



Brighton City Council Meeting

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 AUGUST 2, 2018

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Muzzin, Councilmembers: Bohn, Emaus, Gardner, Pettengill, Pipoly, and Tobbe. Staff: City Manager Nate Geinzer, City Clerk Tara Brown, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, DPW Director Marcel Goch, Utilities Director Tim Krugh, Chief of Police Rob Bradford, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Deputy Clerk Patty Thomas, and Attorney Paul Burns. There were seventeen persons in the audience.

4. Consider Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Emaus, to approve the agenda as amended, adding item 10a to the consent agenda. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Councilmember Tobbe, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill, to approve the agenda with a clerical correction on date of the DDA meeting for the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2018. **The motion carried unanimously.**

5. Approval of Minutes: Study Session of July 19, 2018

6. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of July 19, 2018

7. Approval of Minutes: Closed Session of July 19, 2018

8. Approval to Recognize The Livingston County Chorale, DBA Livingston County Choirs (LCC) as a 501c3, Non-Profit For the Purpose of Obtaining a Charitable Gaming License

9. Appointment to Downtown Development Authority (Alexander Pushman)

10. Approval of Purchase: Public Services Vehicles

10a. Distribution of the Draft Comprehensive Master Plan

Correspondence

11. Call to the Public

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to Public at 7:34 p.m.

Jordan Genso spoke in favor of the Headlee Override Ballot Proposal and relayed his views on the merits of the proposal passing.

Susan Bakhaus stated her opposition to the ballot proposal.

Lynn Rosen stated that her sign, at Brighton Lake Road in opposition of the ballot proposal, was taken down. She stated that it was against election law to remove campaign signs.

Thaddeus McGaffey expressed his thanks to the City on behalf of A Taste of Brighton. The turnout for the Taste of Brighton event was the best yet. Keith Karp from Oh My Lolli also was present with Mr. McGaffey.

Pat Cole asked why Ms. Rosen's sign was taken down and stated that if it was in the right of way, it should be allowed.

Dennis Nauss would like to see a limit on political signs and bring code enforcement to deal with the excessive amounts of signs and large signs on lawns. He stated that signs in the right of way are a safety hazard. Mr. Nauss also would like the City to implement paid parking for the Downtown area.

12. Staff Updates

Chief Bradford stated that any political sign is personal property and any destruction, removal, or vandalism of political signs is considered an offense.

DPW Director Goch stated that the Second Street construction is moving along towards Walnut.

Assistant to the City Manager/DDA Coordinator Brandon Skopek updated Council on the DDA Bandshell project. The construction is three weeks behind due to weather.

Clerk Tara Brown stated that the August 7, 2018 primary absentee ballots need to be returned by 8:00 p.m. on election day to be counted. She stated that City Hall will be open to issue and receive absentee ballots from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 4, 2018.

Manager Nate Geinzer stated that any destruction or removal of conforming political signs from any campaign is taken seriously. Political signs are defined under Michigan Election Law. Further, campaign signs are considered property of the affiliated campaign and should be considered their property. Manager Geinzer thanked all who he spoke to either on the phone or in person at an informational open house for the honest discussions regarding the Headlee Override Ballot Proposal.

13. Updates from Councilmember Liaisons to various Boards and Commissions

Mayor Pro Tem Pipoly thanked Thaddeus McGaffey for the use of a golf cart to help a friend to the Taste of Brighton event. Mr. Pipoly stated that while he did not attend the last DDA meeting, but was happy to hear that the 150th Committee generated \$8,800.00

Councilmember Pettengill attended the recent DDA meeting and stated that the 150th Committee generated \$8,896.00. The funds will be dispersed as follows: \$500.00 will be donated to the historical society, \$4,000.00 will be used to purchase a memorial bench by the bandshell amphitheater, and

\$4,000.00 will be returned to the City. The remaining Brightonopoly games will be donated to the PSD to distribute for fundraisers.

Councilmember Bohn reported that the Planning Commission reviewed the final draft of the Master Plan update.

Councilmember Tobbe stated that the BACC met and are working on new and exciting ideas.

Councilmember Pettengill thanked the DPW crew for helping to get the new drinking fountains/refilling stations installed at the pavilion near the Imagination Station. The playground won 2018 People's Choice Award and was voted #8 best playground in Michigan by Best Things Michigan.

Councilmember Emaus thanked A Taste of Brighton for all their work on the successful event.

Mayor Muzzin attended the DDA meeting on July 24, 2018. They discussed collaborating with other groups to fund the City holiday lights. The Mayor's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., the cost is \$5.00. Mayor Muzzin recently received a letter from the daughter of decorated veteran Howard Hasbrouck who lives at Independence Village. It was Mr. Hasbrouck's 99th birthday recently, the Mayor wished him a very happy birthday.

Public Hearing

14. Conduct Public Hearing and Consider Adoption of Ordinance no. 582 - Amendments to Chapter 98 of the City's Code of Ordinances, and Map Amendments to the City of Brighton Zoning Map

Community Development Manager Mike Caruso briefly introduced the R-5 Zoning updates by City planning consultant Giffels Webster. He noted that Rod Arroyo from Giffels Webster was present to answer questions as well.

Mayor Muzzin opened the Public Hearing at 8:09 p.m.

Rich Benoit expressed his concern about the new zoning amendments should his home burn down, would he be able to rebuild. Mr. Caruso stated that Mr. Benoit can rebuild a single family home.

Jenny Bailey stated that she had not received any notification and asked why the City did not start small with rezoning in sections. She asked if the ground will support a large apartment if built near the Mill Pond. Mr. Caruso clarified that a notification other than a publication is not standard for ordinance amendments, only ZBA matters are noticed and site plans go before the Planning Commission. He further stated that the ground can accommodate anything if the building is engineered properly. Ms. Bailey asked if there was research on how property taxes and property value will be affected by the new district.

Susan Bakhaus stated her opposition to the rezoning and ordinance amendments.

Debra Teagen is upset by a potential large development, citing a picture that was recently published in the Livingston County Press & Argus.

Mayor Muzzin closed the Public Hearing at 8:36 p.m.

Councilmember Tobbe asked to hear from Rod Arroyo from Giffels Webster to hear their background, the direction of Cities in their experience, other similar projects, and information on effects on property value.

Rod Arroyo briefly described that ordinance amendments now accurately reflect the City's previous Master Plan clarifying the need and desire to have a downtown multifamily use is very desirable, briefly touching on Councilmember Tobbe's questions.

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pipoly to Adopt Ordinance no. 582 – Amendments to Chapter 98 of the City's Code of Ordinances, and Map Amendments to the City of Brighton Zoning Map. **The motion carried by roll call vote.**

Other Business

15. Call to the Public

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to Public at 8:36 p.m.

Susan Bakhaus listed the education of all applicants for the Community Development Director position, then asked why one was hired over another.

Jenny Bailey would like to see something done about the loud gas haulers along Second Street and asked if there were ordinances about signs or items that are intended to be business signs.

Thaddeus McGaffey stated that Keith Karp of Oh My Lolli wished to thank Council and staff for installing the water fountains/refilling stations near the Imagination Station.

16. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Tobbe, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pipoly, to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk

James Muzzin, Mayor