



City Council Special Meeting

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 17, 2018

SPECIAL SESSION

Mayor Muzzin called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present were Mayor Muzzin, Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, Councilmembers: Bohn, Emaus, Gardner, Pettengill and Tobbe. Staff: City Manager Nate Geinzer, Asst. to the DPW Director / Deputy Clerk Patty Thomas, DPW Director Marcel Goch, Utilities Director Tim Krugh, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, Police Chief Robert Bradford, DPW Superintendent Daren Collins, Water Superintendent Todd Bennett, Wastewater Superintendent Corey Brooks, and Attorney Paul Burns. There were three people in the audience.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 6:00 p.m.

Susan Bakhaus stated she has a copy of the March 2018 check registry. She noted that Brandon Skopek received a reimbursement for his fall 2017 tuition in the amount of \$8,000. Attorney Paul Burns received \$9,900 for his retainer fee per month and he also receives expenses reimbursed and bills the city for any court cases in which he is involved. The Chamber was paid \$4,000 for the 150th, \$13,929 was paid to Comcast to relocate the utility line for the proposed N. Second Street condos, Corrigan was paid \$2,200 to remove five loads of leaves and the Headlee Override mailers cost \$713.49. Nate Geinzer's contract states that he receives \$200 per month for a car allowance, but he received a check for \$500 for April of 2018. Why is there an increase? The taxpayers need to know that Mr. Skopek was reimbursed for his education when her neighbors cannot afford to eat. When he leaves, he takes that education with him.

The Call to the Public was closed at 6:03 p.m.

Mr. Krugh provided highlighted the utility department's accomplishments for 2017, which included meeting all statutory requirements and submitting all required reports. There may possibly be changes to some of the regulations for water and wastewater. He also provided a review of upcoming projects, including the continuation and implementation of the outcomes of the SAW Grant.

Councilmember Tobbe arrived at 6:05 p.m.

He has been working on the succession plan. Corey Brooks and Todd Bennett are now Superintendents in the Wastewater and Water Divisions, respectively. He has hired an additional employee in the water division and two in the wastewater division.

There was a discussion regarding the affects the asset management portion of the SAW Grant will have on utility rates. Mr. Geinzer stated the effects will begin to be seen during the 2018/2019 budget and continue into the 2019/2020 budget.

Mr. Krugh provided details of capital items that need to be maintained as well as replaced. Councilmember Tobbe stated that the water and sewer systems are the City's biggest assets.

Ms. Gomolka reviewed the revenues, expenses, transfers out, capital expenditures, and the debt in the utilities budget.

Councilmember Emaus questioned the (Page 63)...negative net.....statutory requirements..... fund balance....reserve.....

The discussion regarding the utility rates continued. Staff questioned if City Council would like them to provide the new rates when the budget is presented based on what is known at this time or if they would like them to wait to present them after all of the information from Tetra Tech is received and the accurate rates are known. Ms. Gomolka stated the money that is needed for FY 2018/2019 can be used with utility reserve funds. Then that can be reimbursed when the new rates are known and implemented. City Council is not comfortable with expending the entire reserve fund in case there is an emergency. Mr. Geinzer believes City Council can be comfortable adopting the proposed budget. When all of the information is received from Tetra Tech and analyzed by staff, a budget amendment can then be done.

Mr. Goch provided a review of the changes and improvements that were made in the Department of Public Works over the past year. He has made many much-needed purchases with the money that was allocated to the DPW. Staff has been working on catch basin cleaning, ROW tree trimming, crosswalk painting, tracking staff and equipment hours and usage, staff training, etc. Old or obsolete vehicles and equipment were auctioned off and that money was used to purchase additional equipment. He stated there are operational changes being made with the cemetery, summer turf maintenance, winter maintenance, utility locate requests, etc.

He reviewed the planned projects for the upcoming year, such as demolishing and rebuilding an old building on the DPW site, upgrading the infrastructure that is used for vehicle and equipment maintenance, beginning to inventory all assets in the DPW, etc.

There was a discussion regarding recycling. The recycling industry is experience problems. There are fewer places that are accepting recyclable materials. The contract with Waste Management expires on June 30, 2018. They are proposing to increase the cost of recycling by \$.80 per month if we continue the contract for one more year. If the City puts out an RFP for trash services, the increase could be even higher.

Ms. Gomolka reviewed the DPW, major and local street, and capital budgets.

Mr. Goch stated his department still has vehicle and equipment needs. He is spending \$35,000 per year on vehicle maintenance. If he was able to purchase new vehicles, the maintenance costs would decrease. He has spent all of the capital money that was given to him last fiscal year. He would like to purchase two new pick-up trucks, a new lift truck, and make facility improvements. Mr. Geinzer is

proposing that the \$350,000 from _____ be allocated to capital for the DPW. City Council asked for details outlining where the money would be spent.

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 8:55 p.m. with no response.

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Pipoly, to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**