



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 DECEMBER 7, 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, Superintendent Josh Bradley, Superintendent Brad Shrader, Chief Brent Pirochta, and Attorney Sarah Gabis.

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to move item 16 from new business to the consent agenda as item g. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

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

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

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

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: regular biennial election meeting of November 13, 2023**
- b. **Approval of Minutes: special meeting of November 16, 2023**
- c. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of November 16, 2023**
- d. **Approval of the agreement with Brighton Area Schools to collect their non-principal residence operating property taxes on the city's summer 2024 tax bills**
- e. **Approval of the agreement with Livingston Educational Services Agency to collect operating property taxes on the city's summer 2024 tax bills**
- f. **Approval of Traffic Control Order #182**
- g. **Consider approval to award the bid to Adams Well Drilling for plugging and abandonment of the two wells at the Pierce Street Water Plant in an amount not to exceed \$13,340**

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

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

Susan Bakhaus spoke regarding a call to the public at a recent Planning Commission meeting.

Caleb Jenkins introduced himself and spoke regarding his application to the Planning Commission.

Hearing and seeing no additional comment, the call to the public was closed at 6:38 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn addressed a comment made at the call to public regarding the Planning Commission meeting.

7. Staff updates

Chief Pirochta relayed the Shop with a Cop event on December 2, 2023. Each of the sixty-eight children were able to shop with a police officer, play in bounce houses, and have breakfast.

Director Goch stated the Streetscape project is wrapping up with contractors placing landscaping and final touches in place. The fire pit should be operational within a few weeks.

City Manager Gomolka thanked all who were able to make it out to Ladies Night Out. Several businesses are collaborating to utilize a token system as rewards for purchases.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Garder appreciated attending the City of Brighton staff Christmas Party. Mrs. Gardner also questioned the hash marks in certain areas along Main Street.

Councilmember Gipson thanked Foguth Financial for offering storage space at their building for the holiday lights.

Mayor Tobbe thanked merchants and staff for a great 2023! Collaborative work and dedication were reflected in many aspects to get through the Streetscape Project.

DISCUSSION

9. MDOT project bridge and signage aesthetics

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the I-96 brick tones coloring in Rustic Ashlar Beige. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

City Council will discuss specific wording on the bridge at a future meeting.

New Business

10. Consider scheduling special meetings for December 11, 2023

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to set a City Council special meeting for December 11, 2023, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and a joint special meeting with City Council and the Downtown Development Authority beginning at 7:30 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

11. Consider approval of the purchase of a multi-hog vehicle and attachments from Brown Equipment Company in the amount of \$170,890

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the purchase of a multi-hog vehicle and attachments from Brown Equipment Company in the amount of \$170,890. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

12. Consider approval of Resolution #2023-20, City Council 2024 Meeting Schedule

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve Resolution #2023-20, City Council 2024 Meeting Schedule. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

13. Consider approval of Resolution #2023-21, Reconfiguration and Consolidation of Precincts

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve Resolution #2023-21, Reconfiguration and Consolidation of Precincts. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

14. Consider approval of Resolution #2023-22, Veritas Vineyard LLC, d/b/a Grand River Brewer located at 201 W. Main Street, Brighton MI 48116

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve resolution #2023-22, Veritas Vineyard LLC, d/b/a Grand River Brewer located at 201 W. Main Street, Brighton MI 48116. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

15. Consider appointment to various boards and commissions – Board of Review and Election Commission

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to reappoint Susan Gloster to the Board of Review and Michelle Petrak to the Election Commission and appoint Dianne Hamm to the Election Commission. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

~~16. Consider approval to award the bid to Adams Well Drilling for plugging and abandonment of the two wells at the Pierce Street Water Plant in an amount not to exceed \$13,340 (moved to the consent agenda)~~

17. Consider entering into closed session to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, being Rohrkemper v 1023 Holdings, LLC et al, because an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e) of the Open Meetings Act

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to enter into closed session at 8:04 p.m. to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, being Rohrkemper v 1023 Holdings, LLC et al, because an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e) of the Open Meetings Act. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to come out of closed session at 8:17 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to execute and file the consent judgment as presented in closed session. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Other Business

18. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 8:19 p.m.

Susan Bakhaus spoke again regarding a recent Planning Commission meeting.

Hearing and seeing no additional comment, the call to the public was closed at 8:21 p.m.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. **The motion carried (7-0).**