



# Brighton City Council Meeting

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24, 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, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Community Development Manager Michael Caruso, City Clerk Tara Brown, Attorney Sarah Gabis, and Chief Brent Pirochta.

### 4. Consider approval of the agenda

**Motion** by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the agenda as presented. **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 by roll call vote, 7-0.**

#### Consent Agenda Items

- a. Approval of minutes: regular meeting of September 10, 2024
- b. Approval of the special land use permit for 305 E. Grand River as recommended by the Planning Commission
- c. Approval to award the contract for the replacement of the grit room door to Rescom Door LLC in an amount not to exceed \$12,487.94

#### Correspondence

### 6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:33 p.m.

Kelly Genei spoke regarding the recent Gilmore Girls event and expressed her concern over the excessive amounts of cars and parking into the neighborhoods that could prevent emergency services from reaching those in need.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 6:36 p.m.

### 7. Staff updates

Chief Pirochta stated that the Destination Stars Hollow event was the largest event the city has seen possibly ever. With almost 40,000 attendees, the day was very well received and orderly. There were ten medical issues throughout the day that were quickly treated by emergency services.

City Manager Gomolka provided a viewing of the MML Community Excellence Award video that the City of Brighton presented during the conference. The City of Houghton won the vote tabulated by Plante Moran. The conference was well attended and city staff that attended were happy to share the many social media and community engagement efforts that helped during the yearlong Streetscape Project.

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

Mayor Tobbe thanked staff, civic event planning, and volunteers for their work during this unprecedented event. An after-event meeting will be held to see what worked and what could be better. Overall, the event was a huge success. Parking has been discussed a lot over the years as a proactive approach rather than reactive.

Councilmember Gardner attended the ribbon cutting for El Car Wash and Town to Trails. Both ribbon cuttings were well attended.

Councilmember Albert and the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee (BVMC) met on September 18, 2024, to plan the Veterans Day Parade which is scheduled for November 9, 2024. The committee is continuing discussions and planning to resolve the lighting issues at the memorial. The BVMC is proud to relay that it has sold over 1,000 pavers to honor those who have served. Committee member Dennis Nauss has resigned so there is a vacancy on the committee.

Councilmember Pettengill noted the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission met on September 19, 2024, and relayed that the St. Paul Pocket Park mural signup will be sent out over social media very soon which will allow residents to participate in making their mark with artistic help, Hot Landing's missing goose has been located and will be reinstalled by DPW soon, meeting times for the commission have been moved to 6:00 p.m. start time, and the commission discussed various other business and program planning.

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn noted the Planning Commission met on September 16, 2024, to discuss 305 E. Grand River, façade changes to 110 E. Grand River, and seasonal outdoor storage.

#### **9. Presentation by the American Red Cross**

Judy Harris from the American Red Cross provided a presentation to City Council regarding the operations of the American Red Cross as well as the exciting news that a full time Red Cross facility in Genoa Township.

#### **Discussion**

#### **10. CSX Parking lot paving**

City Council asked city staff to proceed with issuing a bid to pave the parking lots engineered. A bid request will be issued as soon as possible and be brought back to City Council for deliberation.

#### **11. Short term rentals**

City Council asked that city staff investigate the possibility of an overlay district to evaluate short term rentals within the downtown district by ordinance with possible consideration if state laws change.

#### **New Business**

#### **12. Discuss "No Parking" signs and the placement on select streets in the City of Brighton**

City Council and staff discussed various options to ensure proper safety during events that may push parking out into the residential area by evaluating street width, parking, and land shifts. More information will be returned to City Council for further discussion.

#### **13. Consider entering into closed session to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to section MCL 15.268(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act**

**Motion** by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to enter into enter into closed session to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to section MCL 15.268(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act at 8:02 p.m. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to come out of closed session at 8:50 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

#### **14. Consider possible action resulting from closed session**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to a request the Planning Commission to finalize the draft of proposed amendments to the R5 zoning district at their next meeting October 7, 2024, and set a date for public hearing on or by November 4, 2024. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

## **Other Business**

### **15. Call to the public**

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 8:52 p.m.

Mike Monroe encouraged City Council to enable some mechanism to allow short term rentals as he has seen VRBO, Airbnb, etc. work well for those seeking rental opportunities outside the traditional hotel scenario.

Kelly Genei spoke regarding street parking in the neighborhood areas of the city.

Michelle Roy thanked City Council for extending the firepit operational times and asked that they revisit the sign policy to enable businesses to have additional signage.

### **16. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

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Tara Brown, City Clerk