



# Brighton City Council Meeting

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 4, 2023

### 1. Call to order

Mayor Tobbe called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Roll call

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

Staff Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Deputy DPS Director Corey Brooks, DPW Superintendent Brad Schrader, Regulatory Compliance/Water Treatment Superintendent Josh Bradley, Deputy Chief Craig Flood, and Attorney Sarah Gabis. There were approximately ten people in the audience.

Councilmember Albert arrived at 6:41 p.m.

### 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 Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the consent agenda as presented. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

#### Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: special budget workshop special meeting of April 13 and 17, 2023**
- b. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of April 20, 2023**

#### Correspondence

### 6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:32 p.m.

Ken Schmenk stated that Laura Stack will be holding a speaking engagement on May 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The presentation will be about the life and death of her son Johnny Stack. The presentation is titled, The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, Mayor Tobbe closed the call to the public at 6:33 p.m.

### 7. Staff updates

City Clerk Brown thanked County Clerk Elizabeth Hundley and Election Director Joe Bridgman for inviting her into the office on election night in May. Ms. Brown was able to see the accumulation end of the election side and the securities in place.

Community Development Manager Caruso provided an update on the burn policy and noted that he is currently working with City Attorney Gabis and the Brighton Area Fire Authority to refine the ordinance.

DPS Director Goch relayed updates on several projects in the city. The Summit water tower outside is currently being

sandblasted. The city contractor expects to have the tower completed by June. The Summit booster station pumps are being installed; bypass valve needs to be installed but is moving along well. A walk through of a few punch list items from the Northwest Neighborhood Project was conducted, it was determined that the items will be completed after the Grand River repaving is finished. The Grand River project will begin turning to the roadways, milling of the three center lanes will begin Monday, May 8, 2023. The Downtown Streetscape project is moving along quickly. Signs are up along Main Street for pedestrian traffic. The electronic message board on Spencer has been updated per City Council request. The cross-connection program will be back to address homes south of Brighton Lake Road and north of Lee Road, all Hydrocorp employees will have a vest, name badge, and fully identified as Hydrocorp. Director Goch also thanked the Police Department for securing a much-needed generator for the DPS.

#### **8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions**

Councilmember Gipson wished all a happy Cinco de Mayo.

Councilmember Gardner noted the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission will meet on May 15, 2023.

Councilmember Emaus provided an update on the Memorial Day events. He thanked Patty Thomas and the events committee members for working with the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee to secure a parade route that will begin at the high school and circle around onto 1<sup>st</sup> Street ending at City Hall. Parade attendees will then proceed to the AMP where additional festivities will conclude.

Mayor Tobbe thanked the events committee for the great events and thanked city staff for their ability to adapt to find solutions to help event organizers.

#### **Discussion**

##### **9. Branding**

City Manager Gomolka noted the need for a branding discussion in light of the current streetscape construction and upcoming wayfinding signage. It would be prudent to discuss the desire for a logo redesign/refresh of the city's logo as the current logo has been around for several decades. Manager Gomolka presented City Council with examples of other municipalities that have embarked on a redesign with a refreshed logo and graphic standards. It was discussed that staff would gather cost estimates and potential in-house design options for City Council to discuss at a later meeting.

##### **10. Sign ordinance**

Community Development Manger Caruso began discussion noting the current sign ordinance is out of date and needs to meet current legislation. City Attorney Gabis provided an update to City Council about case law and what is enforceable under law. The sign ordinance will come back to City Council for a first reading and setting of a public hearing at a future meeting.

#### **Public Hearing**

##### **11. Conduct a Public Hearing and Consider Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget, Resolution #2023-11**

Mayor Tobbe opened the public hearing at 8:26 p.m.

Edwin Nyhus spoke regarding police and fire funding.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the public hearing was closed at 8:32 p.m.

**Motion** by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget, resolution #2023-11. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

#### **New Business**

##### **12. Consider approval of resolution #2023-12, to set the levy and authorize the collection of taxes, penalties, and fees for FY 2023/2024**

**Motion** by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve of resolution #2023-12, to set the levy and authorize the collection of taxes, penalties, and fees for FY 2023/2024. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

**13. Consider approval of the proposed Fiscal Year 2023/2024 fee schedule, resolution #2023-13**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2023/2024 fee schedule, resolution #2023-13. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

**14. Consider approval of the purchase and up-fitting of a new 2023 Chevrolet Silverado administration vehicle from Vic Canever Chevrolet with up-fitting to be completed by Cruisers for the amount not to exceed \$65,000**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the purchase of a new 2023 Chevrolet Silverado administrative vehicle from Vic Canever Chevrolet in the amount of \$54,090, with up-fitting to be completed by Cruisers for an amount not to exceed \$10,910. Additionally approve budget amendments for the use of fund balance in the police capital fund in the amount of \$65,000 in fiscal year 2022/23 and reduce the 2023/24 budget by that same amount. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**15. Consider approval of the purchase of a portable generator from Total Energy Systems, LLC in the amount of \$62,564.07**

**Motion** by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the purchase of a portable generator from Total Energy Systems, LLC in the amount of \$62,564.07. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**16. Consider approval of the purchase and installation of two refurbished federal tornado signal sirens from Westshore Services in the amount of \$33,000 and a budget amendment of \$33,000 from the fund balance of the General Fund**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve the purchase and installation of two refurbished federal tornado signal sirens from Westshore Services in the amount of \$33,000 and a budget amendment of \$33,000 from the fund balance of the General Fund. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**17. Consider approval of a 3-year contract for upgraded City of Brighton telecommunication services with Clear Rate Communications**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve a 3-year contract for upgraded City of Brighton telecommunication service with Clear Rate Communications as presented for an amount of \$1,401 per month and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**18. Consider entering into closed session for strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) of the open meetings act**

**Motion** by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to enter into closed session at 9:04 p.m. for strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) of the open meetings act. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-1. Councilmember Emaus voted no.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to come out of closed session at 9:18 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the Clerical Union letter of understanding and authorize the City Manager to execute the document. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**Other Business**

**19. Call to the public**

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 9:21 p.m.

Edwin Nyhus spoke regarding the dam structure under Main Street, logo change, City Council meetings, and a Chinese company purchase of land, and his Native American heritage.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 9:26 p.m.

**20. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. **The motion carried (7-0).**

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Tara Brown, City Clerk