

Hastings, Minnesota
City Council Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2021

The City Council of the City of Hastings, Minnesota met in a regular meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:03 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 Braucks, Folch, Fox, Leifeld, Lund and Vaughan

Staff Present: City Administrator Dan Wietecha
City Attorney Kori Land
City Clerk Erica Henderson
City Planner Justin Fortney
Community Development Director John Hinzman
Parks & Recreation Director Chris Jenkins

Presentation: Dakota County Historical Society / LeDuc Historic Estate

Matt Carter, Dakota County Historical Society Executive Director, and Mariah Ring, LeDuc Historic Estate Site Supervisor, provided an update on the LeDuc Historic Estate.

Comments from the Audience

Kori Colvin, Laine Johnson, and Sasha, Hastings residents, detailed why chickens should be allowed within City limits and requested Council to consider amending City Code. She noted a petition with approximately 90 signatures in favor of allowing chickens within City limits. Mayor Fasbender explained the process of how this item may be added to the agenda. Councilmember Leifeld recommended to add the keeping of chickens to the June 7, 2021 City Council meeting agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Fasbender asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting on May 3, 2021.

Minutes were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda

1. Pay Bills as Audited
2. Resolution No. 05-06-21: Approve New Massage Therapist and Establishment Licenses – Melissa Frion, Massage Moms
3. Resolution No. 05-07-21: Approve Massage Therapy License for Molly Schmidt
4. Approve Froth & Cork Liquor License Amendment
5. Resolution No. 05-08-21: Approve an In-Store and Tent Fireworks Sales Licenses
6. Resolution No. 05-09-21: Release of Deferred Green Acre Assessments
7. Declare Surplus Property and Authorize Sale: Building Department
8. Declare Surplus Property and Authorize Sale: Police Department
9. Resolution No. 05-10-21: Acceptance and Appreciation for a Donation to the Parks & Recreation Department from the Haas Family
10. Resolution No. 05-11-21: Extension Preliminary and Final Plat Approval - Schoolhouse Square 4th - Real Estate Equities

11. Authorize Signature: Long Term Stormwater Maintenance Agreement - Schoolhouse Square 4th Addition
12. Award Contract – 2021 Seal Coat Program – Pearson Bros. (\$62,123.69)
13. Proclamation – National Public Works Week
14. Proclamation – Emergency Medical Services Week
15. Designate DBA Summer 2021 Downtown Music Series as a Special Event
16. Resolution No. 05-12-21: Dakota County All Hazard Plan

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

Award Contract: Hastings City Hall Roof and HVAC - Miller Dunwiddie

Fortney explained that the City was awarded a \$2M state bonding grant for various City Hall repairs, and discussed the received proposals and why the contract should be awarded to Miller Dunwiddie Inc.

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

Public Hearing and Authorize Issuance of Sidewalk Café License for Froth & Cork LLC d/b/a Froth & Cork, 110 4th Street East

Hinzman detailed the sidewalk café request from Froth & Cork and the received public comments. Also, staff reviewed the application and recommended approval.

Mayor Fasbender opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m., and hearing no comments closed the public hearing at 7:46 p.m.

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

Diseased and Hazardous Boulevard Trees

Jenkins summarized the history of Emerald Ash Bore in the City, staff's mitigation efforts to decrease the spread and described the proposed Hardship Relief Program supported by the Finance Committee. He indicated that the ordinance specified that treatment and removal of a diseased tree was the homeowner's responsibility.

Council discussed the Hardship Relief Program participation requirements, the determination of payment to remove a tree which was treated but died, Rainbow Tree warranty on treated trees, thanked staff for their efforts, possibly removing trees during street improvement projects and that the treatment would have to be paid for indefinitely or until the tree died.

Councilmember Vaughan motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Fox.

Council discussed how to proceed if this was denied, concern of hardship to residents incurred due to the removal of a tree and amending the required number of trees in Hardship Program.

Roll Call: Ayes 6; Nays 1 - Folch.

Motor Coach Commerce Facility - Hastings Commons LLC (24xx Vermillion Street)

- a. Resolution No. 05-13-21: Interim Use Permit

b. Resolution No. 05-14-21: Site Plan

Hinzman discussed the Interim Use Permit request and the site plan from Hastings Commons LLC. He also summarized the settlement agreement between the City and Hastings Commons LLC. The Planning Commission voted five to two in favor of approval.

Council discussed that the only access to the hotel is through the motor coach facility and how the proposed landscape plan fits into the Vermillion Corridor plan.

Councilmember Leifeld motioned to approve the Interim Use Permit as presented, seconded by Councilmember Vaughan.

Council discussed the previous time this item was presented for approval, whether this project fits into the revitalization of Vermillion Street Corridor Plan and legally Council cannot deny the project.

Councilmember Leifeld motioned to approve the Site Plan as presented, seconded by Councilmember Braucks. Roll Call: Ayes 7; Nays 0.

Council thanked staff for their hard work on this project and conveyed well wishes and success to the business.

Appointment of Kelly Murtaugh as Assistant City Administrator / Human Resources Director

Wietecha discussed the hiring process and the recommended appointment of Kelly Murtaugh to the Assistant City Administrator/Human Resources Director.

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

2021 Budget Amendment: Building Safety Department Truck

Wietecha discussed the condition of the Building Department vehicles and the proposed budget amendment to allow the purchase of a new vehicle. He explained the purchasing options and recommended Option 1, the conventional truck.

Council discussed the pricing, pro's and con's for hybrid vehicles versus conventional vehicles and thanked staff for presenting the hybrid option.

Councilmember Braucks motioned to approve the conventional truck option as presented, seconded by Councilmember Lund. Roll Call: Ayes 5; Nays 2 – Folch and Leifeld.

2022 Budget Process and Timeline

Wietecha detailed the 2022 budget process and timeline.

Council discussed Finance Committee meeting dates and the possibility of being added to the Governor's bonding initiatives list.

Mayor Fasbender and Councilmembers made the following announcements:

- This week is National Public Works Week and National EMS Week. Please join me in a great and heartfelt thank you to our employees in these departments. They provide essential services and help ensure the safety of our community.

- The Levee Park Calendar of Events has been posted on the City website. There will be lots of great and free programs again this year. And thank you to the many organizations and businesses that help make these possible.
- City offices will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day.
- For this year, Hastings American Legion Post 47 will host Memorial Day. It will be a single location event held at Hastings Levee Park. The event will start at 10:00 Monday, May 31, with a speaker, colors, rifle squad, TAPS and wreath laying ceremony.
- Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm
- Public Safety Advisory Commission on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm
- Planning Commission on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 6:00 pm
- City Council – strategic planning workshop on Monday, June 7 at 5:00 pm

Councilmember Leifeld motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Braucks. Roll Call: Ayes 7; Nays 0.

Mary Fasbender, Mayor

Kelly Murtagh, City Clerk