



Brighton City Council Meeting

200 N First St • City Hall Council Chambers • Brighton, Michigan 48116
(810) 227-1911 • www.brightoncity.org

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON AUGUST 17, 2023

1. Call to order

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

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, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Deputy DPS Director Corey Brooks, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Chief Brent Pirochta, Executive Assistant to Community Development Kelly Haataja, DPW Superintendent Brad Schrader, and Attorney Sarah Gabis. There were approximately fifty people in the audience.

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the agenda with items 17, 18, and 20 moved to the consent agenda. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to approve consent agenda as amended. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of July 20, 2023**
- b. **Approval of AT&T Metro Right of Way Permit extension**
- c. **Consider approval to purchase the Automatic Electrical Switchgear device for the Third Street lift station from ASCO Power Technologies in an amount not to exceed \$13,133.50**
- d. **Consider approval of the Tetra Tech proposal for engineering services for the replacement of the automatic electrical switchgear at the Third Street lift station in an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00**
- e. **Consider approval of the Tetra Tech Engineering Services Retainer Agreement for engineering services from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$15,840**

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:34 p.m.

Jennifer Cote from the League of Women Voters stated they will be hosting two candidate forum events. The Zoom based forum will be hosted by the Brighton Library and ask questions of perspective candidates for City Council.

Ken Schmenk thanked Denise Murray for the Deck Hunt scavenger hunt. Mr. Schmenk said that he and his daughter had a great time searching for and building their deck of cards. He also thanked Chief Pirochta and Officer Bell for another matter near his home.

7. Proclamation: Eagle Scout Jake Keller

8. Staff updates

Director Goch provided updates on several projects throughout the city, the claricone project has been completed,

Brighton Coves lift station is completed, Summit booster station is complete, the Grand River projects came in underbid, and the Streetscape project is moving along with sealing of the decorative concrete.

Manager Gomolka noted that the Streetscape Street-Warming Party will begin on Friday, August 25 and wrap up on Saturday August 26 with street performances throughout the day. Also, a street sale will be going on with many of the Downtown merchants participating in the sale.

9. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Emaus noted the DDA met on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, to finalize the fireplace stone masonry and bench option. Councilmember Emaus thanked Mr. David McLean for his generous donation of engineering and planning the fireplace and bench feature.

Councilmember Gardner and the BACC met on August 14, 2023, to discuss the summer series and hopes to bring the series back next year but even bigger. Decisions on sculpture placement and refurbishment were discussed.

Mayor Tobbe and City Manager Gomolka met with Mary Robinson from the Howell Brighton Visitor's Bureau on potential partnership opportunities.

Public Hearing

10. Conduct a public hearing, second reading, and consider adoption of Ordinance 604: amendments to Chapter 46 and Chapter 70 of the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances regarding open burning

Mayor Tobbe opened the public hearing at 6:57 p.m.

Lynn Hawkins spoke in favor of the ordinance but asked for more strict restrictions. Ms. Hawkins feels that smoke is a pollutant and should be regulated more strictly.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the public hearing was closed at 7:09 p.m.

City Council discussed BBQs and similar fires that would not fall under the proposed ordinance.

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the adoption of Ordinance 604: amendments to Chapter 46 and Chapter 70 of the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances regarding open burning. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Discussion

11. Wastewater Treatment Plant funding

City Council and staff discussed preliminary planning to submit paperwork and intent to apply for the Clean Water Revolving Fund loan. More information will be presented to City Council at a future meeting, asking Tetra Tech to begin preparing the loan information.

12. I-96 Interchange options for pedestrian walkway, traffic lights and gateway signage

City Council discussed the merits of a pedestrian walkway and upgraded traffic light mast arms in preparation for the new I-96 interchange project. City Council asked City Manager Gomolka to discuss a cost partnership with Brighton Township for the walkway and mast arms. More discussions on brick color choices and more to be brought to City Council in the near future.

New Business

13. Consider approval of MERS Deferred Retirement Option (DROP) for police unions

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the MERS deferred retirement option (DROP) for police unions and authorize its execution by the City Manager. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

14. Consider approval of MERS Health Care Savings Program Participation Agreements

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Garnder to approve the MERS health care savings program participation agreements. **The motion carried, 6-0. Councilmember Albert stepped out of the Council Chambers for personal reasons.**

15. Consider the approval to purchase a new replacement Flygt Sludge Mixer from Kennedy Industries in the amount of \$53,180.00

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the purchase of a new replacement Flygt sludge mixer from Kennedy Industries in the amount of \$53,180.00. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

16. Consider approval of both Residential and Commercial Cross Connection Service agreements with HydroCorp Inc for two years in annual amounts of \$32,040 and \$24,273, respectively

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve of both residential and commercial cross connection service agreements with HydroCorp Inc for two years in annual amounts of \$32,040 and \$24,273, respectively and authorize the Water Plant Superintendent to execute the agreements. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

~~**17. Consider approval to purchase the Automatic Electrical Switchgear device for the Third Street lift station from ASCO Power Technologies in an amount not to exceed \$13,133.50**~~ Moved to the Consent Agenda

~~**18. Consider approval of the Tetra Tech proposal for engineering services for the replacement of the automatic electrical switchgear at the Third Street lift station in an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00**~~ Moved to the Consent Agenda

19. Consider awarding the bid for the Return Activated Sludge (RAS) Pump #1 Rebuild to Titus Welding Company, Inc. In an amount not to exceed \$184,810.00

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Albert to award the bid for the return activated sludge (RAS) pump #1 rebuild to Titus Welding Company, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$184,810.00 and authorize the DPS Director to send a notice to proceed. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

~~**20. Consider approval of the Tetra Tech Engineering Services Retainer Agreement for engineering services from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$15,840**~~ Moved to the Consent Agenda

21. Consider approval of appointment to the City of Brighton Planning Commission

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to appoint James R. Johnston to the City of Brighton Planning Commission. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

22. 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

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Albert to enter into closed session at 8:40 p.m. to consider the purchase or lease of real property pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to come out of closed session at 10:22 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

23. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 10:22 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

24. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 p.m. **The motion carried (7-0).**

Tara Brown, City Clerk