



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 JANUARY 16, 2020

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, Mayor Pro Tem Gardner, Councilmembers: Bohn, Muzzin, Pettengill, and Tobbe. Absent: Councilmember Emaus. Also present were City Manager Nate Geinzer, City Clerk Tara Brown, Community Development Manager Mike Caruso, Finance Director Gretchen Gomolka, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Superintendent Daren Collins, Chief Rob Bradford, and Attorney Paul Burns. There were six persons in the audience.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to excuse Councilmember Emaus for personal reasons. **The motion carried without objection.**

4. Consider Approval of the Agenda

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

5. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Bohn to approve the consent agenda as amended clarifying Consent Agenda item d that Councilmember Tobbe will be reappointed to the PSD as a Council Liaison. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: Study Session Meeting of December 19, 2019**
- b. **Approval of Minutes: Closed Meeting of December 19, 2019**
- c. **Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of December 19, 2019**
- d. **Approval of Reappointment to Various Boards and Commissions**
- e. **Approval of 2020 Poverty Exemption Resolution, #20-01**
- f. **Approval of 2020 City Council Meeting Dates**
- g. **Approval of Resolution #20-02, Rejection of Proposal for Purchase and Development of Vacant City Owned Real Property**

Councilmember Emaus arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Correspondence

6. Call to the Public

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 7:35p.m.

Lynette Budnik introduced herself and stated she is a representative from Christina Lyke's office, a candidate for the 8th district running in the August Primary Election 2020.

Mayor Pipoly closed the Call to the Public at 7:35 p.m.

7. Staff Updates

Director Goch noted a snow emergency has been issued due to the impending weather. No on-street parking will be allowed along all streets in the City of Brighton. The snow emergency will be in effect from 10:00 p.m. Friday, January 17, 2020 until 12:00 p.m. Sunday, January 19, 2020. He also noted there will be a shift in traffic on the south/eastbound Grand River lanes between Main Street and North Street to allow a water service tie-in for a new business, date to follow. Please check social media and the City website for more information and updates.

Clerk Brown stated the March 10, 2020 absentee ballot applications have been sent to all voters on the permanent absentee list. If you would like to vote by absentee ballot, please contact the Clerk's office.

Manager Geinzer stated the biannual Citizen Survey postcards have been sent to residents and business owners in the City with instructions to take the survey. There are two options, online or a mailed paper copy.

8. Updates from Councilmember Liaisons to Various Boards and Commissions

Councilmember Tobbe updated that the Brighton Arts and Culture Commission received a presentation by a local sculptor for a possible new installation downtown Brighton. More information to come.

Councilmember Muzzin and the Brighton Area Fire Authority met on January 9, 2020 to conduct its annual organizational meeting. At the meeting several members were reappointed, Vice Chair-Bill Rogers, Treasurer-Shawn Pipoly, and Secretary-Mike Corrigan.

Councilmember Pettengill stated the ZBA met on January 9, 2020 and granted a variance to Advance Craft builders with a reduced four-foot setback plan from the regulated wetlands.

Councilmember Emaus apologized for his tardiness due to a personal family matter.

Mayor Pipoly stated the scheduled DDA meeting was canceled due to lack of agenda items. However, he updated that the Brighton Area Fire Authority is in preliminary talks of a possible merger between Hartland and the Brighton Area Fire Authority. More information to come, the next BAFA meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2020.

New Business

9. Consider Approval of Point and Pay, LLC E-Services Agreement

Director Gomolka introduced the agenda item noting the merits of Point and Pay over its competitor who are the two current service providers that integrate with the City's existing BS&A software. Ms. Gomolka indicated that ease of use, customer service, and low fee were the driving forces in choosing the recommended provider.

Councilmember Pettengill asked if there will be any change to current auto pay enrollees. Director Gomolka indicated that Point and Pay will only effect those customers who pay by charge card and will not affect auto pay customers.

Councilmember Bohn asked if the software can be used for all City services such as police and DPW. Director Gomolka stated that all City services can be paid with a charge card if the Point and Pay agreement is approved.

Councilmember Emaus asked if there were any additional fees, noting the \$50 fee for additional credit machines. Director Gomolka stated two charge card machines come with the approval of the contract however if the City requires additional units, the machines can be purchased for an additional \$50 each. Councilmember Emaus asked if there were enough funds within the IT budget to allow for additional machines if necessary. Director Gomolka stated there is enough fund to cover additional charge machines.

