



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 20, 2023

1. Call to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll call

Present were Mayor Tobbe, Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, Councilmembers: Albert, Emaus, Gardner, Gipson, and Pettengill.

Staff Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Assistant to the DPS Director Patty Thomas, Deputy Chief Craig Flood, and Attorney Sarah Gabis. There were approximately thirteen people in the audience.

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to approve the agenda as presented. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the consent agenda as presented. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of April 6, 2023

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:31 p.m.

Todd Buckley, Buckley Jolley and Wallflower Mercantile, spoke regarding the start of the Streetscape construction asking for collaboration to ensure positive activity during the construction adding crosswalks and the ability to turn left onto Grand River from Main Street.

Randall Bear spoke about conflicting city ordinances for open burning.

Collin Miller, Artisans Bench, asked for increased parking between 1st Street and Hyne on Main Street, crosswalks, and solutions for back door access.

Michelle Roy, Grace & Whimsy, spoke regarding the streetscape project and wanted City Council and staff to work to get information out to visitors regarding access to various shops and restaurants and to continue discussion about the left turn onto Grand River option.

Nick Hagle spoke regarding Weekends on West agenda item stating that he has built many great relationships with staff and merchants but wishes to withdraw his application for consideration.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 6:52 p.m.

7. Staff updates

City Manager Gomolka first addressed some of the comments made at the call to the public. Staff are working to address the conflicting burn ordinances with the city attorney and the Brighton Area Fire Authority. She also noted that staff is investigating the possibility of a crosswalk and left turn onto Grand River options.

Director Goch noted that certain aspects of the requests have been looked into; however, the DPW and Police will discuss feasibility and safety. He asked for some patience as the Streetscape portion of the project has just started and the first few weeks are the most difficult, but adjustments will be looked into and made throughout the project.

Director Goch noted that the sidewalk along Main Street has been removed and hardpacked concrete mix has been placed down for accessibility to each business. The water tower repair and painting is underway. The Grand River project is moving along, the city contractor is hopeful to begin the street paving will begin in 2-3 weeks. The wastewater hatch has been ordered. There will be several specialty contractors downtown to begin removal of various utilities.

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn asked the left turn onto Grand River option be revisited. Director Goch noted as soon as the Grand River project is complete, the left turn option will be reevaluated. Director Goch then described the echelon asphalt method.

City Manager Gomolka was contacted by Representative Elissa Sloktkin's area representative that the City of Brighton was not chosen for grants submitted recently. Ms. Gomolka attended CapCon where special guest Governor Gretchen Whitmer spoke.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Gipson thanked staff, fire, and police for coming together to find solutions for the Weekend of West event despite the item being asked to be removed.

Councilmember Pettengill noted the spring kick off at the Imagination Station will be held on June 3, 2023, at 9:00 p.m. All supplies will be provided.

Councilmember Gardner along with the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission thanked City Council for the allocation of the Robertson Brothers donation to be made to the commission to plan a successful season and understands that City Council would like to have oversight on the use of the funds. The slated events for the season so far are David Zinn on June 20, Gemini in July, and a Wilde Theater for August 8. Ms. Gardner also noted the Commission is looking into the addition of bird houses between Stillwater and Dairy Queen in the Millpond.

Councilmember Emaus thanked all involved for the additional meeting and for the update from the fire marshal regarding the Weekends on West event application. The DDA met to discuss the streetscape fireplace. The intent is for the fireplace to be a low to the ground, covered model approximately six feet round with a possible push button feature.

Councilmember Albert thanked the business owners for coming to the meeting to discuss possibilities and suggestions. Mr. Albert asked if some music can be played at the AMP to add ambiance.

New Business

9. Consider authorizing the City Manager to approve small, pop-up civic events for the 2023 event season

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to authorize the City Manager to approve small, pop-up events for the 2023 event season in accordance with the definition recommended by Attorney Gabis. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

10. Consider Weekends on West revised Civic Event application

The applicant rescinded his request, no action was taken.

11. Consider approval of Master Plan review work program as submitted by Giffels Webster

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to approve the proposal for a work program as submitted by Giffels Webster in an amount not to exceed \$8,500. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

12. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 7:57 p.m.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 8:13 p.m.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. **The motion carried (7-0).**

Tara Brown, City Clerk