

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL STUDY SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BRIGHTON
HELD ON APRIL 11, 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, Pro-Tem Pipoly, Councilmembers: Bohn, Pettengill, Gardner, Tobbe, and Emaus. Staff: City Manager Nate Geinzer, Attorney Paul Burns, Chief Rob Bradford, Utilities Director Tim Krugh, Organizational Relations Manager Michelle Miller, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, Assistant DPW Director Patty Thomas, Clerk Pamela Stewart, Management Assistant Jessica Reed, DPW Director Marcel Goch, Community Development Associate Brandon Skopek, and an audience of one.

CALL TO 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 at 6:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION OF 2017/2018 PROPOSED BUDGET

Manager Geinzer started the budget discussion with the 6-year forecast. Some issues that the Council discussed were what portions of the Grand River and Challis road projects will be covered by DDA, engineering costs for the road projects, two percent increase in wages for employees, and the forecast for retiree health cost.

Manager Geinzer then spoke about how Proposal A and the Headlee Amendment had effected the property values and has driven down the tax revenue over the last ten years. Subject talked about included the budget for City Council's professional development, legal service cost, Administrative Service and Community Development Department, and the Finance Department. Police enforcement numbers and state and federal forfeiture funds were discussed.

Next, DPW Director Goch spoke about the Department of Public Works and the process of updating the DPW to current standards, bringing some activities in-house, vehicle repair and maintenance, and sidewalks. Utilities Director Krugh introduced the Water and Wastewater portion of the budget and spoke about the Utility Reserve, financing equipment over the useful life, and equipment replacement. Manager Geinzer talked about long-term training and succession planning for the Utility Department, and reserves for the U of M project.

Finance Director Gomolka talked about OPEB and proposed not making contributions, the elimination of line items for SELCRA and Downtown Building Façade, and the funds dedicated to the Brighton Historical Society. The Council questioned line items for Brighton Senior Center and the Economic Development Council (SPARK). Manager Geinzer talked about the engagement opportunities for different demographics in the City. Finance Director Gomolka spoke about Post-Employment Benefits.

CALL TO PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 9:12 p.m.

Hearing and seeing no comment, the Mayor closed the Call to the Public at 9:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilmember Emaus and seconded by Gardner to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Motion passed 7-0.

Pamela Stewart, Clerk

James Muzzin, Mayor