



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 NOVEMBER 19, 2020

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Mayor Pipoly and 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, DPS Director Marcel Goch, Human Resources Manager Michelle Miller, Management Assistant Henry Outlaw, Police Chief Rob Bradford, DPS Superintendent Daren Collins, Attorney Paul Burns, and Attorney Jeff Alber. There were two persons in the audience.

4. Consider Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Tobbe to approve the agenda as amended adding item 12a. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

5. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda Items

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

Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes: Study Session of November 5, 2020**
- b. **Approval of Minutes: Regular Session of November 5, 2020**
- c. **Approval to Amend the Existing Adoption Agreement for the MERS Defined Benefit (DB) Plan as Requested and Authorize the City Manager to Execute all Necessary and Related Documents**

Correspondence

6. Call to the Public

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 7:34 p.m. Hearing and seeing no comment, Mayor Pipoly closed the Call to the Public at 7:34 p.m.

7. Staff Updates

Director Goch noted repairs on Grand River is moving along. Leaf pickup is continuing until the end of the month. The first round of utility reads in Pine Creek were conducted starting the week of November 9, 2020. The DPS is working split crews to ensure coverage of services and for the safety of employees.

Community Development Manager Caruso ensured residents the building department is open and is conducting business by email or drop box.

Director Gomolka relayed the City recently passed its five-year assessing audit with one hundred percent compliance.

Human Resources Manager Miller noted remote working requirements have been sent to employees, most clerical is working from City Hall and DPS is working split shifts to maintain compliance.

Clerk Brown stated the County Board of Canvassers have certified the November 3, 2020 election and the canvass was clean.

Management Assistant Outlaw reported the Patronicity campaign to fund holiday lights has raised \$8,500 so far, if anyone wishes to help fund the holiday lights, please visit patronicity.com/project/brighton_holiday_lights.

8. Updates from Councilmember Liaisons to Various Boards and Commissions

Councilmember Pettengill noted Cornerstone Church is sponsoring a drive through Thanksgiving Dinner, Wednesday, November 25, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. More information can be found on Cornerstone Church Facebook page or website. Simply Give program is back for donations more information can be found at Meijer for those who wish to participate

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner thanked City staff and leadership for working hard and keeping services as normal for the residents during the pandemic. Mayor Pro Tem Gardner was contacted by a resident who was concerned about the safety for the USPS employees who are out working during the evening. Ms. Gardner noted that she would bring it to the attention during the City Council meeting.

Councilmember Muzzin stated the Brighton Area Fire Authority November 12, 2020 virtually meeting and received a clean audit for year ending June 30, 2020 with rave reviews by Pfeffer, Hanniford, & Palka CPA's. The BAFA received an update on Station 33 and will be out to bid in January. Greg Mowbry, BAFA Chief of Training, recently graduated second out of forty-six in his class for Fire and Command at Eastern Michigan. The program is the gold standard for leadership and development in fire service.

Councilmember Emaus stated the Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee is continuing to sell and install pavers at the memorial. More information on how to obtain a paver can be found on the Committees website or Facebook page. The DDA approved advertising on WHMI to help local businesses within the DDA district. The Brighton Pass will benefit the nonprofit agencies in town.

Management Assistant Outlaw and Denise Murray from Ann Arbor SPARK have assembled a Shopping Pass program to bolster shopping throughout the City which will be distributed and benefit nonprofit agencies. More information to come as the program rolls out.

Mayor Pipoly noted the DDA voted to utilize Giffels Webster for the Main Street streetscape design project. The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority(BRA) reviewed a draft plan to move forward on a potential project, once approved by the BRA, the project plan will come to City Council for final approval. He thanked all for a monumental first year as Mayor, particularly City staff, management, and fellow Councilmembers for the support during this challenging year.

Public Hearing

9. Conduct a Public Hearing and Consider Adoption of Ordinance #594, Amending Chapter 78, Article III, Section 78-80, Snow Removal of the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances

Community Development Manager Caruso presented the newly crafted ordinance amendments to the Snow Ordinance and stated he is available for questions.

Mayor Pipoly opened the public hearing at 7:51 p.m.

Susan Bakhaus expressed her gratitude to City Council for extending snow removal time.

Mayor Pipoly closed the public hearing at 7:54 p.m.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Tobbe to adopt ordinance #594, amending Chapter 78, article III, section 78-80, Snow Removal of the City of Brighton Code of Ordinances. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

New Business

10. Consider Awarding the bid for the Nelson Street Booster Station Replacement to Kennedy Industries Inc. in the Amount of \$146,280.00, with a 10% Contingency, for a Total Cost not to Exceed \$160,908

Director Goch introduced the agenda item noting the amount requested is needed to procure equipment needed

for the booster station.

Councilmember Bohn asked if the amount requested is for install as well. Director Goch stated the request is solely for equipment.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner remarked her happiness to be ahead on this project and that the upgrade will be paid for by the developer of the Spring Hill development.

Motion by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Councilmember Emaus to award the bid for the Nelson Street booster station to Kennedy Industries Inc. in the amount of \$146,280.00, with a 10% contingency, for a total cost not to exceed \$160,908. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

11. Discussion of Biennial Citizen Survey Results

Manager Geinzer stated City Council asked for the Survey results to be on the agenda and therefore City staff is available for clarification and to answer questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner would like to investigate ways to encourage younger folks to participate in the survey as the segment of residents are not represented as much as others. The survey has a large percentage of homes with no children and those over 55 years old.

Councilmember Muzzin pointed out the results are from 2019 which is pre pandemic.

Councilmember Emaus noted the high number of folks with no interaction with City Council. Mr. Emaus is optimistic services like text messaging apps and the eNewsletter will strengthen communications with residents and would like to find more ways to reach residents.

Councilmember Pettengill stated that she was looking forward to a presentation of the survey findings.

Councilmember Emaus stated this type of discussion is best suited for a City Council retreat. He further expressed that the agenda item presented was to narrow the scope for City Staff to craft a detailed presentation for further discussion.

Manager Geinzer noted marijuana will need to be revisited at a future study session or retreat as per the City Councils direction. Mr. Geinzer stated an email will be sent to align schedules for a retreat.

12a. Consider Temporary Downtown Parking

Motion by Councilmember Emaus, seconded by Councilmember Pettengill to enable City Staff to establish temporary parking on Main Street and Grand River adjacent to businesses up to fifty percent be temporary until January 10, 2020 in coordination with City Staff. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

Councilmember Pettengill asked how quickly signage can be placed to allow for temporary parking. Director Goch stated it may take a week to purchase the signage and bases.

Councilmember Emaus would like to volunteer to help place signage or provide help where needed.

Councilmember Pettengill also offered her help to facilitate sign placement and help as needed.

Other Business

12. Call to the Public

Mayor Pipoly opened the Call to the Public at 8:29 p.m.

Susan Bakhaus remarked, in response to citizen survey topic regarding marijuana businesses and a discussion at a recent DDA meeting, that some businesses may have a morality clause in their lease agreements.

Craig Wood spoke regarding walkability in Downtown Brighton.

Mayor Pipoly closed the Call to the Public at 8:32 p.m.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Gardner, seconded by Councilmember Tobbe to adjourn the Study Session at 8:33

p.m. **The motion carried without objection by roll call vote.**

Tara Brown, City Clerk

Shawn Pipoly, Mayor