordinance. Commissioner Shrewsbury asked Staff to make sure that the ordinance update is in the right place. Principal Planner Shorkey showed where the ordinance is being updated and pointed out the stacking nature of the zoning ordinance.

Vice-Chair McCurtis asked what the next step is. Principal Planner Shorkey said that he would schedule a public hearing for the ordinance for the March 23rd meeting.

10. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Township Board Update

Principal Planner Shorkey had no report. Commissioner McConnell reminded the Planning Commission about the upcoming Joint Board and Commission meeting. Commissioner Nahum asked the Commissioners to let him know if there was anything they wanted him to bring up to the Board.

b. Liaison Reports

None

11. PROJECT UPDATES

Principal Planner Shorkey had no report.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Brooks discussed parking regulations in other communities and discussed the idea of eliminating parking minimums.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair McCurtis called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Brooks moved to adjourn the February 9, 2026 regular meeting of the Planning Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Nahum. Motion passed unanimously at 7:13.