



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 2, 2024

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, Finance Director Liz Gaines, City Clerk Tara Brown, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Chief Brent Pirochta, and Attorney Sarah Gabis.

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to move item 11 under Correspondence as item 8a. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

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

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve the consent agenda as presented. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: regular meeting of March 12, 2024**
- b. **Approval of Resolution #2024-07, approval of Social District License Application for Main St. Steakhouse, Inc. (The Reserve) located at 317 W. Main Street**
- c. **Approval of Resolution #2024-08, approval of Social District License Application for L & R Ciao Amici's, Inc. located at 217 W. Main Street**

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:35 p.m.

Jim Vichich spoke regarding several events and programs at the CoBACH center which are listed on the CoBACH website and Facebook page.

Tony Kassab asked that City Council or Downtown Development Authority investigate shuttle services for event organizers and staff to free parking for patrons and visitors.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 6:42 p.m.

7. Staff updates

Director Goch noted the sidewalk gap contractors are working quickly and should be finished by the end of June. The East Street project is out to bid to include East Street, Beaver Street, and Liberty Street. Crack sealing is on the agenda for approval, the City's contractor for Streetscape will be coming back early this spring to complete some

punch list items, and new parking signs for some low visibility areas have been placed to ensure safety.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Schmenk noted the Zoning Board of Appeals met for training with Giffels Webster and were joined by some Planning Commission members.

Councilmember Pettengill stated the Civic Event Committee met to discuss the applications on the agenda. The annual spring kickoff at the Imagination Station is scheduled for May 4 (rain day of May 18), 2024, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The volunteers will spread over 60 yards of mulch and prepare the playground for a busy summer.

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn stated the Planning Commission met on April 1, 2024, and approved a site plan for Summit Street and discussed future land uses and zoning districts.

Councilmember Albert stated the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee is scheduled to meet on April 17, 2024, and a message from Jim Muzzin, Brighton Area Fire Authority, indicated that the Authority is discussing how they will utilize their FEMA grant.

Mayor Tobbe thanked staff and fellow Councilmembers for their continued dedication to public service. Also Mayor Tobbe stated that he was honored to be offered a seat on the SEMCOG Economic Development Council.

8a. Conduct a public hearing and consider approval of Resolution #2024-09, adopting a final project plan for wastewater treatment plant and collection system improvements and designating an authorized project representative

City Manager Gomolka provided a detailed overview of the wastewater infrastructure needs, the intent of the public hearing, the specific requirements from the State of Michigan to apply for this loan, the intricacies of the project plan, utility billing and specifics on various billing types based on meter size, and ultimately the plans for moving forward thought the lengthy state mandated process. Manager Gomolka stressed that adopting a project plan tonight will not assess fees on utility bills right away, but rather the public hearing is the first of many steps necessary to apply for the loan.

City Manager Gomolka read necessary language, attached, as required by the State of Michigan.

Mayor Tobbe opened the public hearing at 7:37 p.m.

Dianne Hamm spoke regarding her current water bill and asked that she speak with someone in utility billing to understand her bill.

Director Gaines will arrange a meeting with Ms. Hamm to address her concerns specifically regarding her billing.

Susan Bakhaus spoke about utility rates and garbage fees.

Mayor Tobbe asked for clarification on rate increases. Manager Gomolka clarified that no fees would be assessed right away.

Kelly Genei would like to be provided with the fee structure of the project plan.

Manager Gomolka clarified that the plan is only an estimate right now and what is in reserves, going out to bid to better understand costs associated with the project plan.

Chris Genei would like a better understanding of meter sizes specifically for family usage.

Director Goch clarified that rates are based on flow through specific meter sizes. Larger meter sizes, than normal residential, would pay a higher fee.

Pat Cole asked if users with two meters would be billed twice.

Manager Gomolka stated that irrigation meters will not be charged for sewer usage and therefore are not affected. Only the meter associated with the residential usage with sewer will ultimately be charged a fee.

Rob Trafton asked about fee structure and the interest rate for the loan and asked about the debt service roll off.

Manager Gomolka clarified debt service roll off, interest rate for the loan, and fees. Director Goch spoke about the water treatment facilities and needs.

Dale Borst asked for clarification on multiple family units pay a different fee than single family units.

Manager Gomolka clarified the specifics on residential equivalent units (REUs) and development from a single-family unit to multifamily units and calculation of bills for development.

Marty Genei asked for clarification on how various meter sizes fees are calculated.

Manager Gomolka explained the flow factor calculation that was used to determine rates and then relayed debt service amounts for each meter size.

Seeing and hearing no further comment, Mayor Tobbe closed the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

Steve Magnan, Tetra Tech engineer, expressed the need for the project plan on the aging system.

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve of Resolution #2024-09, adopting a final project plan for wastewater treatment plant and collection system improvements and designating an authorized project representative. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Discussion

9. Farmers market booth

City Council discussed staffing a tent at the Brighton Farmers Market once a month, staff to send out a survey signup to lock in dates.

10. 2024/2024 Budget presentation

City Manager Gomolka provided a high level overview of the budget to City Council. The Budget Work Sessions have been scheduled for April 9, 10, and 11 2024.

Public Hearing

~~**11. Conduct a public hearing and consider approval of Resolution #2024-09, adopting a final project plan for wastewater treatment plant and collection system improvements and designating an authorized project representative (Moved to Correspondence as item 8a)**~~

New Business

12. Consider appointments to boards and commissions, Brighton Arts and Culture Commission

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to appoint Susanne Clausniter and Michelle Trame Lanzi to the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

13. Consider civic event applications

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the 2024 civic event applications as presented. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

14. Consider setting date for unveiling of Decision Pending Sculpture

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Garnder to set a date of June 8, 2024, at 10:00

a.m. for the unveiling of Decision Pending. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

15. Consider approval to award the crack sealing services contract to Wolverine Seal Coating, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$30,000

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to award the crack sealing services contract to Wolverine Seal Coating, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

16. Consider approval of the Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. proposal for design and construction engineering of the Center Street CSX Parking Lot for an amount not to exceed \$49,886

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to table the approval of the Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. proposal for design and construction engineering of the Center Street CSX Parking Lot for an amount not to exceed \$49,886. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

17. Consider approval to purchase a portable hoist from Allied Incorporated in the amount of \$47,199

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the purchase of a portable hoist from Allied Incorporated in the amount of \$47,199. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

18. Consider approval of the purchase of a Gorman-Rupp Factory Built Water Booster Station from Dubois-Cooper Associates, Inc. for Pine Creek Subdivision in an amount not to exceed \$270,860

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve the purchase of a Gorman-Rupp Factory Built Water Booster Station from Dubois-Cooper Associates, Inc. for Pine Creek Subdivision in an amount not to exceed \$270,860. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

19. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 10:43 p.m.

Bryan Bradford thanked City Council for the event approvals, specifically the Weekends on West that will donate 10% of profits to Veterans Connected.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, Mayor Tobbe closed the call to the public at 10:48 p.m.

20. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**