



Brighton City Council Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 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: Gardner, Gipson, Pettengill, and Schmenk.

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

Councilmember Albert was absent.

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

Motion by Councilmember Schmenk, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bohn to remove item 10. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

4. Consider approval of the agenda

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

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of minutes: regular meeting of August 26, 2025**

Correspondence

6. Councilmember updates

Councilmember Gardner noted that the Brighton Area Fire Authority recently approved construction on station 31, after City Council approval, will begin in November 2025 and conclude in February 2027. Stations 32 and 33 will cover City of Brighton calls for service during that time.

Councilmember Schmenk was appreciative of the fast-paced quality work by the city's sidewalk rehabilitation contractor.

Councilmember Pettengill stated that the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission will present options at an upcoming City Council meeting for enhancements to the St. Paul Pocket Park to include chairs and shade.

7. Staff updates

Chief Pirochta noted that on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, he will be at WHMI's Meet the People talk at Ciao Amici's to discuss public safety and teen safety.

City Manager Gomolka stated the 2025 Road Maintenance projects will begin September 22, 2025. The city will hold

its first Streets Millage Open House September 10, 2025, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the Community Center located at 555 Brighton Street.

8. Mayoral Proclamation: Eagle Scout Drew Smith

9. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to public at 6:47 p.m.

Susan Walters-Bakhaus spoke regarding the millage open house hours.

Hearing and seeing no further comment, the call to the public was closed at 6:48 p.m.

New Business

~~10. Appointments~~

11. Discussion: Easement request

City Manager Gomolka noted that a potential new business is reviewing options to purchase a building, which may require an easement to construct an accessible ramp. A mockup and potential investment into the building were shared with City Council, and members expressed general consensus for the concept. Further consideration will take place through the Planning Commission process.

12. 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 Mayor Pro Tem Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Gipson to enter into closed session at 6:53 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 Gipson, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to come out of closed session at 8:43 p.m. **The motion carried, 6-0.**

Other Business

13. Call to the public

Mayor Tobbe opened the call to the public at 8:45 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 8:45 p.m. **The motion carried, 7-0.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk