

*The official Newsletter
of the City of Brighton!*

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REQUEST

MANAGEMENT STAFF

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Tara Brown, City Clerk

Mike Caruso, Community
Development Manager

Nate Geinzer, City Manager

Marcel Goch, DPS Director

Gretchen Gomolka, Finance Director

Michelle Miller, Human Resources

YOUR CITY COUNCIL



Shawn Pipoly
City Mayor



Susan Gardner
Mayor Pro Tem



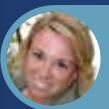
James Bohn



Jon Emaus



James R. Muzzin



Renee Pettengill



Kristoffer L. Tobbe

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Valued Community Member,

In these challenging times, I want to assure you that, amid all of the closures, quarantines, and stay at home orders, your Elected Officials and City Administration are working tirelessly to avoid any disruption to City services.

Due to the nature of COVID-19, the social distancing requirement has made City operations a bit more difficult. Nevertheless, we are improvising to be sure essential City services continue as normally as possible. We are implementing best practices to protect the employees we rely on for public safety, critical infrastructure, and other essential operations.

For those of you who own a small business in town, the City has created a webpage outlining many currently available resources to assist you through this difficult time. The www.brightoncity.org/covid-19businessresources webpage is a collection of information on programs, grants, and general aid available from local, state, and federal resources. If you do not own a business and are looking for personal financial assistance, the www.brightoncity.org/covid-19residentresources webpage lists similar resources for individuals.

With all of that said, it's budget time again and City Council and City Staff have reviewed and adopted the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 budget. The current budget was mostly complete prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, but due to circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 situation, we took time to re-examine the entire budget.

City Council's priorities continue to be protecting the fiscal health of the City, maintaining and improving City infrastructure, and preserving the quality of life our residents, businesses, and visitors have come to expect.

As part of being fiscally healthy and maintaining our quality of life, we routinely invest in our critical infrastructure such as our utility systems and public streets network. Despite the current COVID-19 situation, we must continue this practice. We want to make every effort to ensure key utilities and infrastructure do not fail during these challenging times. With this in mind, we have nearly completed the project on Rickett Road that started late last summer to fix a collapsing sewer main. Work has also begun on Alpine, S. Third Street, and Fairway Trails Drive, and we are expecting work to begin on Lee Road later this summer. Hopefully as we emerge from our quarantine, we will be able to experience improved roads that have been needed for years. Thank you to our voters for supporting these important infrastructure investments with the passage of the local streets millage.

In closing, please stay well, healthy, and safe. Thank you to our first responders and City staff who have continued to work tirelessly to maintain your safety and City services. I have never been prouder to be a part of and serve our great community.

Shawn Pipoly, Mayor of the City of Brighton



PLANNING COMMISSION

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

In the City of Brighton, the governing body of legislation is the elected officials of City Council. This governing body is required by City Charter and state law to establish and maintain a Planning Commission. In its advisory role, the Planning Commission is an administrative body of government authorized to review and recommend planning and zoning actions to City Council.

The City of Brighton's Planning Commission consists of a nine-member panel, which conducts regular public meetings on the first and third Monday of each month. The Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor, with approval by Council, and must be residents of the City. These appointed residents serve as the community's voice on planning matters.

The Planning Commission has several important functions and responsibilities. Perhaps the greatest responsibility is to provide guidance for land use and development in the community. This is accomplished through two important documents, the City's Comprehensive Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Both of these documents are guiding tools that set standards for current and future development, and more importantly, envision the City's future development goals and strategies. Applying the guidance of these documents is how the Planning Commission serves as representatives of the public, as both are created by the Commission through extensive public input.

SITE CONCEPT PLAN



PRODUCT DESIGN



When you see buildings or a new residential development under construction in the City of Brighton, most often this is the result of a Planning Commission's review and recommendation. Before any work commences, commercial builders and residential developers must submit their plans to the Commission, with a review conducted at one of the Commission's public meetings. If they determine the proposed plan supports the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance, the Commission may grant a recommendation of approval to City Council.

The Planning Commission is required to review the City's Master Plan every five years to assure they are meeting the vision of the community. They also conduct periodic reviews of the City's Zoning Ordinance. Both processes involve public input. Although the Planning Commission serves primarily as an advisory role, the importance of its duties cannot be overstated as a vital part of the City of Brighton's policy leadership.



SMALL TOWN, BIG HEARTS INITIATIVE HELPS LOCAL BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY COVID-19

In response to the adverse economic conditions created by the COVID-19 situation, the City of Brighton Downtown Development Authority organized the Small Town, Big Hearts Initiative, a program designed to allow individuals to have a direct and very personal impact in helping their favorite downtown Brighton businesses survive the economic impacts of this pandemic. Endorsed and supported with marketing funds by the DDA, this initiative utilizes the Patroncity crowdfunding platform to connect the patrons of local businesses directly with the businesses in need of assistance. As of today, the Small Town, Big Hearts Initiative has generated more than \$45,000 in relief funds, and \$10,500 in matching funds from Lake Trust Credit Union, directly to local businesses in need. As a City, we either matched or beat the amount of funds raised by larger cities.

Key accomplishments of the Small Town, Big Hearts Initiative include:

- 25 participating eligible businesses
- Over \$50,000 in donations raised so far
- Over 700 individual donations
- A total of \$25,000 in committed matching funds or awards from Lake Trust Credit Union

This community-based based economic relief focused on letting patrons of local businesses show their support even if they couldn't visit in person. Lake Trust will be awarding \$1,000 to the five campaigns that best embody the spirit of Lake Trust Credit Union and espouses a strong sense of community.

Thanks to your overwhelming generosity City businesses can feel confident being located in such a supportive community. The Brighton DDA continues to seek out new and innovative ways to support local businesses and we're looking forward to helping our City overcome these challenging times together.

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

FOR AGENDAS & MINUTES SEE BRIGHTONCITY.ORG

CITY COUNCIL

1st & 3rd Thursdays / 7:30 p.m. / City Hall
Study session begins at 6:30 p.m.

BRIGHTON ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

2nd Mondays / 5:30 p.m. / City Hall

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

3rd Tuesdays / 7:15 a.m. / City Hall

PLANNING COMMISSION

1st & 3rd Mondays / 7:00 p.m. / City Hall

PRINCIPAL SHOPPING DISTRICT

1st Tuesdays / 7:45 a.m. / City Hall

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

2nd Thursdays (as needed) / 7:00 p.m. / City Hall





City of Brighton

200 N. First Street Brighton, MI 48116

PERMANENT ABSENT BALLOT APPLICATION REQUEST

Submit the form below to the City Clerk, at least 30 days before an election, to be added to the Absent Voter Application Mailing List. Once added to the mailing list, you will receive your application for an Absentee Voter Ballot in the mail roughly 60 days prior to each future election. Once you receive your application, please complete and return via email, mail, or in the drop box at City Hall.

Please place me on the permanent absent ballot application list to receive an application for all future elections.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

YEAR OF BIRTH:

PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL:

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
BRIGHTON, MI
PERMIT NO 320

CONTACT INFO
200 N. FIRST ST. BRIGHTON, MI 48116 / 810-227-1911 / BRIGHTONCITY.ORG

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Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter at www.brightoncity.org

Visit City Hall at 200 N. First St. Brighton, MI 48116

Or give us a call at 810-227-1911

STREETS AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UPDATE

The City's first voter-approved streets millage funded project has begun on Alpine, South Third, and the Fairway Trails area. The project will consist of the removal and replacement of the top six inches of asphalt, some concrete curb and gutter replacement, and the installation of 22 ADA compliant sidewalk ramps.



Why did the City choose this area? While we understand there are other streets in the City that may seem to need more urgent attention, after analyzing the condition of Alpine, S. Third, and Fairway Trails, staff and City engineers determined the maintenance needed on these streets could be completed with the amount of funding generated from the first collection period of street millage funds. Additionally, intervention at this time would prevent the need for a more expensive and extensive complete reconstruction project.

The City also expects to be finishing the sanitary sewer work that began in late 2019 on Rickett Road. Approximately 800 feet of sanitary sewer main from the railroad tracks to the City limits (just south of Oak Ridge Drive) will be replaced. As part of this project, the boulevard island will be removed and all asphalt replaced. This project will be funded by the utilities fund along with the City's Major Street Fund. Streets millage funds will be not used for any portion of the Rickett Road project. This project is scheduled to be completed in the 2021 or 2022 construction year, depending on the outcome of an outstanding grant application.

The second project that will be funded by the streets millage will be the Northwest Neighborhood (NWN) project. The entire area, which consists of the residential portion of N. First and N. Third through N. Seventh, State, Walnut, Center, and Chestnut Streets, will be completely reconstructed. This will include complete replacement of all 1930's era water and sewer mains, the installation of a storm water collection system consisting of curb, gutter and new sidewalks, and all street surfaces. Because of the extensive scope of the project, it is anticipated to be completed in three phases. It should be noted that the phasing of this project is dictated by the necessary phasing of underground work. The current construction phasing plan is:

Phase I – Spring through Fall of 2021

North Fifth through Seventh Streets, West Chestnut Street, and State Street from Seventh to Fourth Street

Phase II – Spring through Fall of 2022

North Third and Fourth Streets, State Street between Third and Fourth, West Walnut Street, and Center Street.

Phase III – Spring through Fall of 2023

Chestnut, North First, and East Walnut Street.

ROAD CONDITIONS BEFORE:



**STREETS AND RELATED
 INFRASTRUCTURE
 PROJECTS UPDATE
 CONTINUED**

Prior to the City’s reconstruction work, DTE Energy, Consumers Energy, and other utility companies will be starting this year with some preparatory work on their infrastructure

During the three years of the reconstruction of the NWN, residential streets in other areas of the City will also be receiving maintenance attention. The specific locations have yet to be determined, as street conditions, funding, and traffic flow associated with other construction projects will all be factors when making these decisions.

While not part of the street millage funding, the City also plans to perform the rehabilitation of Grand River, from just west of Cross Street to the City Limits (Appian Way), beginning in the spring of 2022. This funding will be from two sources; 80 percent of the funding will be federally funded with a 20 percent match from the City’s Major Street Fund. However, this project will exclude the areas from St. Paul Street to North Street, which is part of the Downtown Development Authority’s future Main Street reconstruction and streetscape project.

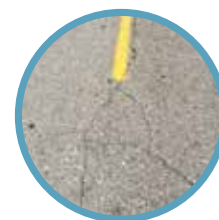
The City will continue to keep the community updated as project details become available. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook or check the City’s Street Projects Website at www.brightoncity.org/streetprojects. If you have any other questions or concerns, please call us at 810-225-8001 or email info@brightoncity.org.

Residents whose homes are adjacent to any project areas will always be notified directly by mail with additional details of the project.

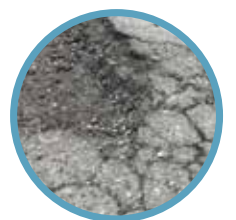
The City of Brighton appreciates your patience and support while we follow through with our commitment to improve the quality of the City’s public street network.



GOOD/EXCELLENT



FAIR



POOR