

Hastings, Minnesota
City Council Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2023

The City Council of the City of Hastings, Minnesota met in a regular meeting on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 7:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Hastings City Hall, 101 East 4th Street, Hastings, Minnesota.

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

Members Absent: Councilmember Lund

Staff Present: City Administrator Dan Wietecha
Assistant City Administrator Kelly Murtaugh
City Attorney Kori Land
Police Chief David Wilske
Public Works Director Ryan Stempki
Parks and Recreation Director Chris Jenkins
Community Development Director John Hinzman

Promotions

Lady Jones
Alana Siebenaler

New Employees

Maddie Swanson
Alex Menke
Tanya Edmison
Sean Glancey
Karter Gorney

Proclamation: LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Proclamation: Make Music Day

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Fasbender asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the workshop and regular City Council meeting on May 15, 2023.

Minutes were approved as presented.

Comments from the Audience

Morgan Smith, 416 7th Street West, addressed Council about the proposed moratorium on cannabis proposed for first reading this evening. She indicated that it would be harmful to new and existing businesses to wait. Her business cannot compete if a moratorium is in place.

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. 06-01-23: Accept Donation to the Parks and Recreation Department from the Bane Family for a Memorial Bench
3. Resolution No. 06-02-23: Accept Donation to the Hastings Fire Department from Judd and Jeanne Watson
4. Resolution No. 06-03-23: 15
5. Special Event Designation – Hastings Golf Club – 4th of July Parade & Fireworks
6. Resolution No. 06-04-23: Special Event Designation & Temporary Liquor License – Rivertown Days
7. Resolution No. 06-05-23: Special Event Designation & Temporary Liquor License – Rivertown Live
8. Special Event Designation – Gobble Gait
9. Approve Amendment to Agreement for Professional Services with Expert Billing LLC
10. 2nd Reading Ordinance Amendment: Chapter 30.07 - Public Safety Advisory Commission
11. Authorize Signature: Joint Powers Agreement - State of Minnesota Hotel Inspections
12. Resolution No. 06-06-23: Limited Use Permit with MnDOT for Trail Maintenance and Operation
13. Amend City Debt Policy
14. Authorize Signature: LOGIS Fiber Management Services Agreement
15. Memorandum of Agreement: Century College

Resolution No. 06-07-23: Issuance and Sale of GO Bonds, Series 2023A

Tammy Omdal, Northland Securities, provided an overview of the request. The City has initiated proceedings to sell general obligation bonds to finance the 2023 Neighborhood Project. A portion of the bonds would be repaid through special assessments on benefitting properties. The City has retained financial advisor Northland Securities to assist in the bond sale which is scheduled for June 5th. The City went through the rating process for the sale of bonds and received a rating of AA+ (an increase of prior year rating of AA). City financial management and economic factors have influenced the rating.

Council expressed appreciation for the good news.

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

Public Hearing: Sale of Property – Spiral Blvd. & Glendale Rd.

Hinzman provided an overview of the sale of property. The City owns approximately 20 acres located West of Glendale Road of which 3.42 acre is located North and West of Spiral Blvd. Hinzman shared anticipated plans by Northern State Services to split a previous acquisition directly north of the proposed sale into two lots for residential homes. Hinzman provided background information on the 3.42 acres proposed for sale and reviewed the purchase offer.

Public Hearing opened at: 7:32 p.m.

Public Hearing closed at: 7:33 p.m.

Resolution No. 06-08-23: Award Contract for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Lining Program

Stempski provided an overview of the request to adopt the resolution to award a contract to the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Lining Program project. Stempski reviewed four bids the City received for this project on April 13, 2023. The bids came in a bit higher than anticipated. Stempski confirmed qualifications of Musson Brothers, Inc. on sewer lining projects in the industry and recommends that City Council awards the contract to Musson Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$559,602.50.

No Council discussion.

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

Resolution No. 06-09-23: Award Contract for the Roadside Park Tennis and Pickleball Court Reconstruction Project

Jenkins provided an overview of the request to adopt the resolution to award a contract to the Roadside Tennis and Pickleball Court Reconstruction Project. Jenkins shared six companies provided bids. Jenkins indicated that this is not a budgeted expense, but City Council has provided support to complete the project with the intent to utilize Park Dedication Funds. Staff recommends accepting the lowest bid and awarding the reconstruction project contract to Bituminous Roadways, Inc., in the amount of \$393,333.00.

Council discussion on support for the reconstruction and the opportunity it brings to the community. Council indicated this was originally proposed as a Community Investment Project which has gained interest even in the last year.

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

Highway 61: MNDOT Presentation & Resolution No. 06-10-23: TH 61 Pre-Scoping Assessment and Resolution of Support for the Project

Bryant Ficek, from MnDOT, reminded Council of the Highway 61 Study area. It complements the work that the City has already done through the People Movement Plan, the Comprehensive Plan, and the Vermillion Street Corridor Plans. The City and MnDOT have been working through a Highway 61 Pre-Scoping Assessment since March of 2022. The study has included a focus on engagement with the public which resulted in the predominant concerns expressed: safety, mobility, access, vehicle speeds, and pedestrian facilities. Ficek reviewed proposed changes that were recommended as a direct result of conversations with businesses and residents. The planning phase is nearly complete. The next phase is to prepare to seek funding for the project from different possible sources.

