

**Hastings, Minnesota  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Hastings, Minnesota met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Hastings City Hall, 101 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Hastings, Minnesota.

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

**Members Absent:** Councilmember Haus

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Dan Wietecha  
Assistant City Administrator Kelly Murtaugh  
Attorney Greta Bjerkness  
Facilities Manager Charlie Judge  
Assistant Finance Manager Ashley Bertrand  
Fire Chief John Townsend  
Police Chief David Wilske

**New Employees**

Angi Barber  
Tom Sorenson  
Heather Meling  
Jeremy Bickner  
Ben Ferderer  
Mason Johnson  
Elisabethann Schmidt  
James Domeier

**Introductions**

Sue Vento, Metropolitan Council  
Tammy Champa, ISD 200

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Fasbender asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the City Council regular meeting on August 21, 2023.

Minutes were approved as presented.

**Comments from the Audience**

Todd Matzke, 1018 Ramsey Street, requested Council remove item 7 from Consent Agenda for council discussion. He wanted to ensure city councilmember is aware of concerns and did not feel that the Planning Commission properly address citizen concerns. He raised concerns about parking in the area and adding another possible rental property to the area. Concerned that nothing can be done because there is not an ordinance prohibiting the concentration of rental properties in a particular area. Served on Planning Commission and felt the open meeting process did not work that residents that live in the area are not aware of the process of meetings.

## Consent Agenda

Councilmember Folch requested Item 7 be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under the Administration section. Councilmember Leifeld motioned to approve the Consent Agenda pulling Item 7, seconded by Councilmember Pemble.

6 Ayes, 0 Nays

1. Pay Bills as Audited
2. Approve Special Event Designation: Relay for Life
3. Approve Special Event Designation: Mainstreet Market
4. Resolution No. 09-01-23: Accept Donation to the Parks and Recreation Department
5. Authorize Signature: CDBG Subrecipient Agreement
6. Authorize Signature: Waiver of Assessment – Hastings Creamery
7. Resolution No. 09-02-23: Minor Subdivision – Adam Greenslade (1012 Ramsey Street)
8. Approve First Amendment to City of Hastings Legal Services Agreement with LeVander, Gillen & Miller, PA.
9. Declare Surplus Property and Authorize Sale (Pickup Trucks and Trash/Recycling Cans)
10. Cannabis Regulation – Send to Public Safety Committee
11. Resolution No. 09-03-23: Schedule Public Hearing Regarding Duluth EDA Financing Benedictine Health System Projects
12. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading\Order Public Hearing: Amend City Code Chapters 156 and 157 – Property Maintenance Code and Structural Maintenance Code

### **Resolution No. 09-04-23: Approve Preliminary 2024 City Property Tax Levy, Preliminary Budget, and Setting Truth in Taxation Hearing**

Wietecha requested no action at this meeting based on recently received information, recommending action on September 18, 2023.

### **Resolution No. 09-05-23: Approve Proposed 2024 HEDRA – HRA Special Tax Levy**

Wietecha requested no action at this meeting, recommending action on September 18, 2023.

## Strategic Plan 2024 – 2027

Wietecha introduced the 2024 – 2027 Strategic Plan. In April, the City Council and City Staff held a facilitated retreat to develop priorities for the City's strategic plan for the next couple years. City Staff also developed Action Plans for implementation of each of the 16 strategic initiatives. As provided in the past, staff will report tracking information and progress to the City Council and the public on a quarterly basis.

Council discussion on appreciation for having the plan on the agenda. Council discussion that feedback on the initiatives and timing of completion was not offered to Councilmembers before publication.

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

## **Resolution No. 09-02-23: Minor Subdivision – Adam Greenslade (1012 Ramsey Street)**

Wietecha provided an overview of the location and zoning of the area. Wietecha provided a summary of the request to subdivide the property and construct a duplex on the two lots. He indicated the process requires a public hearing which provides notice to residents in the area and is heard by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission considered this request at their August 28, 2023 meeting. He indicated that rental properties are regulated by zoning and rental inspections.

Council discussion on the size of the lot and other rental properties in the area. Council discussed challenges with older homes and the rental opportunities. Council specified the proposal does not indicate that the units will be owned or rented. Council discussion on parking availability and offered general support for rental availability due to the variety of reasons why people rent versus purchasing. Wietecha noted item 12 on the Consent agenda addresses some of the topics of discussion related to rentals.

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

### **Announcements**

- The Fire Relief Association’s annual Booya is this Saturday, September 9.
- Summer Rec Programs at Levee Park...
  - Tuesday, September 12, Performance in the Park “SAATH Bollywood Dance” Sponsored by SMEAD Manufacturing.
  - Wednesday, September 13, Storytime in the Park with the theme “rest.” A partnership with Pleasant Hill Library.
  - Friday, September 15, Movie in the Park “The Mitchells vs. The Machines.” Sponsored by Ardent Mills. Please bring a non-perishable food donation.
- Bike with a Ranger – Bike the 10-mile loop and learn history and wildlife fun facts on Saturday, September 16. Recommended for teens and adults. A partnership with the National Park Service. Registration is required.
- Councilmember Pemble noted that the next Great River Rail Commission meeting will be held Thursday, September 7 in Red Wing. Some of the topics include: 2024 Workplan and the Second Train.

### **Meetings**

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

Councilmember Pemble motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM, seconded by Councilmember Lawrence. Ayes 6; Nays 0.

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Kelly Murtaugh, City Clerk

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Mary D. Fasbender, Mayor

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