



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 13, 2025

1. Call to order

Mayor Tobbe called 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, Finance Director Liz Gaines, Human Resources Manager Michelle Miller, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Deputy DPS Director Corey Brooks, Superintendents Josh Bradley and Brad Shrader, Assistant to the DPS Director Patty Thomas, Attorney Sarah Gabis, and Deputy Chief Craig Flood.

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 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: budget work session of April 15, 2025
- b. Approval of minutes: budget work session of April 16, 2025
- c. Approval of minutes: regular meeting of April 22, 2025
- d. Acceptance of the quarterly financial report
- e. Acceptance of the quarterly investment report
- f. Approval of Cyr Electric LLC to install two variable frequency drives at the Northstar Booster Station in an amount not to exceed \$8,100
- g. Approval to purchase spare parts for the water and wastewater SCADA systems from McNaughton-McKay Electric Company in an amount not to exceed \$24,848
- h. Approval to amend Resolution #2025-01, Poverty Exemption
- i. Approval of Resolution #2025-11, A Resolution Approving the Sale of Alcoholic Liquor for Don Ramon LLC, DBA El Patron 675 W. Grand River Avenue
- j. Approval of the refurbishment of grit pump #2 by Kennedy Industries in an amount not to exceed \$16,950
- k. Approval of a Service Agreement with the Economic Development Council of Livingston County

Correspondence

6. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 6:34 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the call to the public was closed.

7. Staff updates

Community Development Manager Caruso stated the Master Plan will be ready soon to allow a 60-day review period for neighboring governmental bodies and local authorities to provide input.

Director Goch stated that Appian Way has been chip and fog sealed as well as the police and DPW driveway and water and wastewater driveways. This treatment will prolong the life of the road.

City Manager Gomolka spoke during the opening of the Charles and Albert Parker family nature preserve behind the Brighton District Library on Saturday, May 10, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The nature preserve includes two walking trails and educational signage and benches for enjoying nature.

8. Updates from Councilmember liaisons to various boards and commissions

Councilmember Schmenk stated the Zoning Board of Appeals met on May 8, 2025, to discuss an appeal for a short-term rental that was ultimately denied.

Councilmember Pettengill noted the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission met for a special meeting on May 7 to jury sculpture submissions and to recommend placement and then on May 12 and during the regular meeting the commission discussed flowers Hyne Alley, DTE sponsorship of the St. Paul Pocket Park ribbon cutting. Sculpture Bob was relocated along Hyne Street by the parking lot. The Summer Series will begin soon with a generous sponsorship for Storytime with Laura Pershin Raynor by Great Start Livingston County. The Imagination Station Kickoff will be on May 17, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m. All ages are welcome to the kickoff and supplies and equipment will be provided.

Councilmember Gardner stated that the Brighton Area Fire Authority is looking forward to renovating the Grand River station, plans will be submitted next month.

Councilmember Albert stated the Brighton Veteran Memorial Committee will meet on May 14, 2025, to discuss and finalize plans for the Memorial Day Parade which will be on May 26, 2025, beginning at the High School and ending at the AMP where there will be a brief ceremony.

Mayor Tobbe noted that DTE will launch a new map to improve grid and outage viewing.

Public Hearing and Budget Adoption

9. Conduct a public hearing and consider adoption Resolution #2025-10, Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget

Director Gaines provided a brief overview of the budget that was discussed at the recent retreat and stated that she was available for questions.

Mayor Tobbe opened the public hearing at 6:46 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve of Resolution #2025-10, Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

10. Consider approval of Resolution #2025-12, Fiscal Year 2025-26 Fee Schedule

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve of Resolution #2025-12, Fiscal Year 2025-26 Fee Schedule. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

11. Consider approval of Resolution #2025-13 to Establish the Levy and Authorize the Collection of Taxes, Penalties, and Fees for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve Resolution #2025-13 Establish the Levy and Authorize the Collection of Taxes, Penalties, and Fees for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

New Business

12. Consider approval of amendments to the 2025 A Taste of Brighton civic event application to allow a boat regatta and fireworks display on the Millpond

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the amendments to the 2025 A Taste of Brighton Civic Event Application to allow a boat regatta and fireworks display on the Millpond pending water testing the week of July 6th or at the discretion of staff, approval of the Participant Waiver & Release by the City Attorney, indemnification of the City by the Taste of Brighton, and proof of insurance covering this amendment. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

13. Consider approval of the Brighton Arts and Culture recommendations for sculptures to be placed as presented

Motion by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Councilmember Albert to approve of the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission recommendations for sculptures to be placed as presented. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

14. Discussion on logo designs and possible direction to Crimson for refinement

City Manager Gomolka and City Council discussed possible refinement of the previously presented logo designs, but ultimately decided to halt further refinement and ask that Crimson, if possible, provide a refresh of the current City of Brighton logo. City Manager Gomolka will reach out to Crimson to discuss next steps.

15. Discussion of potential road projects and consider approval of design and construction engineering services proposals from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. for Glenwyth, Robertson, Sisu Knoll, and Rita Ann for a cost not to exceed \$161,230, along with related budget amendments

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to approve of design and construction engineering services proposals from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. for Glenwyth, Robertson, Sisu Knoll, and Rita Ann for a cost not to exceed \$161,230, along with related budget amendments and to request engineering services for Oakridge Drive from Devonshire to the west end of Oakridge Court to be brought back to City Council. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

16. Consider approval of Resolution #2025-14 to allow staff to apply for \$197,000 through the Michigan Department of Transportation Economic Development Fund Category B Program Grant for the mill and overlay of South Third Street between Main Street and Brighton Lake Road and commit to providing \$264,000 including \$197,000 in matching funds

Motion by Councilmember Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Schmenk to approve of Resolution #2025-14 to allow staff to apply for \$197,000 through the Michigan Department of Transportation Economic Development Fund Category B Program Grant for the mill and overlay of South Third Street between Main Street and Brighton Lake Road and commit to providing \$264,000 including \$197,000 in matching funds. **The motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.**

17. Consider approval of the purchase of surveillance cameras and associated equipment for city water towers and booster stations from Essential Electric LLC in an amount not to exceed \$67,000

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Gardner to approve the purchase of surveillance cameras and associated equipment for city water towers and booster station from Essential Election LLC in an amount not to exceed \$67,000. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

18. Consider approval of the installation of solar crosswalk signs by Severence Electric at the intersections of Main and Sixth Streets and Challis Road and Karl Greimel Drive at a cost not to exceed \$42,985, along with related budget amendments

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the installation of solar crosswalk signs by Severence Electric at the intersections of Main and Sixth Streets and Challis Road and Karl Greimel Drive at a cost not to exceed \$42,985, along with related budget amendments. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Other Business

19. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 9:22 p.m.

Susan Walters-Bakhaus spoke regarding Rita Ann Lane and the Millpond water.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 9:25 p.m.

20. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Tara Brown