



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 22, 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, Councilmembers: Albert, Gardner, Gipson, Pettengill, and Schmenk.

Others Present: City Manager Gretchen Gomolka, City Clerk Tara Brown, Development Manager Mike Caruso, Human Resources Manager Michelle Miller, Deputy DPS Director Corey Brooks, Attorney Sarah Gabis, and Chief Brent Pirochta.

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Bohn for personal reasons. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

4. Consider approval of the agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk, to approve the agenda as presented. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

5. Consider approval of consent agenda items

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

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of minutes: regular meeting of April 8, 2025**
- b. **Approval of the contract with City Services, Inc. for the installation of a bypass valve and tapping sleeve on the Hamburg Township force main in an amount not to exceed \$10,050**

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

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

Nancy Fredenburg, current President of the Brighton Area Historic Society, provided an update on historical society events and happenings.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to public was closed at 6:35 p.m.

7. Staff updates

Chief Pirochta stated that the senior student water wars began on April 22, 2025, at noon and will continue until teams are eliminated. Senior Water Wars is not sponsored by Brighton High School but many Brighton seniors participate. Please be mindful of this as you may see kids with squirt guns throughout town.

Human Resources Manager Miller reported that two positions are currently open, Zoning Officer and Deputy Finance Director.

DPW Director Goch noted that two trees fell in the Fairview Cemetery. The area will be blocked off and cleaned up before the weekend.

8. Quarterly employee milestones

Human Resources Manager Miller recognized DPW employee Shane Basch for his 30 years of service and Police Officer Drake Brusseau for his 5 years of service.

9. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Gardner noted that the Planning Commission recently approved Ordinance 608 Zoning Amendments and these amendments will be coming to City Council for final approval. The Planning Commission also reviewed a conceptual site plan for 144 units, 411 parking space development downtown in the current Fifth Third Bank area. This is only conceptual at this time.

Councilmember Albert met with the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee and discussed the upcoming Memorial Day parade. The parade will end at The AMP where many Livingston County veterans killed in action will be honored.

Councilmember Schmenk stated the Zoning Board of Appeals met on April 10, 2025, and discussed a split on Brighton Lake Road and two variances.

Councilmember Pettengill noted that many exciting things are happening within the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission. Many new sculptures will be placed downtown and there will be movement with others to reorganize the sculpture tour. The Imagination Station kickoff is scheduled for May 17, 2025, beginning 9:00 a.m.

Discussion

10. Rebranding and logo presentation by Crimson

City Manager Gomolka provided background on the MML Ralph C. Wilson Foundation grant, including the guidance given to Crimson that shaped the development of a rebranding plan and logo designs.

Crimson CEO Chris Heaton and VP & Executive Creative Director Will Perry provided City Council with background development on archetypes and several logo designs with context as to their thought process.

City Council discussed the logos that were presented but will review them over the next two weeks to discuss refinement and direction

11. Potential upcoming road projects

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to table item 11. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

New Business

12. Consider approval to use \$5,850 of the Robertson Brothers donation to improve the St. Paul Pocket Park

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve the use of \$4,850 of the Robertson donation to improve the St. Paul Pocket Park as follows: a sponsorship of the new sculpture in the pocket park of \$1,000; landscape budget of \$2,500 for the improvement area between the retaining wall and the pocket park in collaboration with Landscape Design and Associates; ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening scheduled for June 6, 2025 for \$350; and an additional \$1,000 to cover any plaque or any other portions of the motion exceeding the amount that has already been stated. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to untable item 11. Potential upcoming road projects.

City Manager Gomolka and DPW Director Goch provided an overview of potential road projects within the city. City Council asked that engineering proposals for Glenwyth, Robertson, Sisu Knoll, and Rita Ann be brought back and that

opinions on probably costs be sought for Baywood, Peppergrove, and various courts within the area be brought back for more discussion to be ready if voters approve the continued millage in November.

13. Consider approval of the alterations to the Lindbom consent judgement

City Council and City Attorney Gabis discussed the various changes to the Lindbom consent judgement, noting the product will be for sale, and the developer has removed the pool and club house.

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve of the alterations to the Lindbom consent judgement as presented by the City Attorney and authorize the City Mayor to execute the same pending City Attorney final review. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve the amended planned unit development agreement and authorize the City Mayor to execute the same pending City Attorney final review. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

14. Consider Entering into Closed Session to Receive a Written Attorney-Client Privileged Communication pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976, § 15.268(1)(h), Michigan Compiled Laws

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to enter into closed session at 9:14 p.m. to receive a written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976, § 15.268(1)(h), Michigan Compiled Laws. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.**

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to come out of closed session at 10:16 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Other Business

15. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 10:16 pm. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

16. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Tara Brown