



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 18, 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, Councilmembers: Emaus, Gardner, Gipson, and Pettengill.

Staff Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Finance Director Liz Gaines, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Deputy DPS Director Corey Brooks, Human Resources Manager Michelle Miller, Executive Assistant to Community Development Kelly Haataja, Deputy Chief Craig Flood, Chief Brent Pirochta, and Attorney Sarah Gabis. There were approximately ten people in the audience.

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Bohn for personal reasons. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve the agenda as presented. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the consent agenda as presented. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of May 4, 2023**
- b. **Acceptance of quarterly financial report**
- c. **Acceptance of quarterly investment report**
- d. **Approval of resolution #2023-14, Weed Maintenance Lien**
- e. **Approval of resolution #2023-15, of a Social District License Application for 2317 LLC, d/b/a Jameson's Irish Pub, located at 110 E Grand River**

Correspondence

6. Eagle Scout Proclamation: Patrick Wallace

Mayor Tobbe presented Eagle Scout Patrick Wallace with a proclamation on behalf of City Council for achieving the Eagle Scout rank.

7. Believe in Brighton Presentation

A Taste of Brighton board member, Ken Larscheid, gave a brief presentation on Believe in Brighton, a new merchant collaboration website and marketing effort.

8. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 7:03 p.m.

Jim Vichich from the Brighton Historical Society, spoke regarding a recent award that was received by the Brighton Historical Society for its restoration efforts in the Old Village Cemetery.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 7:05 p.m.

9. Staff updates

Clerk Brown stated that the City of Brighton staff will host a booth at the Farmer Market two times a month. The first Saturday will be May 20, 2023, and City Manager Gomolka and Clerk Brown will be the first to man the booth. There will be giveaways as well as activities for children but most of all, the booth is there to relay important city information about ongoing projects, register voters, and more.

Deputy Chief Flood stated that Chief Pirochta will be joining the meeting shortly.

Director Goch provided an update on the Grand River project, Streetscape, water tower painting, and the Wastewater claricone rehabilitation.

10. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Albert appreciated the efforts by Believe in Brighton to prioritize food and shopping in the downtown Streetscape project area.

Councilmember Emaus stated the DDA met May 16, 2023, to discuss detailed portions of the Streetscape Millpond Park designs. Specifically, the Adirondack chairs will be changed to benches due to cost. L.E.T.S. buses run on Friday and Saturday to shuttle employees to and from the downtown area with parking at Meijer. If there is a need and usage increases, there may be funds to expand to visitors; however, visitors will not be turned away. There are incentives for businesses to utilize the bus system. Also, the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee met to discuss the Memorial Day Parade that will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the high school and will continue onto S. Seventh Street, to Main Street, to N. First Street, and then over the Tridge to the Veterans Memorial. The Brighton High School band will be participating although ending with an alternative route.

Councilmember Gardner met with the Brighton Arts & Culture Commission for a walking tour and review of current sculptures and to discuss enhancements in the pocket park. The Planning Commission met on May 15, 2023, and gave unanimous site plan approval with conditions for a new Fifth-Third building to be built in the current parking lot between Ciao Amici's and the former FitWall. The plan is to turn the current Fifth-Third building location into parking. The final recommendation for approval will come to City Council in the very near future.

Mayor Tobbe recently attended a SEMCOG event.

New Business

11. 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 Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to enter into closed session at 7:28 p.m. for session 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, 6-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to come out of closed session at 8:47 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

12. Consider entering into closed session to consider the purchase or lease of real property pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act and to invite representatives from the State Land Bank

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to enter into closed session at 8:53 p.m. to consider the purchase or lease of real property pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act and to invite representatives from the State Land Bank. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to come out of closed session at 11:05 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Other Business

13. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 11:05 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 p.m. **The motion carried (6-0).**

Tara Brown, City Clerk