

Hastings, Minnesota
City Council Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2020

The City Council of the City of Hastings, Minnesota met in a regular meeting on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Mayor Fasbender explained why and referenced various city, state and federal declarations and guidelines that an in-person meeting was not practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Members Present: Mayor Fasbender, Councilmembers Balsanek, Braucks, Folch, Leifeld, Lund and Vaughan

Staff Present: City Administrator Dan Wietecha
Administrative Services Director Julie Flaten
City Attorney Dan Fluegel
Community Development Director John Hinzman
Public Works Director Nick Egger

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Fasbender asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Regular Meeting on July 6, 2020 of the City Council.

Minutes were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda

1. Pay Bills as Audited
2. 2020 Mill & Overlay Program – Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$200,940.55
3. 2020-1 Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements – Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$303,073.81
4. Resolution No. 07-05-20: Acceptance and Appreciation of a Donation from the Humbert Family to the Parks and Recreation Department
5. Appointment of Planning Commissioner – Todd Matzke
6. Approve Special Event American Cancer Society ‘Relay for life’
7. Approve Special Event Jan’s School of Dance
8. Set Special City Council Meeting to Canvass 2020 Primary Election Results
9. Resolution No. 07-06-20: Training of Healthcare Facility Employees to Administer Absentee Voting
10. Resolution No. 07-07-20: Approve Lawful Gambling Premise Permit for Hastings Hockey Boosters at Loco U & Me d/b/a Me & Julio
11. Tennis Sanitation Green Team Proceeds from 2nd Quarter

Councilmember Folch motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Leifeld. Roll Call: Ayes 7; Nays 0.

Public Hearing and 2nd Reading: Ordinance 2020-11 Amend City Code Chapter 51.03 Rules and Regulations Relating to Municipal Utilities

Flaten detailed the current and proposed process of billing, and proposal to move to an assessment versus disconnection form of collection of delinquent invoices.

Mayor Fasbender opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Fasbender closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

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Council expressed appreciation of staff for a well thought out proposal that addresses staff safety.

Councilmember Balsanek motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Braucks. Roll Call: Ayes 7; Nays 0.

Water Service Repair Costs Appeal – 1208 Tyler Street

Egger discussed the water service repair cost appeal; the history of the water service repair at 1208 Tyler Street, owner's responsibility as described in the ordinance, and that the Operations Committee of the Council discussed this twice and denied the appeal.

Stan McCoy addressed the Council and discussed how he felt the property owners had no control over the repairs but would be charged to them.

Council discussed the City's awareness of the leak and why it was not fixed during the mill and overlay project, leak detection timing and process, ability of the City to ascertain the existence of a leak without excavation, necessity of overtime, location of leak on the main line or service line, method of how leaks are detected, risk to the City of not fixing it in 2017, if water meters reflect leaks, ability of mill and overlay contractor to address leaks, encourage Operations Committee to examine main line versus service line cost responsibilities and consider a flat fee.

Councilmember Folch motioned to reduce the amount owed by \$360.00, seconded by Councilmember Lund. Roll Call: Ayes 7, Nays 0.

CARES Act Funding

Wietecha detailed the CARES Act Funding, eligible expenses, opportunities, and restrictions, and that the City will receive \$1,743,298 for eligible expenses.

Council discussed the timeline constraints on large capital projects, partnering with other agencies who have resources to manage programs on business relief, consider special council meetings if necessary to keep process moving forward, recapped the Administration Committee's discussion of the City's priorities/goals including how to efficiently distribute funds into the community, potential funding and City expenses of various items on the provided list, wants versus needs, requests from outside organizations, additional potential partnerships, and scheduling additional meetings.

Mayor Fasbender and Councilmembers made the following announcements:

Councilmember Braucks gave an update on the Cottage Grove Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (BTYR) work. The group has been doing veteran service work in Hastings, meeting with community partners, and wish to officially expand into Hastings. They will be changing their name to Mississippi Valley BTYR to include more communities. She also provided various statistics and upcoming events.

Councilmember Folch commented on the Open House held at Lake Isabel last Thursday about the three master plan concepts were shared with the residents.

Councilmember Folch requested that requiring face masks to be worn in City facilities be discussed at an upcoming City Council meeting. It was noted that this topic has a wide range of opinions and should be scheduled and publicized well in advance.

Announcements

Mayor Fasbender spoke about the upcoming Levee Park activities. All have limited attendance of 250 people and social distancing requirements. All are free and open to the public.

- Music in the Park, supported by Ruth & George Doffing Charitable Fund – Bavarian Musikmeisters on Thursday, July 23 at 7 pm performing traditional Germanic music including folk, polka, and waltz.
- Movie in the Park, sponsored by Ardent Mills – Toy Story 4 on Friday, July 24 at 7:15 pm. Branchline Church will host family friendly games and activities an hour before the show. Please bring a non-perishable food donation for Hastings Family Services.
- Performance in the Park – Ragamala South Indian Dance, experience the dance, music, and culture of India on Tuesday, July 28 at 6:00 pm.
- Party in the Park – July is National Parks & Recreation Month! Celebrate with an interactive trivia show, live music, activities, and food trucks.
 - Sassy Lassy Trivia 5:30 – 6:30 pm
 - Nathan Griner & Band 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 - Caricature Artists 5:30 – 8:00 pm
 - Fun Zone Games 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 - Carpenter Nature Center Booth 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Meetings

Tuesday, July 21

5:30 pm Public Safety Committee of City Council

7:00 pm Heritage Preservation Commission

Monday, July 27

7:00 pm Planning Commission

Monday, August 3

5:30 pm City Council Workshop

7:00 pm City Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 4

8:00 am Finance Committee of City Council

Councilmember Braucks motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Vaughan. Roll Call: Ayes 7; Nays 0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Mary Fasbender, Mayor

Julie Flaten, City Clerk