



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 NOVEMBER 21, 2019

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pipoly called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Pipoly, Mayor Pro Tem Gardner, Councilmembers: Bohn, Emaus, Muzzin, Pettengill, and Tobbe. City Manager Nate Geinzer, City Clerk Tara Brown, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, Human Resources Manager Michelle Miller, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Assistant to the DPS Director Patty Thomas, Chief Rob Bradford, Attorney Paul Burns, and Attorney Greg Shultz. There were nine persons in the audience.

4. Consider Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Pettengill, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve the agenda as presented. **The motion carried without objection.**

Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the consent agenda as presented. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

5. Approval of Minutes: Study Session Meeting of November 7, 2019

6. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 7, 2019

7. Approval of Minutes: Special Biennial Election Meeting of November 11, 2019

8. Award of Building Generator Maintenance Bid to PM Tech for a Contract Period of Three Years, with Two Optional One-Year Extensions

9. Approval of Resolution #19-20 Requesting Reallocation of MERS Assets Between Linked Divisions

Correspondence

10. Call to the Public

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 7:35 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, Mayor Pipoly closed the Call to the Public at 7:35 p.m.

11. Staff Updates

Chief Bradford updated that the City of Brighton Police Department is accepting applications for a position at the Police Department. All application information is on the city's website, under Human Resources. It was asked if the position is to fill last year's vacancy that was a result as a retirement, Chief Bradford stated that the opening is a result of a recent resignation.

Director Goch updated that leaf pickup crews will be back out to vacuum leaves during the week of November 25, 2019. Snow should be gone by then allowing the crews to make one more pass throughout the city. Also the planned completion of the final leveling course for Rickett Road has been canceled due to weather. The city contractor has winterized the project and Rickett Road now open for traffic. Mr. Goch anticipates that road work will resume early

spring, only closing the road for a few days to complete the work. All work done and to be completed is under warrantee, any issues that may come up during the spring will be covered by the contractor. However, it is important to note that all underground utilities work has been addressed.

Mayor Pipoly asked if the delay in work was a result of the contractor or weather, Mr. Goch stated the delay was a result of the weather. Councilmember Tobbe asked if city residents can mulch their remaining leaves, Mr. Goch stated residents can mulch as needed. Councilmember Bohn asked if Waste Management can extend the leaf bag pickup into December, Mr. Goch stated that it would be quite costly to extend the service but will check with Waste Management. Councilmember Pettengill complimented the DPW staff for all of their hard work vacuuming the leaves and cleaning the streets. Mr. Goch stated that leaf pickup will continue until it snows again. Councilmember Muzzin also expressed his appreciation for the work done by the DPW leaf removal crew. Councilmember Pettengill asked if vacuuming wet leaves causes more wear and tear on the equipment, Mr. Goch confirmed that removing leaves while they are wet does cause more strain on the machinery.

Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka stated that the winter tax bills will be mailed out on November 27, 2019 and are due on or before March 2, 2020.

Manager Geinzer stated that as the DDA discusses the streetscape, he would like to investigate where handicap parking may fit in. He has received calls asking about the possibility of creating on street handicap accessible parking downtown. Design recommendations will be investigated with Director Goch.

12. Updates from Councilmember Liaisons to Various Boards and Commissions

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner discussed the recent State of the County Address given by County Commission Chairman Donald Parker on October 30, 2019, the recording of the meeting is available on the county's website. She found it interesting that the birth rate has declined below the death rate which will adversely affect county growth.

Councilmember Bohn and the Planning Commission met on November 18, 2019 and approved a one-year extension to DTN for a project on Second Street that will start summer of 2020. Also the Board conducted a conceptual plan review for Shafter Development for 504 Second Street and reviewed zoning ordinance amendments and set a public hearing.

Councilmember Muzzin reported that the Brighton Area Fire Authority on November 14, 2019. The Fire Authority received an unmodified opinion and renewed the accounting services contract of Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka for three years. The Authority also discussed the expansion of Station 32 with plans to be presented during the December 19, 2019 meeting.

Councilmember Tobbe reported that the Principal Shopping District met to discuss next steps.

