



Brighton City Council Minutes

City Hall Council Chambers • 200 N First St. • Brighton, Michigan 48116
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 15, 2018

1. Call to Order

Mayor Muzzin called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

3. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Muzzin, Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, Councilmembers: Emaus, Bohn, and Pettengill. Absent were Councilmembers Tobbe and Gardner. Staff: City Manager Nate Geinzer, Attorney Paul Burns, Assistant to the DPW Director/Deputy City Clerk Patty Thomas, Assistant to the City Manager, Jessica Lienhardt, DPW Director Marcel Goch, Police Chief Rob Bradford, Utilities Director Tim Krugh, Community Development/DDA Coordinator Brandon Skopek, Organization Relations Manager, Michelle Miller; Cemetery Sexton, Dave Dillard; and Gary Markstrom from TTMPs. There were 12 members in the audience.

Tom Tolen from WHMI was present.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill, to excuse Councilmembers Tobbe and Gardner from tonight's meeting for personal reasons. **The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Consider Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Geinzer requested to add an item under the consent agent. He would like to add a clarification to the proposed Headlee Override Millage language. The City Attorney has requested to add the word "public" before "streets" in the ballot language and heading

Motion by Councilmember Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, seconded by Councilmember Emaus, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. **The motion carried unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, seconded by Councilmember Emaus, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. **The motion carried unanimously.**

The following items were approved:

6. Approval of Tetra Tech Proposal for Services in the Amount Not to Exceed \$10,500 for an Update to the City's Water Rate Study

8. Approval of 2018 In-Service Days

8a. Clarification to the Proposed Headlee Override Millage language, adding the word “public” before the word “streets”.

Correspondence

5. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 1, 2018

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2018 as presented. **The motion carried with Councilmember Bohn abstaining.**

9. Eagle Scout Award and Presentation

Mayor Muzzin presented Carson Arcuri with a proclamation for his earning Eagle Scout. Mr. Arcuri provided a summary of his project.

10. Call to the Public

The Call to the Public was made at 7:38 p.m.

Ms. Betsy Huntley, Livingston County Clerk, stated that she has worked with Tara Brown, who is the new City Clerk, over the last two years with elections and her knowledgeable of elections is very broad. The City has made a wise choice.

The Call to the Public was closed at 7:39 p.m.

11. Staff Updates

Mr. Geinzer stated that Ms. Lienhardt has resigned her position at the City of Brighton. He was sorry to see her go; however, he was incredibly proud. She had helped propelled this City’s community engagement and communication initiatives forward beyond what he had ever hoped to achieve. She played an extensive role in assisting him and his staff in evaluating the City’s fiscal realities and helped to develop the recommendations that City Council approved unanimously. He made a great choice in hiring her to help him get things started as the new City Manager. He publicly thanked Ms. Lienhardt for all she has done for the City and wished her well in her next and all future endeavors.

Chief Bradford thanked his staff for their hard work in assisting with their LIEN audit the previous day.

Mr. Skopek stated that there would be a special meeting of the Planning Commission on February 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. prior to their regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. to receive a Master Plan update from Giffels Webster and discuss the City’s Complete Streets Plan.

Mr. Goch advised that the DPW has used more salt than usual this season. Council and residents may see less salt usage going forward. Crews will concentrate on the necessary routes.

He introduced, Dave Dillard, who is now the Cemetery Sexton. He has been with the City for 20 years and has a lot of experience in the cemetery. He has many good ideas that have already been implemented.

Mayor Muzzin commended the DPW crews for their snow plowing this last weekend. Mr. Goch also thanked his crews and the utilities crews for helping.

Ms. Thomas advised that due to the Millpond Construction this spring and summer, the City will be offering the Sculpture Garden as an area to be rented for private events, such as weddings, parties, etc. You can contact her at the DPW for information or find the reservation form on the City's website.

12. Updates from Councilmember Liaisons to various Boards and Commissions

Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly had nothing to report.

Councilmember Bohn had nothing to report.

