



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 JULY 23, 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, City Clerk Tara Brown, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Attorney Sarah Gabis (via Zoom), and Chief Brent Pirochta

4. Consider approval of the agenda

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

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

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

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of minutes: regular meeting of July 9, 2024**
- b. **Approval of the 2024 LACASA Glow Gathering civic event application**

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 stated the first day of Early Voting for the August Primary begins on July 27, 2024, for voters who wish to vote early and cast their ballot into the tabulator. For voters who wish to vote on Election Day and have questions about their registration or where to vote should contact the City Clerk.

Director Goch spoke about ongoing road projects throughout the city. East Street construction is going well and is off to a great start with concrete curbs and road base being laid as weather permits. The Reclamite treatment to the Northwest Neighborhood was applied and the final sweeping will be done by the end of the week. This treatment is an effort to preserve new roads and provided additional structure to the flexible asphalt. CSX has been contacted several times regarding the railroad tracks at Walnut and Fourth Street; however, we have not received a confirmed repair date.

City Manager Gomolka reported the City of Brighton has received confirmation that the Downtown Streetscape Project has been chosen as a finalist for the MML Community Excellence Award along with three other communities. The Community Excellence Award is the MMLs most prestigious award. The CrowdStrike computer outage on July 19, 2024, did affect the city as it did most computer users in the world, but our IT team was able to

swiftly repair the issue. Business resumed as normal with minimal down time.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Mayor Tobbe thanked all IT professionals worldwide for their efforts to quickly implement the necessary fix for the CrowdStrike outage. Mayor Tobbe also thanked the Taste of Brighton board for a very successful Taste of Brighton event in the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn stated the Planning Commission met on July 15, 2024, to discuss a site plan at 125 Beaver Street, a representative from the Huron River Watershed Council presented and offered assistance as the Planning Commission revises the Master Plan, and the commission reviewed and considered input on the Master Plan from City Council, specifically lot coverage, setbacks, density, and height.

Councilmember Pettengill complimented the Taste of Brighton board on the recent Taste of Brighton event. The “food” flags were a helpful addition. Councilmember Pettengill also noted the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission has issued a call to artist for a mural at the St. Paul Pocket Park. Interested artists should visit the City of Brighton’s website for specific details and application procedure.

Councilmember Schmenk stated the Zoning Board of Appeals met on July 11, 2024, to consider two variances. The first variance was granted to 2 Dandelions for an additional sign and the other was for a variance on signage for a new carwash on Grand River that was ultimately denied as presented.

Councilmember Gardner noted the Huron River Watershed Council met on July 18, 2024, for lessons related to chemistry and waterflow. The next meeting will be held at the headquarters in Ann Arbor on October 17, 2024.

Councilmember Gardner also provided an update on the Brighton Area Fire Authority that there will be a ballot proposal on the November ballot to ask voters for an increased millage to allow each of the five fire stations to have fulltime staff.

Councilmember Gipson stated the Downtown Development Authority met on July 16, 2024. The authority is currently operating without much of a fund balance, however; there are plans for a strategic planning meeting in the near future.

9. Mayoral Proclamation: Eagle Scout Benjamin Ketchel-Buschell

10. Mayoral Proclamation: Eagle Scout Dorian Pettengill

New Business

11. Consider approval of appointments to various boards and commissions, Planning Commission

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to approve the reappointment of Matt Smith to the Planning Commission. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

12. Consider approval of the Destination Stars Hollow: A Gilmore Celebration civic event application

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the Destination Stars Hollow Gilmore Celebration Civic Event provided that the event further indemnifies the city for any and all claims related to intellectual property infringement. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

13. Consider approval to award the contract for the 2024 roof replacements to RGS Construction, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$53,983

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to award the contract for the 2024 roof replacements to RGS Construction, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$53,983. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

14. Consider approval to purchase a John Deere Gator utility vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$28,940.97

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve the purchase of a 2025 John Deere Gator utility vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$28,940.97. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

**15. Conduct a first reading and set a public hearing of August 27, 2024, for proposed Ordinance 607:
Amendments to the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances**

Motion by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to set a public hearing of August 27, 2024, for proposed Ordinance 607: Amendments to the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

16. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 7:33 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call the public was closed.

17. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Albert to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk