



# Brighton City Council Meeting

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This meeting was conducted electronically.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MARCH 18, 2021

### 1. Call to Order

Mayor Pipoly called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Pipoly (City of Brighton, MI) and Mayor Pro Tem Gardner (City of Brighton, MI), Councilmembers: Bohn (City of Brighton, MI), Emaus (City of Brighton, MI), Muzzin (City of Brighton, MI), Pettengill (City of Brighton, MI), and Tobbe (City of Brighton, MI). City Manager Nate Geinzer, City Clerk Tara Brown, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Human Resources Manager Michelle Miller, Management Assistant Henry Outlaw, Deputy Director of the DPW Corey Brooks, DPS Superintendent Daren Collins, DPS Compliance Officer Josh Bradley, Economic Development Coordinator Denise Murray, Assistant to the DPW Director Patty Thomas, and Police Chief Rob Bradford. There were twenty-five persons in the audience.

### 4. Consider Approval of the Agenda

**Motion** by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner to approve the agenda as amended, moving items d and e from the Consent Agenda to New Business as items 10a and 10b respectively and to make a slight correction on the Regular Meeting minutes of March 4, 2021. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

### 5. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda Items

**Motion** by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the consent agenda as amended. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote, with Councilmember Bohn voting no.**

#### Consent Agenda Items

- a. Approval of Minutes: Study Session of March 4, 2021
- b. Approval of Minutes: Regular Session of March 4, 2021
- c. Approval of Poverty Exemption, Resolution #2021-04
- d. ~~Approval of Complete Streets Policy, Resolution #2021-05 (moved to New Business)~~
- e. ~~Motion of Approval to Apply to the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the Main Street Streetscape Project (moved to New Business)~~

#### Correspondence

### 6. Redistricting Presentation

Commissioner MC Rothhorn provided an overview and shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.

### 7. Introduction of Dr. Matthew Outlaw, Brighton Areas Schools Superintendent

Dr. Outlaw provided an introduction as the new Superintendent of Brighton Area Schools.

### 8. Call to the Public

Jordan Genso spoke regarding the County Reapportionment Commission that is conducted every ten years.

### 9. Staff Updates

Chief Bradford reported St. Patrick Day celebrations in the City were without incident and the police department is still conducting its investigation on the robbery at TCF Bank, no arrests have been made yet.

Director Goch noted upcoming bid openings for a high service pump and a parking lot storm line. A pre-bid meeting for the Northwest Neighborhoods will be conducted mid-April. The project is expected to start in May.

Director Gomolka noted the City is expected to receive \$750,000 from the American Rescue Plan in federal aid.

Community Development Manager reported rental inspections will resume at the end of April, all MDHHS precautions will be taken.

Human Resources Manager Miller stated the City is currently hiring part-time seasonal help in the DPS.

#### **10. Updates from Councilmember Liaisons to Various Boards and Commissions**

Councilmember Pettengill asked Mr. Outlaw if the Small Town, Big Hearts campaign was launched this week. Mr. Outlaw relayed that the Brighton Area Schools has begun an initiative to help small businesses in Brighton. The Small Town, Big Hearts Patronicity platform has been opened to aid in these efforts and will be live April 6, 2021.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner met with the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission who voted to dissolve the commission and create the Community Enrichment Commission, however discussions will be ongoing. Also the Garden Club has reached out to the BACC to begin discussions on the gnome program. More information to come.

Councilmember Muzzin stated the Brighton Area Fire Authority met on February 11, 2021 where the annual report was presented. The Authority also obtained new legal counsel.

Mayor Pipoly noted the DDA met on March 16, 2021.

#### **New Business**

##### **10a. Approval of Complete Streets Policy, Resolution #2021-05**

**Motion** by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner to approve the Complete Streets Policy, resolution #2021-05. **The motion carried by roll call vote, with Councilmember Tobbe voting no.**

##### **10b. Motion of Approval to Apply to the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the Main Street Streetscape Project**

**Motion** by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner to approve to apply to the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant for the Main Street Streetscape Project. **The motion carried by roll call vote, with Councilmember Tobbe voting no.**

#### **11. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Initiation of a City Council Investigation per City Charter, Section 6.8. Investigations**

**Motion** by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Muzzin for City Council to direct City labor counsel to conduct an investigation on behalf of City Council as authorized by City Charter to investigate a situation between City Manager and former City Attorney. **The motion carried by roll call vote, with Mayor Pipoly voting no.**

#### **12. Discussion on Strategy of Sub-Committee for Obtaining Legal Representation**

No action taken, a brief update was given by those on the committee.

#### **13. Discussion and Possible Action on Covid19 Vaccination Assistance for Vulnerable and At-Risk City of Brighton Residents**

**Motion** by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Pettengill to direct City staff to reach out to the Livingston County Health Department to see what if anything the City would need to do to assist residents that are still looking for the COVID-19 vaccine and sign up including potentially sending out a mailer at the City's expense to our elderly residents with information about the vaccine and then also offering the City's Community Center as a potential

vaccination site. **The motion failed, with Councilmembers Bohn, Emaus, Gardner, Muzzin, Pettengill, and Pipoly voting no.**

**Motion** by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to direct City staff to reach out to the Livingston County Health Department for information that could be used in preparing a mailer that would go out to our senior citizens in the City providing resource and contact information for signing up for the vaccine. **The motion carried by roll call vote, with Councilmember Muzzin voting no.**

**14. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Communications Received from City Attorney dated March 4, 2021**

**Motion** by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Bohn to require Paul Burns to continue to represent us in the cases until the courts have granted his appropriate withdrawal under the rules of professional conduct both in the MTT and the 53<sup>rd</sup> District Court cases. **The motion carried by roll call vote, with Councilmembers Muzzin and Tobbe voting no.**

**Other Business**

**15. Call to the Public**

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 10:27 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, the Call to the Public was closed.

**16. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Councilmember Tobbe, seconded by Councilmember Muzzin to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 p.m. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

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Tara Brown, City Clerk

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Shawn Pipoly, Mayor