



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON NOVEMBER 2, 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: Albert, Emaus, Gardner, Gipson, and Pettengill.

Staff Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Finance Director Liz Gaines, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Chief Brent Pirochta, Deputy Chief Craig Flood, and Attorney Sarah Gabis.

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the agenda with a date correction on the consent agenda to read October 19, 2023. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to approve the consent agenda as corrected. **The motion carried, 6-1. Councilmember Emaus abstained.**

Consent Agenda Items

a. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of October 5 19, 2023**

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:32 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

7. Staff updates

Clerk Brown reminded all city residents of the upcoming election on November 7, 2023, where voters will election four members of City Council and vote on a Police Millage. Ms. Brown asked that voters who have received an absentee ballot return the voted ballot to city hall before 8:00 p.m. on election day.

Chief Pirochta and the police department had a great time at the Livingston County trunk or treat event and was visited by many families. Chief Pirochta also noted that new reserve officer Ronald Patterson has joined the team.

Superintendent Shrader provided an update on several ongoing projects in the city.

City Manager Gomolka stated the Full Harvest Moon Festival was a big success with a steady stream of visitors from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The event was a collaboration between city staff, Denise Murray through the community engagement committee, and the merchants with several volunteers, including four Brighton High School Honor Society students.

Community Development Manager Caruso and the Downtown Development Authority have been working with several entities to ensure a magical holiday light display with garland and lights on every Main Street pole, a tunnel of lights, and colorfully lit Christmas trees on either side on the Mill Pond festival area.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Pettengill asked that residents who are experiencing difficulties cleaning their yard for the fall contact the Boy Scout, troop 350 to help. So far, there are five city residents on the list to assist.

Councilmember Emaus also spoke about the Full Harvest Moon festival and its success. Many thanks to the community engagement committee who spearheaded this event. The Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee met to discuss the Veterans Day Parade. The parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, 2023, starting at St. George Lutheran Church and then continuing down Main Street to the AMP. The parade festivities will include a 21-gun salute and the Charyl Stockwell Honors Choir.

Councilmember Gardner questioned when the no left turn sign at the end of 1st Street and Main Street would be returned and congratulated the Brighton High School boys' varsity soccer team on their advancement to semifinals against Troy Athens.

Mayor Tobbe was honored to attend a Boy Scout Eagle Scout honoring ceremony on Sunday, October 28, 2023. Mayor Tobbe stated the event was inspiring and something to experience.

DISCUSSION

9. Presentation of Bodman PLC municipal resources

Sarah Gabis, Alexandra Dieck, Sarah Williams, and Nathan Dupes from Bodman PLC were present to introduce themselves to City Council and discuss the firm's experience.

10. Presentation of telephone audit by Abilitia

Dan Aylward from Abilitia joined the City Council meeting electronically to discuss the audit of the City of Brighton's results as it pertains to telephone and internet plans and billing. The recommended changes to our services to be more efficient and cost effective were minimal.

11. Discuss date, time and location for MDOT Community Meeting regarding the new I-96 Diverging Diamond Interchange

City Council and staff discussed hosting an MDOT public open house on November 30, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to answer questions and relay important construction plans for the I-96 interchange.

Public Hearing

12. Conduct a second reading, public hearing, and consider adoption of Ordinance #606, Consumers Energy Company Gas Franchise

Mayor Tobbe opened the public hearing for Ordinance #606, Consumers Energy Company Gas Franchise at 7:22 p.m. Hearing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adopt Ordinance #606, Consumers Energy Company Gas Franchise as presented. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

13. Conduct a public hearing and consider approval for rezoning 23-01, 1112 Rickett Road from OS (Office Service) to IB (Intermediate Industrial)

Mayor Tobbe opened the public hearing for rezoning 23-01, 1112 Rickett Road from OS (Office Service) to IB (Intermediate Industrial) at 7:25 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve rezoning 23-01, 1112 Rickett Road from OS (Office Service) to IB (Intermediate Industrial). **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

New Business

14. Consider approval of a uniform video service local franchise agreement with WOW! Internet, TV & Phone

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to approve the uniform video service local franchise agreement with WOW! Internet, TV & Phone with the correction to the signature line to reflect the city

staff position rather than the individual city staff member. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

15. Consider approval of site plan 23-08, MSU Federal Credit Union, as presented, to include a waiver from the required loading space

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve site plan 23-08, MSU Federal Credit Union, as presented, to include a waiver from the required loading space. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

16. Consider approval to purchase two new 2022 pickup trucks from LaFontaine Ford Lansing for the public works and water divisions in an amount of \$116,943.22

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the purchase of two new 2022 pickup trucks from LaFontaine Ford Lansing for the public works and water divisions in an amount of \$116,943.22. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

17. Consider Entering into Closed Session to Receive a Written Attorney-Client Privileged Communication pursuant to section MCL 15.268(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to entering into closed session at 7:55 p.m. to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to section 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 9:10 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve the necessary budget amendment for a necessary law enforcement expenditure not to exceed \$10,500. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

18. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 9:11 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. **The motion carried (7-0).**

Tara Brown, City Clerk