Councilmember Emaus wished to express his gratitude to all who came out to honor the Veterans during the Veterans Day parade and during the ceremony at The AMP, honoring Representative Elissa Slotkin, her husband, Dave Moore, and Councilmember Muzzin. Vet Life members Joe Riker and Josh Parish were very pleased by the overwhelming attendance of Boots and Brews pub crawl which started directly after the parade from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The participating restaurants and stores were very busy during the event. The next meeting of the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee will be held during the spring. Mr. Emaus is participating in No Shave November to bring awareness to men's health, both physical and mental. Suicide is among the leading cause of death behind testicular cancer. He encourages all men of all ages to reach out to your friends and check in.

Councilmember Pettengill reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals met on November 14, 2019 to review a variance for 1293 Brighton Lake Road which was tabled until December 12, 2019.

Mayor Pipoly stated that the DDA met on November 19, 2019, they discussed and ultimately approved a right of first refusal to an offer relating to 206 E. Grand River and approved the Chair to execute a quit claim deed relating to 206 E.

Grand River. Mr. Pipoly also reported that he had a great conversation with Representative Elissa Slotkin's husband, Dave Moore, about his service in the military as well as Mr. Pipoly's father who served in World War II. Habitat for Humanity is hosting a golf outing, proceeds will benefit home repairs for Veterans, more information to come. Also the Holiday Glow event downtown Brighton will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 23, 2019. This event is made possible and organized by the Chamber of Commerce.

Public Hearing

13. Conduct a Public Hearing for Proposed Ordinance #589, Text Amendments to Chapter 90 of the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances: Specific Rates and Charges

Community Development Manager Mike Caruso introduced the agenda item noting that the first reading of the proposed ordinance amendment was held on October 3, 2019. He discussed an overview of the ordinance and expressed that the proposed amendment is a continuation of customer service to applicants.

Mayor Pipoly opened the Public Hearing at 7:59 p.m.

A young Boy Scout spoke about suicide awareness and its importance as his mother, a local teacher, lost one of her best students recently to suicide. He stated that kids and adults should be comfortable to talk to their friends.

Mayor Pipoly closed the Public Hearing at 8:01 p.m.

Councilmember Muzzin stated his appreciation to the young man for speaking out about suicide and encouraged him to always feel comfortable to express himself and speak to his friends.

Councilmember Emaus asked if the proposed ordinance amendment becomes the automatic installment plan or if there is another option. Mr. Caruso clarified there are two options, full fee paid at time of application or the proposed ordinance #589 installment plan.

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner to approve proposed ordinance #589, text amendments to Chapter 90 of the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances: Specific Rates and Charges. **The motion carried without objection.**

New Business

14. Consider Entering Closed Session for Strategy Session Connected with the Negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement Pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) and to Receive Written Attorney-Client Privileged Communications Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h)

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to enter into closed session for strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) and to receive written attorney-client privileged communications pursuant to MCL 15.268(h). **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

City Council reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:51 p.m.

15. Consider Approval of POLC-Command Officers and POLC-Patrol Officers Collective Bargaining Agreement and Authorize the Mayor and City Manager to Execute All Necessary and Related Documents

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Muzzin to approve the POLC-Command Officers and POLC-Patrol Officers collective bargaining agreements and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute all necessary and related documents. **The motion carried without objection.**

16. Consider Possible Actions Resulting from Closed Session

Motion by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to approve the recommendations within the Keller Thoma letter dated November 19, 2019 regarding employee separation agreement as discussed in closed session to be approved by Labor Counsel. **The motion carried without objection.**

17. Consider Approval of Budget Amendment to Facilitate Optional Conversions from Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution Retirement Benefits for Existing Employees

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Tobbe to approve a one-time budget amendment of \$60,000 to facilitate optional conversions from defined benefit to defined contribution retirement benefits for four existing employees. **The motion carried without objection.**

Other Business

18. Call to the Public

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 8:55 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, Mayor Pipoly closed the Call to the Public at 8:55 p.m.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Tobbe, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. **The motion carried without objection.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk

Shawn Pipoly, Mayor