

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BRIGHTON
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2013 AT THE BRIGHTON CITY HALL
200 N. 1ST STREET, BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN

BLUE SKY SESSION

The Council conducted a Blue Sky Session at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Muzzin, Councilmembers Bohn, Bandkau, Roblee, Cooper and Pipoly. The Council reviewed the agenda items.

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Muzzin called the regular meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called. Present were Mayor Muzzin, Councilmembers Bandkau, Pipoly, Cooper, Roblee and Bohn. Also in attendance were Attorney Paul Burns, Staff members Dana Foster, Dave Blackmar, Amy Cyphert, Jennifer Burke and Tom Wightman and an audience of 9. Press and Media included Tom Tolen of WHMI.

It was moved by Councilmember Bohn, supported by Roblee to excuse Councilmember Schillinger from the evening's meeting. Motion passed 6-0-1.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Councilmember Pipoly, seconded by Roblee to approve the agenda as amended. Delete item #9, SELCRA Board Appointment and #19, Closed Session. Add item #15a. Direction regarding a citizen meeting request involving City Manager, Council Member Bohn and Greg Gray regarding senior citizen funding. Motion passed 6-0-1.

EAGLE SCOUT AWARD AND GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Muzzin read and presented an Eagle Scout Proclamation to Michael Bonomo.

Michael Bonomo stated his Eagle Scout Project was performed at the Livingston Land Conservancy next to the Brighton District Library where he cleared out invasive plantings and three bird houses and two benches were installed.

Mayor Muzzin read and presented a Girl Scout Gold Award to the parents of Andrea Bonomo.

MINUTE APPROVAL

It was moved by Councilmember Cooper, seconded by Roblee to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of August 15, 2013 with the following changes, page 1, under Minute Approval, should state Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper. Motion passed 6-0-1.

It was moved by Councilmember Roblee, seconded by Cooper to approve the Closed Session minutes of August 15, 2013 as presented. Motion passed 6-0-1.

CITIZEN INQUIRIES

Mayor Muzzin read a Citizen's Inquiry from Pat Cole: Why are Blue Sky Meetings, prior to the 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting, Not televised?

City Attorney, Paul Burns stated Council can vote to televise Blue Sky Sessions.

Mayor Muzzin read a Citizens Inquiry from Susan Walters-Steinacker: Why is the City of Brighton charging Genoa Township, for Pine Creek subdivision, the exact same water and sewer REU rates as Brighton city residents pay, per Genoa Townships legal notice of 8-19-13?

City Manager, Dana Foster stated the rates are what they are pursuant to the Contractual Agreement between Genoa Township and the City of Brighton and to defer this inquiry until the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Muzzin read a Citizens Inquiry from Susan Walters-Steinacker: What is the loss in city taxes with the removal of the Barton homes? What was the cost to remove? What is the loss in city taxes with the removal of the chamber house? What was the cost to remove? What is the loss in city taxes with the removal of the Johnson building? What was the cost to remove? What was the total dollar loss in the sale of the Mexican Jones building?

City Manager, Dana Foster stated that Staff does not have the requested numbers this evening and we will report at next City Council meeting.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 7:57 p.m.

Pat Cole, Brighton City, stated that Mayor Muzzin juried Councilmembers and they did make a vote at last Blue Sky session.

Hugh & Becky Munce, 125 N. 3rd Street, commented on proposal 13-01, stating they have the worst streets and they are supportive of the proposal, namely 13-01. The streets need to be improved with sidewalks, drainage, curb and gutter. They submitted a petition from neighborhood supporting this Proposal.

Dana Foster, City Manager stated Council will finalize a list of streets to be improved and stated the Northwest neighborhood curb and gutter projects need to be a high priority.

Mayor Muzzin thanked Mr. & Mrs. Munce for their work and support.

Hearing no further comment, the Call to the Public was closed at 8:12 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Roblee to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed 6-0-1.

The following item was approved:

1. Appointed Claudia Roblee to fill the DDA District Resident vacancy on the DDA Board.
2. Approved Resolution 13-18, Amendment to the fee schedule for a residential rental registration fee, and Resolution 13-19, Liquor license fee required by a new related state law for future possible civic events that want to include wine vendors with on-site wine tasting.
3. Approved an extension of the existing building inspection services contract with the Livingston County Building Department.