Councilmember Pettengill announced that the Imagination Station Spring Kickoff will be held this year on Saturday, May 12, 2018.

Councilmember Emaus had nothing to report.

Mayor Muzzin provided an update from the Brighton Area Fire Board from February 8, 2018.

Public Hearing

13. Conduct a Public Hearing and Consider Approval of Revised Cemetery Rules

Ms. Thomas reviewed the changes that are being proposed to the Cemetery Rules.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:51 p.m. with no response.

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, to approve the revised cemetery rules. **The motion carried unanimously.**

New Business

7. Approval of the A Taste of Brighton Civic Event Application

Mr. Geinzer provided a summary of the civic event and why they are requesting early approval.

City Council questioned what is being asked to be approved. Mr. Geinzer stated that Council was being asked to approve the civic event application only. The applicant simply included additional information as part of their application; however, it is not required as part of the civic event application.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly noted that there are three different addresses for A Taste of Brighton listed throughout the application. He would like to have the correct address confirmed.

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Emaus, to approve the A Taste of Brighton Civic Event Application. **The motion carried unanimously.**

14. Confirmation of City Clerk Appointment

Mr. Geinzer stated that based on the City of Brighton Charter, the City Clerk position requires confirmation from City Council. Staff is recommending that City Council confirm the appointment of Ms. Tara Brown who was selected through the interview process.

Ms. Miller introduced Ms. Tara Brown and provided her background. Ms. Brown introduced herself and stated she is honored to be part of the City of Brighton. All Councilmembers welcomed Ms. Brown.

Motion by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, to confirm the appointment of Tara Brown as the City Clerk. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Thomas swore in Ms. Brown.

15. Consider Approval of an Agreement with the Charter Township of Brighton to Exclude the Shepherd of the Lakes Parcels from the City's Water Service Area as Outlined in the 2008 Water Service Contract

Mr. Geinzer provided a summary of the request. Staff, the City Attorney, and City Engineer have gathered and presented the information that was requested when this item was discussed at a previous City Council meeting.

Councilmember Pipoly is concerned that this is setting a precedent for others who wish to be excluded from the contract. Mr. Burns noted that the agreement states that this parcel will be the only one who will be excluded due to the water quality issue they are experiencing. Mr. Markstrom stated that Shepherd of the Lakes is experiencing high levels of arsenic in their water, which is naturally occurring in the water in our area. Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly questioned if the service area map should be re-evaluated.

Councilmember Bohn believes that if there is water available closer to the church, then they should be allowed to access it. Allowing this is good government.

Councilmember Emaus is not satisfied with the agreement that is presented. The Council is being asked to make an exception to a legal agreement and he needs to know why. If it is because of the water quality health concerns and it is less expensive to connect to MHOG's system, then that sets a precedent for other properties in the area to request the same.

Commissioner Bohn stated that Brighton Township would be the entity that would be granting the exception first. If they choose not to accept the user, then the City would not be required to grant them an exception.

Mr. Markstrom stated that the reason Shepherd of the Lakes is able to connect is because it is on the corner of Hacker and Hyne and there is water main across from them on Hyne. There is no MHOG water

on Hacker Road. It is in the backyards of the homes along that road. The water main would have to be extended up and down Hacker Road for these homes to get service.

Chad of Shepherd of the Lakes Church stated that they have been urged by the Brighton Area Fire Marshall to connect to municipal water to meet their fire suppression needs due to the expansion that is being done at the church. They will be spending approximately \$250,000 to connect to MHOG's system.

Councilmember Bohn stated that he is a member of Shepherd of the Lakes Church and he will not be voting on a motion this evening.

It was suggested to table this item this evening until there is a full Council.

Mayor Muzzin would like to have a representative from MHOG present at the council meeting when this item is discussed.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Pipoly, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill, to table Item #15 until the next Council meeting. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Other Business

16. Call to the Public

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 8:45 p.m. Hearing and seeing none, the Call to the Public was closed at 8:45 p.m.

17. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Bohn, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Patty Thomas, Deputy Clerk

James Muzzin, Mayor