



# Brighton City Council Meeting

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 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, Gardner, Gipson, Pettengill, and Schmenk.

Staff Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Deputy DPS Director Corey Brooks, Superintendent Josh Bradley, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Chief Brent Pirochta, Management Assistants Samantha Gardiner and Joe Gaikema, and Attorney Sarah Gabis.

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to switch items 9 and 10. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

### 4. Consider approval of the agenda

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

### 5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

#### Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of November 2, 2023**
- b. **Acceptance of the quarterly financial statement**
- c. **Acceptance of the quarterly investment statement**

#### Correspondence

### 6. Call to the public

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

### 7. Staff updates

Chief Pirochta thanked the community for their support of the recent Public Safety Millage.

Director Goch stated that 4<sup>th</sup> and Walnut Streets will reopen for traffic on November 17, 2023.

City Manager Gomolka thanked those who donated to the holiday lighting fund to ensure this holiday season will be beautifully lit to showcase the new Downtown Streetscape. The Holiday Glow event will begin at 1:00 p.m. with merchant sales and festivities, the holiday trees will be lit at 5:30 p.m. with a visit by Santa and Mrs. Claus, and conclude at 7:00 p.m.

Manager Gomolka introduced new Management Assistants Samantha Gardiner and Joe Gaikema who individually provided a brief introduction of their work background and credentials.

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

Mayor Tobbe thanked City Council for selecting him for Mayor to serve for another two years.

Councilmember Schmenk provided a brief introduction about himself and his background.

Councilmember Bohn stated the Planning Commission met and recommended approval of Site Plan 23-07, which is being considered as item 12 on the agenda.

Councilmember Albert noted the Downtown Development Authority will meet on November 21, 2023, to discuss the financial report.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **9. ~~Boards and commissions liaison appointments~~ City Council meeting day**

City Manager Gomolka asked City Council to consider moving City Council meeting dates from the first and third Thursday to the second and fourth Tuesday. Moving the meeting dates will enable City Council to attend many of the civic events downtown that are frequently scheduled for Thursday nights and also allow the City Manager to attend important city manager networking events and conferences that are typically scheduled for Thursday evenings. A proposed boards and commissions meeting notice will be brought back to City Council for approval.

### **10. ~~City Council meeting day~~ Boards and commissions liaison appointments**

Mayor Tobbe recommended that the following appointments be made to various boards and commissions based on discussions with individual Councilmembers.

Brighton Arts and Cultural Commission – Renee Pettengill  
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) – Kristoffer Tobbe  
Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) – Susan Gardner  
Veterans Memorial Committee – Bill Albert  
Civic Event Committee – Renee Pettengill  
Planning Commission – Jim Bohn as Liaison  
Zoning Board of Appeals – Ken Schmenk  
Downtown Development Authority - Paul Gipson

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to appoint Mayor Pro Tem Bohn as a member of City Council to the Planning Commission. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to appoint Councilmember Paul Gipson as a member of City Council to the Downtown Development Authority. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to appoint Councilmember Ken Schmenk as a member of City Council to the Zoning Board of Appeals. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

### **11. Sidewalk cafes, flowerpots, benches, etc.**

Community Development Manager Caruso stated that discussions during the previous walking tour meeting were helpful to determine the desire of City Council as it pertains to walking distances between sidewalk cafes and various decoration near downtown stores. A recommendation will be brought back for consideration at a future meeting.

## **New Business**

### **12. Consider approval of site plan 23-07 – 4-unit townhouse development located at 330 N. Second Street**

**Motion** by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve site plan 23-07 as presented. **The motion carried, 5-2. Councilmember Albert and Pettengill voted no.**

## **Other Business**

**13. Call to the public**

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 7:49 p.m.

Susan Bakhaus spoke regarding the Brighton Area Fire Authority appointments.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 7:50 p.m.

**14. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. **The motion carried (7-0).**

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Tara Brown, City Clerk