NORTHRIDGE PONDS ZONING VIOLATIONS

City Manager, Dana Foster stated the Northridge Ponds developer is in violation of the zoning ordinance, which requires ZBA approval of hauling dirt/soil away from site if not used for the development itself. Mr. Davis is also in violation for the use of a temporary construction trailer being used as a sales office, which is not permitted by zoning ordinance and that he submitted an application for the October Zoning Board of Appeals if he wanted to pursue the removal of topsoil on his Northridge Ponds site.

Councilmember Bohn expressed his concerns regarding dust control, noise and safety with the current operation. He stated he would send an email to the City Manager with his concerns for the ZBA Board to consider.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper requested that Mr. Davis submit information prior to the ZBA meeting and that Council be informed of a plan prior to going to ZBA.

Council asked the City Manager to send a follow-up letter to developer following the Council Meeting and if violations occur between now and the ZBA Meeting, the issue will be discussed at City Council for further action.

Mayor Pro-Cooper asked Planning & Zoning Director, Amy Cyphert to obtain a copy of requirements for gravel pit operations.

HEADLEE MILLAGE LID OVERRIDE ELECTION BALLOT PROPOSALS

City Manager, Dana Foster discussed the proposed ballot language and street, storm and sidewalk projects, which are being proposed as part of the millage. He gave a slide presentation and an updated listing on Street and Storm work projects including the Northwest neighborhood as well as a list of all Police related equipment and costs.

CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

There was Council discussion regarding the City Manager's Contract language changes, length of the contract, current economic situation, taking voluntary pay cuts, keeping him where he should be with wages and reviewing on an annual basis.

City Attorney, Paul Burns stated he will have a written agreement for the next City Council agenda with the proposed recommendations by the Subcommittee.

Dana Foster thanked the Subcommittee for their work on his employment agreement updates.

FUNDING FOR SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAM

Councilmember Bohn suggested we allocate \$7-8,000 to the Brighton Senior Center, similar to the SELCRA funding of \$30,000, provided there is an offset in the budget.

Pat Cole introduced Nikki Greathouse, who manages the Brighton Senior Center.

There was discuss regarding the existing school district funding for the Senior Center, a meeting is needed for more information regarding funding for the Senior Center and to make this an agenda item on the next City Council meeting.

CITY CUSTOMER INFORMATION

City Manager, Dana Foster stated that volunteers are needed for the Smokin' Jazz & Barbeque Blues Festival. He also stated the Biennial City Council Meeting is scheduled for the Monday following the November Election, which is Veterans Day.

City Attorney, Paul Burns stated he will review to determine if meeting can be changed due to the Veteran's Day Holiday.

City Manager, Dana Foster stated construction will begin September 16th on the Veteran's memorial.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper stated SELCRA met to discuss strategic planning,

Councilmember Bandkau gave an update on the Veteran's Memorial Project, stating there will be a booth at the Farmer's Market on Saturday's.

Councilmember Roblee discussed the Farm to Table Experience.

Mayor Muzzin discussed the due care plan for the Veteran's Memorial \$2500 contribution from the DDA, Creamery parking lot surfacing and lighting to be installed, 9/11 Memorial Walk/Run this weekend, Alzheimer's Walk on Sunday and the 9/11 Memorial on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin gave a Call to the Public at 10:08 p.m. The following comments were heard:

Pat Cole stated the purpose of the Senior Center meeting was to discuss Brighton City giving funds to the Senior Center. She thanked Council for placing it on the next City Council meeting.

Nikki Greathouse, Brighton City Resident, New Supervisor at Senior Center, stated the Senior Center is self-funded to provide travel trips, special events and bingo to seniors on fixed income and they are not able to afford pricing on certain activities.

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Hearing no further comment, the Call to the Public was closed at 10:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, seconded by Bandkau to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. Motion passed 6-0-1.

Diana Lowe, City Clerk

Jim Muzzin, Mayor