Councilmember Emaus then asked if Attorney Burns was comfortable with the contract as presented. Attorney Burns indicated that he usually does not recommend evergreen contracts (renews automatically) but has looked at both contracts and the contract with Point and Pay is by far the better option.

Councilmember Bohn asked if there is an issue with the Point and Pay software, staff would bring it to Council's attention and the contract will be terminated per the terms laid out in the contract. Director Gomolka indicated that there would be an update to Council should any issues arise and the contract does allow for a 60-day notice of cancelation, but renews annually after the initial three-year term.

Motion by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve of Point and Pay, LLC E- Services Agreement. **The motion carried without objection.**

10. Award Bid for 2019 Forestry Services (2) to Dukes Tree Services, LLC in the Amount of \$21,610 and Approve of a Budget Amendment Transferring \$21,610 from General Fund Balance to the Major/Local Street Funds

Director Goch introduced the agenda item noting the recent storm during July took a lot of trees and branches down as well as a portion of the tree maintenance budget. Upon planning for the upcoming season a bid for forestry services was issued in which the City trees were evaluated with a final cost estimate of those in most need. The focus was primarily in the southwest quadrant of the City however trees throughout the City were evaluated. Twenty-eight bids were pulled and eight responses were ultimately submitted of which two were late and not accepted. All references for Dukes Tree Services were checked and reported favorable reviews. The intent is to stay ahead of trees in need of maintenance and to maintain safety throughout the City.

Councilmember Bohn stated the estimates have a very large spread from \$21,000 to \$81,000. He asked if we are getting what we need with the lower bid and asked the reasoning the large gap. Director Goch stated that he is confident in the price and contractor.

Councilmember Emaus remains cautious with this service as it was not budgeted and the request for additional funding. He asks that the severity and scope of the project is carefully evaluated and the necessity is there to make the fund transfer. He also questioned that most of the work to be done is in the southwest quadrant. Director Goch noted that based on his evaluation the most mature trees in the City are in the southwest quadrant and he would like to start there moving to a new quadrant each year to get into a cycle for tree maintenance. He further stated that not all of the trees on the list of maintenance are in the southwest quadrant. Councilmember Emaus asked if the amount requested is enough to address the tree maintenance needs and would additional funding be necessary or can the maintenance wait.

City Manager Geinzer noted that a multi-year contract may be added into the budget to mitigate safety and storm risks. Council discussed the necessity of the tree service taking into consideration that some trees are in need of maintenance soon. Manager Geinzer noted that he would not be in favor of delaying tree services, but would ask staff to further evaluate high priority tree maintenance needs elsewhere in the City.

Councilmember Pettengill asked if the 500 trees to be evaluated/maintained are entirely in the southwest quadrant and asked how many trees will need to come down. Director Goch noted that a majority of the trees are in the southwest quadrant however there are some outside the area. He further stated that approximately nine trees will need to be removed for safety reasons.

Motion by Councilmember Tobbe, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner to award the bid for 2019 Forestry Services (2) to Dukes Tree Services, LLC in the amount of \$21,610 and approval of a budget amendment transferring \$21,610 from general fund balance to the Major/Local Streets Funds. **The motion carried, Mayor**

Pipoly abstained.

11. Consider Approval of Second Amendment to the City Manager's Employment Agreement

Council briefly discussed the amendment recommended by the City Attorney.

Motion by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to approve the second amendment to the City Manager's employment agreement as presented and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the agreement. **The motion carried without objection.**

12. Consider Entering Closed Session to Receive Written Attorney-Client Privileged Communication Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h)

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to enter into closed session to receive written attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to MCL 15.268(h). **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

City Council reconvened the regular City Council Meeting at 8:22 p.m.

13. Consider Possible Actions Resulting from Closed Session

Motion by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to direct the City Manager proceed as discussed in closed session and to execute the agreement if approved as recommended by labor counsel. **The motion carried without objection.**

Other Business

14. Call to the Public

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 8:23p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, Mayor Pipoly closed the Call to the Public at 8:23 p.m.

15. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Tobbe, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. **The motion carried without objection.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk

Shawn Pipoly, Mayor