

**MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BRIGHTON**  
**HELD ON AUGUST 3, 2017 AT THE BRIGHTON CITY HALL**  
**200 N. 1ST STREET, BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN**

**STUDY SESSION**

The Council conducted a Study Session at 6:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Muzzin, Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, and Councilmembers Bohn, Pettengill, Tobbe, and Emaus. Also present were City Manager Nate Geinzer, Attorney Brad Maynes, Chief Robert Bradford, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, Utilities Director Tim Krugh, DPW Director Marcel Goch, Management Assistant Jessica Lienhardt, Deputy City Clerk Kelly Haataja, and an audience of five.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 6:30 p.m., hearing and seeing none the Call to the Public was closed.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF LIVINGSTON CONTRACT**

Manager Geinzer introduced Phil Santer and Julia Upfal, from Ann Arbor SPARK's Livingston County team. Mr. Santer explained the partnership of the Economic Development Council of Livingston County (EDCLC) and Ann Arbor SPARK, their scope of services, and ways the partnership has benefited the City of Brighton and Livingston County. The partnership has generated new investments and jobs, supporting families and local businesses throughout the community. SPARK acts as a connection between businesses and the City, provides consultation and data for projects, resources for incentives, and a link between local and international headquarters.

Mr. Santer spoke about business engagement, community-based project management, talent connections, and community assistance. EDCLC and SPARK can continue to implement these services in the City of Brighton by working with a wide range of partners to provide assistance to companies with their projects, resources to support training, talent needs, and grant assistance.

Council discussed opportunity for growth within the City, challenges of retail business retention, and helping small businesses. Mr. Santer replied that although the City is built out, it is healthy, and opportunities fall in redevelopment and talent recruitment. Promoting private investment, identifying incentives and funding sources, partnering with the Chamber, engaging with businesses individually, and utilizing data and local resources will address growth issues. Working with a range of talent services to connect with students, employers, and job seekers will better close the talent gap. EDCLC and SPARK are working to develop and implement new strategies for growth in Livingston County by analyzing talent and land use which will better identify needs within the community.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public 7:10 p.m., hearing and seeing none the Call to the Public was closed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilmember Tobbe and seconded by Emaus to adjourn the meeting at 7:11p.m.

Motion passed 6-0-1

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Kelly Haataja, Deputy City Clerk

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James Muzzin, Mayor