

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BRIGHTON**  
**HELD ON FEBRUARY 17, 2011 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 Bandkau, Councilmembers Schillinger, Muzzin, Bohn, Roblee, Cooper and Pipoly. The Council reviewed the agenda items.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Mayor Bandkau called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the roll was called, there being present were Mayor Bandkau, Councilmembers Schillinger, Bohn, Muzzin, Cooper, Roblee and Pipoly. Also in attendance were Attorney Paul Burns and Brad Maynes and Staff members Dana Foster, Diana Lowe, Jennifer Piasecki, Amy Cyphert, Matt Schindewolf, Kelly LaLonde, Tom Wightman, Matt Modrack and an audience of 38.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

It was moved by Councilmember Schillinger, seconded by Cooper to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 3, 2011 as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Cooper, seconded by Roblee to approve the two Closed Session minutes of February 3, 2011 as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Bandkau gave a Call to the Public at 7:31p.m. The following comments were heard:

Brian Bradford, business owner and Brighton resident, expressed his support of raising the P.O.W./M.I.A. flag at the Mill Pond.

Member of Rolling Thunder, stated they would be proud to have the P.O.W./M.I.A. flag at the Mill Pond.

Susan Walters-Steinacker stated the City has made a request of the court to have the Bonner homes repaired after two years of spending funds to have the homes demolished. She discussed the funds that the City Attorney receives every year.

Patricia Cole, Brighton City, stated she is impressed by the number of military members present this evening. She asked that item #9c, be moved to the first part of the Public Hearing.

City Manager, Dana Foster stated the recommended Cemetery Rules and Regulation changes would be coming back to City Council at the next meeting. Staff does not have any recommendations at this time.

Hearing no further comment, the Call to the Public was closed at 7:42 p.m.

### **CITIZEN INQUIRIES**

Mayor Bandkau read the following Citizen Inquiries: Susan Walters-Steinacker - Who requested that there be a confidentiality agreement for the Bonner home at 131 E. North Street.

Patricia Cole - Explain what "Other Post Employment Benefits have to do with utilities?"

Patricia Cole - Explain why the City doubles the "Administrative" fee for doing the same billing process once every two months?

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

It was moved by Councilmember Cooper, seconded by Schillinger to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Move to Action Agenda from Consent Agenda item #8, MIA/POW Flag. Delete item #15, City Labor Attorney Closed Session. Add item 11a, SELCRA by-laws. Motion passed 7-0.

Councilmember Muzzin stated the City Attorney does a good job for the City of Brighton. He addressed his retainer and health insurance.

### **MIA/POW FLAGS AT THE MILLPOND PARK FLAGPOLE**

Brian Bradford stated we have 88,000 men and women that have served our Country and not come home. He is paying for the first flag and Rolling Thunder is paying for any future costs with no cost to the City. The flag spans from World War II to present day. The major function of Rolling Thunder is to bring awareness of Prisoners left behind.

It was moved by Schillinger, seconded by Cooper to approve the request to add the P.O.W. and M.I.A. flag to the Mill Pond Park flagpole. Motion passed 7-0.

### **BRIGHTON CEMETERIES RULES AND REGULATIONS PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Bandkau closed the Regular meeting at 7:53 p.m. and opened up the Public Hearing for Citizen input on the City of Brighton Cemeteries' Rules and Regulations. The following comments were heard:

Patricia Cole, Brighton City, stated she has noticed an improvement at the cemetery. She suggested having a receptacle with Cemetery Rules and Regulations at Fairview.

Hearing no further comment, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:55 p.m.

It was moved by Councilmember Roblee, seconded by Bohn to direct City staff to add a weather proof box for the Cemetery Rules and Regulations at Fairview cemetery. Motion passed 5-2, with Councilmember Schillinger and Cooper voting "no".

### **THE POUND SITE PLAN**

Acting Community Development/Planning Director, Amy Cyphert briefed the City Council on The Pound site plan located at 139 W. Main Street.

Piet Lindhout, Architect for the Pound gave a presentation on the proposed site plan. He highlighted the exterior building materials, Main Street façade, outdoor café, rooftop decking and a raised deck in the rear of the building.

It was moved by Councilmember Schillinger, seconded by Pipoly to conditionally approve the site plan for The Pound at 139 W. Main #11-001 as depicted on plans prepared by Lindhout Associates, sheets C1 and A1, project no. 1081, last dated 1-18-11 and plan prepared by Advanced Companies, sheet A1, dwg file #908-10, last dated 11-12-10 subject to the following:

1. That the Plan of Operation is approved.
2. That the applicant provide City staff with a check for the cost of closing the curb cut so the City can set up an escrow account for curb closer that would be used during the streetscape project in Fall of 2011.
3. Lighting details be reviewed during the building permit process.
4. That all signage comply with applicable Ordinances or variances obtained.
5. That City Council grant a variance from the transparency requirement due to the “special architectural features” of the façade.
6. The use of wood is reviewed and approved by City Council, if deemed to enhance the building.
7. That right of way permits be obtained from the Department of Public Services for work within the right of way.
8. That any damages done to the existing sidewalk be repaired to current condition or DDA standards as noted on the plans.
9. The items raised in the City Engineer’s letter are addressed.

Motion passed 7-0.

### **FISCAL YEARS 2011-2012 AND 2012-2013 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

City Manager, Dana Foster presented the Fiscal Years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 City of Brighton Budget. He stated this is an Expenditure Reduction-Only budget approach. He highlighted the Current Multi-year Forecast, Revenue decrease, future Revenue decrease, Personnel & Labor Cost Reductions and Savings, FY 2010/11 Cost Savings Initiatives, City Staff reduction from 61 to 54.5 full-time employees through attrition, limited Replacement Revenue Options, Additional Payroll Cost reductions, Furlough Program, additional non-personnel related Operating service cost reductions and Balance General Fund budget.

Finance Director, Kelly LaLonde highlighted Revenue Trends, declining taxable value, Assessed Value vs. Taxable Value, Taxable Value by Class in Real Property, Replacement Revenue Options, Utilities Fund Analysis and Utility REU Connections/Consumption History.

Human Resource Director, Jennifer Piasecki highlighted Employee Pensions and Health Benefits overview, City Paid Defined Benefit vs. Defined Contribution Plans, Defined Benefit Pension Plans, Health Insurance Cost Participation by Employees and Retirees, Five-Year Adjustments History per each of the Five City Employees Groups and Health Insurance Related Benefits will continue if the furlough program is extended or increased and availability of COBRA insurance coverage.

City Manager, Dana Foster discussed Service Delivery Impacts, potential Service Elimination and Reduction Impacts and the Updated Prioritization of Services' Ranking Matrix. He thanked Kelly LaLonde and Jennifer Piasecki for their presentations tonight, Staff members and the Budget & Finance Subcommittee for their work on the proposed budget.

### **SELCRA BY-LAWS**

Councilmember Cooper discussed the updated SELCRA By-Laws and asked that the City Attorney review the proposed changes and then bring back to City Council no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>.

It was moved by Councilmember Cooper, seconded by Muzzin to direct the SELCRAS Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws amendments to our City Attorney to review with the SELCRA participating municipalities and provide this City Council a recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

### **CITY CUSTOMER INFORMATION**

Councilmember Muzzin gave a BAFD update stating they made some budget adjustments regarding lease payments and snow removal.

Councilmember Cooper gave a Regional Cooperation update stating they will be discussing the possibility of consolidating Waster & Sewer systems.

Amy Cyphert gave a ZBA update stating both signage variance requests were approved.

Councilmember Roblee gave an Envision Brighton Committee update and asked the presentation be added to the March 3rd agenda. She gave a Brighton Arts & Culture Commission update with the design for the Veteran's Memorial project and the 911 Piece of Metal that is coming into the City of Brighton.

Councilmember Schillinger gave a Traffic Safety Advisory Board update, stating both agenda items were related to parking behind O My Lollie and Rolison's Hardware.

Councilmember Pipoly stated the DDA will be closing on the purchase of the current Chamber of Commerce site and the Chamber will be closing on their new site on Grand River. There is a serious inquisition on the Mexican Jones site.

Mayor Bandkau stated she attended the State of the Chamber today and awards were given out to Matt Modrack, the City of Brighton and Piet Lindhout.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Bandkau gave a Call to the Public at 9:45 p.m.

Patricia Cole expressed her concerns regarding the responses to Citizens Inquiries are not read as written and answered publicly. She discussed the Utility Bill Administrative charges and why it was doubled to do the same job once. She asked about the increase in the Debt Charges in the Utility billing regarding Other Post Employee Benefits. She asked why Early Blue Sky sessions are not televised.

Hearing no further comment, the Call to the Public was closed at 9:53 p.m.

City Manager, Dana Foster stated that two of the Citizen Inquiries have been answered by letter.

Councilmember Muzzin stated the Citizen Inquiry answers should be read publicly. He stated the savings of the Bi-Monthly Utility Billing would be seen in the next budget.

Mayor Pr-Tem Bohn stated it is not the City of Brighton vs. the residents, we are the City and when we save money, we all benefit.

Councilmember Muzzin stated the second point is on OPEB, it is the cost of doing business. We are trying to cut costs. We should be making public response for the Citizen Inquiries.

City Manager, Dana Foster in the 1990's when meetings were first televised, it was a policy decision not to have the Blue Sky Session televised.

**PENDING LITIGATION CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Councilmember Muzzin, seconded by Pipoly to go into Closed Session to pending litigation pursuant to MCL 15.268(e) at 10:04 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Yes: Schillinger, Cooper, Bandkau, Muzzin, Bohn, Roblee, Pipoly. No: none. Motion passed 7-0.

The Council convened into Closed Session at 10:08 p.m.

The Council reconvened the Regular Session at 10:26 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilmember Roblee, seconded by Bohn to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.