

Hastings, Minnesota
City Council Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2023

The City Council of the City of Hastings, Minnesota met in a regular meeting on Monday, December 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Hastings City Hall, 101 East 4th Street, Hastings, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Fasbender, Councilmembers Fox, Haus, Lawrence, Leifeld, and Pemble

Members Absent: Councilmember Folch

Staff Present: City Administrator Dan Wietecha
Assistant City Administrator Kelly Murtaugh
City Attorney Kori Land
Community Development Director John Hinzman
Finance Manager Chris Eitemiller
Assistant Finance Manager Ashley DeBernardi

Promotions:
Joe Cysiewski

New Employees:
Lonnie Johnson

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Fasbender asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the City Council regular meeting on November 20, 2023.

Minutes were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Leifeld motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Councilmember Pemble.

6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

1. Pay Bills as Audited
2. Resolution No. 12-01-23: Accept Donation to the Parks and Recreation Department from the Flynn Family
3. Resolution No. 12-02-23: Approve New Massage Therapist Application for Tanya Meisner
4. 1st Reading: Amend City Code Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area (MRCCA)
 - a. Chapter 152A – MRCCA Ordinance
 - b. Chapter 155.01 – Zoning Districts
 - c. Chapter 155.08 – Weeds and Grasses
 - d. Chapter 158.04 – Property Maintenance
 - e. Chapter 90.05 – Grass, Weeds, and Trees
 - f. Chapter 95.21 – Public Nuisances Affecting Health
5. 1st Reading: Amend City Code - Cannabis and Hemp
 - a. Chapter 117.09 – Cannabis Businesses – Prohibited Acts
 - b. Chapter 155.07 – Zoning Ordinance – Special Provisions

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6. Approve 2024-2026 Labor Agreement with Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc. (LELS) Local No. 462 (Police Sergeants)
7. Approve Community Investment Fund for HYAA
8. Approve Collection Rate Increase for Tennis Sanitation
9. Authorize Signature: Grant Agreement for Drinking Water Planning & Design Funds for PFAS Treatment
10. Resolution No. 12-03-23: Authorizing Application for MCES 2024 Private Property I & I Grant
11. Resolution No. 12-04-23: Adopting Polling Locations for 2024 Elections
12. Declare Surplus Property and Authorize for Public Sale – Police Department
13. Community Waste Abatement 2024 Grant Agreement

Public Hearing: Truth in Taxation for 2024 Budget

Eitemiller presented the Truth in Taxation information as a requirement for adoption of the 2024 Budget. Eitemiller noted that this presentation is not to address valuation of property as he has received some calls and has redirected questions to Dakota County. He presented the budget principles, the budget process, changes since the September 18 preliminary budget and levy, budget highlights for 2024, capital improvement and capital equipment priorities, utilities rate and capital project overview, carryover projects. Additionally, he identified the changes in the budget since initial proposal as well as a review of what is in the budget for 2024. Eitemiller presented the preliminary tax impact of the proposed levy and a comparison to other Dakota County residential and commercial tax changes. He also reviewed the HEDRA levy.

Mayor Fasbender opened the public hearing at: 7:21 p.m.

Mayor Fasbender closed the public hearing at: 7:22 p.m.

Council discussion on gratitude to staff for putting together a balanced budget proposal and citywide participation in the entire process.

Authorize Distribution: Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) – Walden at Hastings (TH 316 & Michael Ave)

Hinzman provided an overview of the request to authorize distribution of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the potential development of Walden at Hastings, a 511-unit residential housing development. Hinzman indicated authorization is limited to distribution of the EAW for public comment, sharing Council will evaluate findings along with public comment at a later date. Hinzman shared the EAW does not authorize approval of the development and separate applications for land use would be considered after the EAW.

Council discussion on stakeholder engagement following the distribution of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet. Hinzman indicated the EAW would be sent to a number of agencies and available to the public for comment. Hinzman shared comments would be presented to Council at a later meeting along with staff comments. At that time, Council will need to determine if the EAW is adequate or if additional assessments are necessary. Hinzman clarified the process for the project following the determination. Council discussion on the history of the land and the process to this point. Hinzman clarified the process of development and its relationship to the comprehensive plan.

Councilmember Fox motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Haus.
6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

2024 Budget:

- a. Resolution No. 12-05-23: Approve 2024 Final Budget and Final Levy

Councilmember Fox motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Leifeld.
6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

- b. Resolution No. 12-06-23: Approve the 2024 Special Levy

Councilmember Fox motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Leifeld.
6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

- c. Resolution No. 12-07-23: Approve the 2024 – 2028 Capital Improvement and Capital Equipment Plans

Councilmember Fox motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Leifeld.
6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

- d. 1st Reading: Amend City Code Chapter 34: Fees

Councilmember Fox motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Leifeld.
6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Announcements

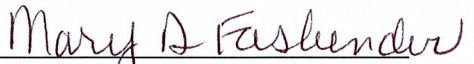
- Enjoy CPKC Holiday Train and free holiday concert by Tenille Townes & Breland on Saturday, December 9. Please bring food or monetary donation for Hastings Family Service.
- Hastings Police Department and City Hall are drop-off locations for Toys For Tots. Please bring new, unwrapped toys by December 15.
- City Offices will be closed from 11 to 1 on Tuesday, December 12, for the City employee holiday party and staff recognition.
- Recycle your old lights with the Hastings Holiday Lights Drop Off Collection. Residents can drop-off their unwanted light strands at the Joint Maintenance Facility, 920 – 10th Street West, during the holiday season from November 13 to January 31.
- Happy Birthday this week to Mayor Mary Fasbender!

Meetings

- Operations Committee Meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. – Cancelled
- Arts & Culture Commission Meeting on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- HEDRA Meeting on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- City Council Regular Meeting on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Pemble motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM, seconded by Councilmember Haus. Ayes 6; Nays 0.


Kelly Murtaugh, City Clerk


Mary D. Fashender, Mayor