



# Brighton City Council Meeting

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 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, Gipson, Pettengill, and Schmenk. Councilmember Gardner was absent.

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

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

**Motion** by Councilmember Albert, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to remove item 14 from the agenda. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

### 4. Consider approval of the agenda

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

### 5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

**Motion** by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve the consent agenda with a correction to the minutes to reflect Boy Scout Pack 347, rather than Troop. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

#### Consent Agenda Items

- a. Approval of minutes: regular meeting of October 8, 2024
- b. Approval to recognize Brighton Rotary Foundation as a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization for the purpose of obtaining a Charitable Gaming License, Resolution #2024-21

#### Correspondence

### 6. Call to the public

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

George Sief spoke in favor of allowing chickens in the City of Brighton, agenda item 11.

David Marmon spoke regarding agenda item 11 and in support of neighbor George Sief.

Caroline Castemo spoke regarding pedestrian safety at Church Street and Main Street and Spencer Road and Church Street.

### 7. Staff updates

Clerk Brown provided an election update and noted that early voting at City Hall would begin October 26, 2024 between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and go until November 3, 2024.

Community Development Manager Caruso noted there will be a public open house for the Master Plan on November 4, 2024, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.

DPW Director Goch noted the leaf pick up schedule is published, and teams are out vacuuming leaves around the city. Check out the city social media sites and website for more information. The Pine Creek booster station project is starting soon.

City Manager Gomolka and Senator Theis met for coffee to discuss how they can work together on city projects and grant opportunities. Manager Gomolka was also happy to report that the city was awarded \$200,000 from Gretchen Whitmer's office to fund sidewalk accessibility rehabilitation on 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

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

Councilmember Gipson noted that the Downtown Development Authority discussed the potential to extend the tunnel of lights along the tridge and ultimately decided to not fund the extension.

Councilmember Albert and the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee met to discuss plans for the Veterans Day Parade. The parade will be on November 9, 2024, starting at St. George's Church and ending at the AMP/Veterans Memorial.

Mayor Tobbe noted that SEMCOG will be in Livingston County on Tuesday November 19, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. to discuss economic development opportunities.

#### **9. Swear in of Officer Jason Davis**

#### **10. Presentation of the City of Brighton audit report by Plante Moran**

Plante Moran representatives, Tim St. Andrew and Philip Femminineo, presented the 2023/2024-year end audit findings highlighting aspects of the financial reports including the General Fund, taxable value, legacy costs, homestead property tax analysis, and the overall good standing of the City of Brighton.

#### **Discussion**

#### **11. Discuss City Council interest in amending the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances Chapter 14-Animals as it relates to keeping of chickens**

City Council and staff discussed the possibility of amending the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances to allow chickens in city. City Council would like staff to bring back best practices from neighboring municipalities that allow chickens and to review a possible ordinance amendment at a future meeting.

#### **12. Discuss Michigan Municipal League and Ralph C. Wilson funding opportunity for branding campaign.**

City Manager Gomolka spoke regarding the potential for the Michigan Municipal League in coordination with the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation to fund a branding campaign in coordination with the city communications team. City Council would like to move forward with this grant opportunity for city staff and the MML to will work together to

#### **New Business**

#### **13. Consider approval of TCO 191 to establish seven "No Parking" spaces on W. Main St. between W. Grand River Ave. and N. First St.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve of TCO 191 to establish seven "No Parking" spaces on W. Main St. between W. Grand River Ave. and N. First Street. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

#### **~~14. Consider appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals~~**

#### **Closed Session**

#### **15. 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 Albert, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to enter into closed session at 7:57 p.m. to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to section MCL 15.268(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

**Motion** by Mayor Pro Tem, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to come out of closed session at 9:08 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

**Other Business**

**16. Call to the public**

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 9:08 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

**17. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

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Tara Brown, City Clerk