



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 8, 2025

1. Call to order

Mayor Tobbe call the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Tobbe led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll call

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

Others Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Development Manager Mike Caruso, Attorney Sarah Gabis, and Chief Brent Pirochta.

4. Consider approval of the agenda

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

Consent Agenda Items

a. Approval of minutes: regular meeting of March 11, 2025

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

Chief Pirochta noted that there is currently a major accident at Maltby and Rickett Road. Drivers are advised to find an alternative route.

City Manager Gomolka noted that the I-96 project has kicked off and that a current list of closures has been posted on the MDOT I-96 Brighton Project Page, please like and share. Updates will also be posted on the city's Facebook pages as well as the My Brighton MI app. The Kissane Park improvement survey is live! The city is asking the community for items and amenities they would like to see in the park if the city were to receive grants for improvements.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Mayor Pro Tem Bohn stated the next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2025.

Councilmember Pettengill stated the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission currently has two sponsors for the new additions to the sculpture tour.

Councilmember Schmenk noted the Kiwanis Club's latest addition to the StoryWalk for April and May is Mae the Mayfly. The story is sure to be a hit for the children and adults as they travel the Tridge.

Councilmember Gardner noted the next meeting of the Huron River Watershed Committee will be held on April 17, 2025. Also, the Brighton Community Center currently has enrolled 138 City of Brighton senior residents with a basic membership. This is a great opportunity for our community.

Councilmember Albert noted the next Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee meeting will be held on April 17, 2025, at city hall and the group will be discussing ongoing planning for the parade.

Mayor Tobbe stated the Arbor Day Celebration will be held on April 25, 2025, at noon in the newly renovated St. Paul Pocket Park.

Discussion

9. 2025/2026 Budget & Fee Schedule Presentation

City Manager Gomolka provided a high-level overview of the 2025/2026 budget, highlighting various grant, opportunities, general fund projections, fiscal pressures, and discussed how tax dollars are distributed based on the 2024 levy. Manager Gomolka relayed that the budget work session will be held on April 15 and 16, 2025 beginning at 6:30 p.m. and asked that City Council hold a public hearing on May 13, 2025, during the regular City Council meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to set a public hearing for the proposed 2025/2026 FY Budget on May 13, 2025, during the regular City Council meeting. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

New Business

10. Consider approval of additional civic event applications for 2025

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve the additional civic event application for 2025. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

11. Consider approval of resolution #2025-09 to authorize and support the submission of a Community Funding Grant Congressman Barrett's Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding grant request to Congressman Tom Barrett

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Schmenk to approve of resolution #2025-09 to authorize and support the submission of a Community Funding Grant Congressman Barrett's Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding grant request to Congressman Tom Barrett. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Closed Session

12. Consider entering into closed session to consider the purchase or lease of real property pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976, § 15.268(1)(d) and to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976, § 15.268(1)(h)

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to enter into closed session at 7:28 p.m. to consider the purchase or lease of real property pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976, § 15.268(1)(d) and to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976, § 15.268(1)(h). **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to come out of closed session at 9:03 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

13. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 9:03 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk