

**Hastings, Minnesota**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 1, 2024**

The City Council of the City of Hastings, Minnesota met in a regular meeting on Monday, April 1, 2024 at 7:10 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 Fox, Haus, Lawrence, Leifeld, Pemble, and Vihrachoff

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Dan Wietecha  
Assistant City Administrator Kelly Murtaugh  
City Attorney Kori Land  
Public Works Director Ryan Stempski  
Principal Engineer Cody Mathisen

**Proclamation: Arbor Day 2024**

**Pleasant Hill Library Presentation: Jill Bambenek, Manager**

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Fasbender asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the City Council regular meeting on March 18, 2024.

Minutes were approved as presented.

**Consent Agenda**

Councilmember Lawrence motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as corrected, seconded by Councilmember Pemble.

7 Ayes, 0 Nays.

1. Pay Bills as Audited
2. Resolution No. 04-01-24: Accept Donation from the Hastings Downtown Business Association to the Parks and Recreation Department
3. Resolution No. 04-02-24: Accept Donation from Raider Nation Youth Baseball to the Parks and Recreation Department
4. Resolution No. 04-03-24: Accept Donation from Hastings Youth Athletic Association (HYAA) to the Parks and Recreation Department
5. Approve Special Event Designation: Rivertown Live
6. Approve Parklet Renewal for Quarry Taphouse
7. Resolution No. 04-04-24: Approve Massage Therapist License Renewal for Natalie Briones
8. Resolution No. 04-05-24: Approve In-Store Fireworks Application for Coborn's Marketplace #2037
9. Resolution No. 04-06-24: Approve New Cannabis Product Retail License for H Tobacco
10. Resolution No. 04-07-24: Approve Premises Permit Renewals
11. Authorize Submittal: Letter Requesting Services – SSTS Services – Dakota and Washington County
12. Resolution No. 04-08-24: Approve Pay Estimate No. 7 (Final) for the 2023 Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements – BCM Construction, Inc. (\$97,607.47)
13. Declare Excess Property and Authorize for Public Sale – Public Works

14. 2024 – 2025 LELS Local No. 249 (Officers) Lateral Hire MOU
15. Approve Change Order: Arena Roof Access Hatch

### **2024 Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements: Resolution No. 04-09-24: Order Improvements and Adopt Assessments**

Mathisen provided an overview of the 2024 Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements project. This project contains street and utility improvements to six City streets ranging in scope of work from reclamation of streets to full street and utility reconstruction. The full scope of the project was presented to Council on March 4, 2024. Mathisen reviewed the methodology of the assessment. This methodology recognizes ordinance allowance to assess by lot rather than by length of frontage, especially for irregularly shaped lots. Mathisen outlined the payment options for this project, including abatement or deferral options. Council is asked to approve the resolution to order the project and adopt the proposed assessments for the project.

Mayor Fasbender opened the public hearing at: 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Fasbender closed the public hearing at: 7:31 p.m.

Council expressed appreciation for developing per-lot assessment methodologies based on resident feedback. Council also expressed appreciation for the communication efforts of staff in responding to resident questions and concerns and making an extra effort in making sure residents understand the process.

Councilmember Leifeld motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Haus.  
7 Ayes, 0 Nays.

### **Agreement for Services: Downtown Planters and Hanging Baskets**

Wietecha provided an overview of the request to hire a contractor to perform beautification efforts in the Downtown area. The effort includes planting and maintaining the ground level planters and purchasing, installing, and maintaining hanging flower baskets. Staff were contacted by another local landscape company desiring to submit a quote for the services. Wietecha indicated two companies submitted quotes, Green Companies and Precision Landscaping. While both were very similar, Green Companies' quote was the low bid for the 2024 services. Staff recommends accepting Green Companies' quote and approving the contract for services totaling \$20,715.00.

Council discussion on the expense of taking care of planters on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, the beautification effort, and options. Mayor Fasbender provided clarification of the bid to include regular watering. Wietecha indicated the Downtown Business Association has contributed a donation to the Parks and Recreation Department to assist in funding. Council discussed different funding or maintenance options for the future and the overall appearance of the planters. Discussion on inclusivity and equity in the bidding process. As a focal point for the City, large pots contribute to the beautification, and corner safety, and greening contributes to placemaking. Council discussion on the balance of the responsibility of the expense or other ways to maintain pots/baskets in a different manner, such as partnering with the horticulture program at the High School or the local gardening clubs. Councilmembers urge review of the options for future years to reduce direct cost to the City.

Councilmember Leifeld motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Lawrence.  
7 Ayes, 0 Nays.

## **Agreement for Services: Hwy 61 Median Maintenance**

Wietecha provided an overview of the request to hire a contractor for annual maintenance within the TH 61 median. Wietecha shared Precision Landscaping and Construction, Inc. has performed this work for a number of years. Wietecha indicated this contracted work has not been subject to an official agreement in the past, however it is recommended for current and future contracted work to ensure both parties have accurate and legal obligations to one another. Staff recommends accepting the quote from Precision Landscaping and Construction, Inc. and approving the contract for services totaling \$12,909.68.

Council discussion on the value of seasonal maintenance.

Councilmember Fox motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Haus. 6 Ayes, 1 Nay (Leifeld).

## **PFAS Update**

Wietecha presented the PFAS Update, planning to have this as a recurring topic on the Council agenda as there will be many changes in the coming months. Wietecha indicated Hastings has PFAS contaminations in all six of our municipal wells. Recent epidemiology and understanding of the health impacts of PFAS and new regulatory standards pending the EPA are expected to require the City to mitigate the PFAS from our drinking water. Wietecha reviewed the various communication efforts to the public and shared City Council will have a PFAS Update at the first City Council meeting each month. Wietecha reviewed key updates, potential funding, and the environmental investigations currently underway. The topic is informational, no City Council action is requested at this time.

Council discussion on appreciation for the work that staff have done to advance the topic and keeping everyone informed. Council reminder of where residents can go to get information on the City website that may lead to other resources who are more versed in PFAS and its health impacts. Wietecha urged residents to contact the City if they have questions.

## **Announcements**

- Councilmember Fox noted the Dakota 911 2023 report is available. See [Dakota 911](#) for the full report.
- We appreciate Pleasant Hill Library's presentation earlier this evening and recognize that next week April 7-13 is National Library Week.
- Athletic Gear Swap tomorrow Tuesday, April 2, at Rambling River Center in Farmington. Bring useable and clean athletic gear you no longer want to our swap event and bring home items that are new to you. No item donation is necessary to shop the swap; take or bring as much as you want.
- This year's Community Survey is open through April 8. Information is on the City website.
- Happy Birthday yesterday to Councilmember Dave Pemble!

## **Meetings**

- Planning Committee Meeting on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. - Cancelled
- Arts & Culture Commission Meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
- HEDRA Meeting on Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
- City Council Regular Meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Vihrachoff motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM, seconded by Councilmember Lawrence. Ayes 7; Nays 0.

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Kelly Murtaugh, City Clerk

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Mary D. Fasbender, Mayor