

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BRIGHTON
HELD ON MARCH 1, 2012 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, Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, Councilmembers Schillinger, Bandkau, Bohn, Pipoly and Roblee. The Council reviewed the agenda items.

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Muzzin called the regular meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called, there being present were Mayor Muzzin, Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, Councilmembers Schillinger, Bandkau, Pipoly, Roblee and Bohn. Also in attendance were Attorney Paul Burns and Staff members Dana Foster, Diana Lowe, Amy Cyphert, Matt Schindewolf, Tom Wightman and an audience of 1. Press and Media included Tom Darling from WHMI and Nicole Krawcke from The Patch.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, seconded by Bandkau to approve the Agenda as amended. Delete February 16, 2012 Closed Session minutes, item #8 SELCRA awards presentation, item #9, Veteran's Memorial project, item #17, Opinion Closed Session, #18, Tax Tribunal Closed Session and #19, Tax Tribunal action. Add item #7a, Amended SELCRA Articles of Incorporation. Motion passed 7-0.

MINUTES APPROVAL

It was moved by Councilmember Bohn, seconded by Pipoly to approve the corrected Regular Meeting minutes of February 16, 2012. Page 4, Pending Litigation Closed Session, should read: It was moved by Councilmember Bandkau... Councilmember Cooper abstained. Motion passed 6-0-1.

CITIZEN INQUIRIES

Mayor Muzzin read the following Citizen Inquiries:

Joan Richardson - I would like to know the nature of the law suit that the city has against the Bonners who own the delapidated houses on North Street. Those uninhabited buildings are an eyesore and are becoming a danger to the community.

City Attorney, Paul Burns stated she could receive a copy of the original complaint regarding the Bonner homes.

Patricia A. Cole – In regards to the Veterans Memorial, Please explain exactly who the "Veterans" are? Where was the meeting held? What made the meeting "Very productive, very positive"? Please explain why a City Council person is appointed to a "private Veteran's Committee"? By what authority is any Councilperson appointed as liaison to any "private citizen's committee"?

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City Attorney, Paul Burns stated any City Councilmember can attend any meeting they want to and provide information to the City Council.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin opened the Call to the Public at 7:39 p.m. The following comments were heard:

Pat Cole stated it remains unclear why there is a Councilmember appointed to the Veteran's Memorial Project, which is a private citizens committee and the project should be less expensive.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Muzzin closed the Call to the Public at 7:43 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, seconded by Pipoly to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

The following item was approved on the Consent Agenda

1. Amended SELCRA Articles of Incorporation.

CITY HALL FACILITY REPORT

City Manager, Dana Foster gave a report regarding the City Hall facility analysis and leasing options, stating there are five decision points. 1. Authorization to engage Piet Lindhout and his firm to do the space-needs analysis. 2. Direction with regards to any further information needed. 3. Direction regarding the previous in-house staff-developed cost-benefit analysis and as an alternative, authorizing the City Manager to engage the consulting division of our Auditing Firm of Plante-Moran to review the subject 2011 in-house staff-developed cost-benefit analysis and to then provide any related additional analysis for City Council to consider at a consulting fee cost not to exceed \$ 500. 4. Give direction as to what else City Council may want from WCA, our contracted assessment firm, to do for us to add to that previous report/analysis. 5. Does City Council want to give me any further direction to pursue with regards to the existing Community Center related contract/agreement w/Rotary and the Scout Troop.

It was moved by Councilmember Bandkau, seconded by Pipoly to authorize item #1, Engage Piet Lindhout and his firm to do a space needs analysis up to \$720.00. Motion passed 7-0.

UTILITY BOND REFINANCING PROCESS

City Manager, Dana Foster updated City Council on the pending Utility Bond Refinancing process, including rating, upcoming pricing and executing a bond purchase agreement. He thanked Kelly Hanna and Staff for the work on this.

BUDGET PREPARATION PROCESS

City Manager, Dana Foster reported on the Budget Preparation process stating we are on our normal budget calendar and Council should see the budget at the next City Council meeting. The first Budget Worksession will be March 20, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

CITY CUSTOMER INFORMATION

City Manager, Dana Foster stated Downtown Development Authority/Community Development Director, Matt Modrack has worked out with two banks the façade loan program so that the DDA fund will not be loaning or borrowing any funds. He gave credit to Matt Modrack for being able to find a way to do this according to the legal advice given by Miller, Canfield and for meeting the requirements of the grant totaling \$108,000. He thanked First National Bank and Livingston Community Bank for being able to do this program.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper stated the MRPA awarded the Green Oak Village Place Mall with the 2012 Community Service Award. He gave an update on participation in the SELCRA programs.

Councilmember Roblee stated the Detroit Institute of Arts is deferring the Inside Out Art Program for one year.

Mayor Muzzin gave a DDA update stating 121 North Street has been purchased for a potential site for a parking structure. He thanked State Representative Bill Rogers and State Senator Joe Hune for participating and encouraging MDOT officials to attend a meeting with Livingston County Road Commissioner, Mike Craine regarding the I-96 Interchange and the City will be receiving a free modeling of what the Latson Road interchange will do for the I-96 interchange. They are willing to help with some small fixes for that area. He attended another successful Brighton Area Fire Authority Soup Out. He participated in the Polar Plunge stating over \$30,000 has been raised for Special Olympics and the Fashion Show at Downtown Main was successful. Molly Hincka won three metals in Greece at the Special Olympics.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin gave a Call to the Public at 8:33 p.m. Hearing no comment, the Call to the public was closed.

ATTORNEY/CLIENT WRITTEN COMMUNICATION CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Councilmember Roblee, seconded by Bandkau to go into Closed Session to discuss written Attorney/Client privilege communication pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) at 8:33 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Yes: Schillinger, Bohn, Muzzin, Bandkau, Roblee, Pipoly. No: none. Motion passed 7-0.

The Council convened into Closed Session at 8:35 p.m.

The Council reconvened the Regular Session at 8:58 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, seconded by Bandkau to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Diana Lowe, City Clerk

Jim Muzzin, Mayor