



Brighton City Council Meeting

200 N First St • City Hall Council Chambers • Brighton, Michigan 48116
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 28, 2024

1. Call to order

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll call

Present were Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, Councilmembers: Albert, Gardner, Gipson, Pettengill, and Schmenk. Mayor Tobbe was absent.

Staff Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Finance Director Liz Gaines, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Community Development Manager Caruso, Chief Brent Pirochta, and Attorney Sarah Gabis.

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to excuse Mayor Tobbe for personal reasons. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to add a flag discussion item to the agenda as item 12a. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve the agenda as amended. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the consent agenda as presented. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

Consent Agenda Items

- a. Approval of minutes: regular meeting of May 7, 2024
- b. Approval to Recognize Build Better Foundation as a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization for the purpose of obtaining a Charitable Gaming License, Resolution #2024-13
- c. Approval to establish weed liens on properties for weed maintenance, Resolution #2024-14
- d. Approval to set a special meeting for May 30, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- e. Approval of the 2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's civic event application
- f. Consider approval of TCO 188 for pedestrian crosswalk signs at the intersection of Fourth Street and State Street

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn opened the call to the public at 6:37 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

7. Staff updates

Director Goch stated the first round of sidewalk is complete, the city contractor did a fantastic job. DTE will be in the area soon to repair some electrical poles near St. Paul and West Streets. The sidewalk gap project is running a month ahead. Crack sealing of several parking lots will be done during June. The newly paved roads in the Northwest

Neighborhood will have a Reclamite coating added, sandwich boards will be placed in work zones. It is important to remember that this product is very messy initially, but the end product is clean and will prolong the life of the asphalt.

City Manager Gomolka was happy to report that the City of Brighton has achieved a bronze level certification in the Michigan Green Communities Challenge. The city is among sixty-two communities recognized for their sustainability efforts. Also, the city's Downtown Streetscape Project is one of fourteen projects competing for the prestigious MML Community Excellence Award. Both news items can be viewed in detail on the city's website.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Gardner thanked Lake Trust for continuing to invest in the city. As a recent attendee at the Lake Trust branch reopening ribbon cutting, Councilmember Gardner remarked that the building is beautiful, and the event was well attended.

Councilmember Pettengill noted the BACC met on May 13, 2024, and approved a \$500 expenditure for seating and lighting over Hyne Alley. The unveiling of Albert Wirth's Millpond Music Studio will be on June 2, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the Imagination Station.

Councilmember Schmenk stated the Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on June 13, 2024.

Councilmember Gardner noted the Brighton Optimist Club will hold its annual Fishing Derby for kids at the millpond on June 8, 2024. Registration for the fishing derby will begin at 7:30 a.m. Also, the unveiling of Decision Pending will be on June 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Decision Pending had been removed for the Downtown Streetscape Project and will be back near to where it was located. The Main Street Mile and the Brighton Farmers Market will also be held on June 8, 2024.

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn noted the Planning Commission meeting was held on May 20, 2024, and continues to discuss the Master Plan.

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to un-table the Mayoral Proclamation for Eagle Scout Ian Cox. **The motion carried, 6-0**

9. Mayoral Proclamation: Eagle Scout Ian Cox

10. Mayoral Proclamation: Eagle Scout Gaven Kokochak

11. MACP Accreditation Award

The City of Brighton Police Department received Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police accreditation. The City of Brighton Police Department is one of seventy-seven agencies in Michigan to become accredited.

Discussion

12. Kiwanis presentation: Story Book Walk

It was the consensus of City Council that details regarding the story walk be discussed and ideas be fleshed out with the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission with the help of DPW in order to find best practices and locations.

13. Discuss the policy relating to "call to the public" for city open meetings

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to revise the Policy for Public Comments at Meetings to reflect that calls to the public change from five minutes each to three minutes each. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 4-2. Mayor Pro Tem Bohn and Councilmember Pettengill voted no.**

New Business

14. Consider approval of a budget amendment of \$5,000 to support the senior center

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve of a budget amendment to the General Fund in the amount of \$5,000 to support the senior center, and implement the process as outlined. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

15. Consider awarding the East Streets Improvements Project to Fonson Company, Inc. for base bid schedule "A" in an amount not to exceed \$1,369,800 with required budget amendments to allocate bond funds for this project, and authorizing DPS Director Goch to execute the contract

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to award the East Streets Improvements Project contract to Fonson Company, Inc. for base bid Schedule "A" in an amount not to exceed \$1,369,800 with required budget amendments to allocate bond funds for this project, and authorizing DPS Director Goch to execute the contract. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

16. Consider approval of Resolution #2024-15 to allow staff to apply for a \$250,000 Category B Program Grant funded by the Michigan Department of Transportation Economic Development Fund Program for the mill and overlay of South Third Street between Main Street and Brighton Lake Road with a grant matching fund requirement of 50 percent

Motion by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to approve Resolution #2024-15 allowing staff to apply for a \$250,000 Category B Program Grant funded by the Michigan Department of Transportation Economic Development Fund Program. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

17. Consider approval of a 12-month contract with ZenCity for their Community Engagement Platform in an amount not to exceed \$7,000 along with related budget amendment and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to table the item for more clarification on topics discussed. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Other Business

18. Call to the public

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn opened the call to the public at 9:15 p.m.

Ian Cox thanked the Kiwanis Club for the idea for the Story Book Walk and asks that a book on Brighton history be included to provide youth with aspects from the past such as the Yum Yum Tree, etc.

Susan Walters-Bakhaus spoke regarding the call to public regarding an email sent to City Council.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 9:19 p.m.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**