Council expressed appreciation for the presentation and the engagement with the business community. Council asked for clarification on the 18th Street and 21st Street intersection plans. Council expressed concern regarding the homes that would be displaced by the full-sized roundabout at TH 61/Hwy 316 as well as speed control coming from the South. Ficek shared that predicted design developments would indicate to motorists that they are entering into a different area and encourage a reduction in speed. Council shared resident concerns for travel patterns on 9th Street. Council discussion on the Todd Field wall and how it may be recreated to accommodate a sidewalk and turn lane as well as right-of-way clarification. City

Administrator Wietecha indicated that the Arts & Culture Commission has an interest in participating in the ongoing design process as early as possible.

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

Veterans Athletic Complex and Hastings Civic Arena Planning Studies

Jenkins provided an overview of the request to support and approve two planning processes: (1) for the development of both an expansion and redevelopment of Vet's Athletic Complex (2023), and (2) Vision Planning for renovations and updating the Hastings Civic Arena (2024). Jenkins provided background information on discussions at recent meetings which these topics have risen to the top of the priority list with the strong desire to strategically complete the processes. Staff is seeking Council direction and suggestion of multiple options to begin planning efforts for both the Vet's Athletic Complex and the Hastings Civic Arena, working with ISG.

Council discussion on needs assessment, key stakeholder involvement, and timing of individual projects. It was recommended to move the Civic Arena planning project before Veterans Athletic Complex. Council discussion on the need to study those properties to determine their futures.

Councilmember Folch motioned to approve the project for the Civic Arena in 2023 and the Veterans Athletic Complex in 2024, seconded by Councilmember Fox.
5 Ayes, 1 Nay (Pemble)

Resolution No. 06-11-23: Transfer Property – Industrial Park – HEDRA (3000 Lightbourn Court)

Hinzman provided an overview of the request to transfer a vacant one-acre parcel located at 3000 Lightbourn Court to the Hastings Economic Development and Redevelopment Authority (HEDRA). HEDRA is working with Mr. Gregg Lowe on the sale and development of a 6,000 s.f. automobile repair facility on the site. HEDRA has scheduled a public hearing on June 15th to consider the sale to Mr. Lowe and to authorize signature of a development agreement. HEDRA reviewed the concept plan and sales terms at a previous meeting and expressed support. The sale of the property will generate \$93,654 in revenue.

No Council discussion.

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

Resolutions: State Bonding

No. 06-12-23: Civic Arena Refrigeration and Roof

No. 06-13-23: PFAS Treatment and Raw Water Piping

No. 06-14-23: Highway 61 Improvements

City Administrator Wietecha provided an overview of the State Bonding Requests. The process is underway for cities and other local governments to have projects considered to be part of the proposed 2024 Capital Budget for the State of Minnesota. The deadline for local governments to submit their project information is June 16th. Wietecha reviewed the three projects: the Civic Arena project would propose a 50% match; the PFAS treatment would seek full funding; the Hwy 61 Improvements would assist with the future project. These projects are also identified in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Council discussion on the importance of applying for state funds for these projects.

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

Interim Ordinance on Cannabis and Cannabinoids

Wietecha referenced recent State action legalizing adult-use marijuana, with a very lengthy law. This is the first reading of the proposed interim ordinance and request to schedule a public hearing at the June 26, 2023 City Council meeting. Following extended review and discussion, the City Council adopted zoning and licensing ordinance related to cannabis and hemp businesses on April 3, 2023. Wietecha indicated the new law is very complex and staff is recommending an interim ordinance to review the new legislation, impacts of the new law, and make necessary changes to the current ordinances.

Council discussion on the recommendation to put a six-month moratorium in place. Council indicated the City is in the same position as other cities, sharing that putting a moratorium in place may harm local businesses. Council discussion on new laws versus our current ordinance and where the City is at in the process. Attorney Land indicated that current licensing ordinance needs to be revisited as statute does not allow local licensing, only registration. Land shared a moratorium will help provide ample time to allow the City to make necessary amendments to our current ordinance. Wietecha indicated the moratorium will not prolong the study of current ordinances. Council expressed concern for the negative impact a moratorium may have and asked about next steps following adoption. Land indicated regardless of the vote, the work will still be done because our ordinances are in direct conflict with state law.

Resolution No. 06-15-23: Approve Liquor License Renewal for Spiral Brewery for the 2023 – 2024 Licensing Period

Wietecha indicated that this is typically on the Consent Agenda, but a Councilmember is an owner of the establishment and abstains from the vote.

No Council discussion.

Councilmember Folch motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Councilmember Haus.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain (Fox).

Announcements

- Tomorrow Tuesday, June 6, join us for the Summer Kick-Off to our 2023 Levee Park Events – live Congo music, raptor show with Carpenter Nature Center, bounce house, climbing wall, face painting, caricature artist, balloon artist, and more. All ages are welcome to this free event.
- City Offices will be closed Monday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth.
- Summer Rec Programs at Levee Park...
 - Thursday, June 8, Music in the Park with “The 22nd Row – Tribute to Elton John.” Supported by the Ruth and George Doffing Charitable Fund.
 - Wednesday, June 14, Storytime in the Park is “Colors.” Recommended for ages 7 and under. A partnership with Pleasant Hill Library.

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- Thursday, June 15, Music in the Park with “Capital Sons.” Supported by the Ruth and George Doffing Charitable Fund.
- Friday, June 16, Movies in the Park with “Minions – Rise of Gru.” Sponsored by Ardent Mills.
- Monday, June 12, Pleasant Hill Library hosts a Summer Discovery Kick-off Party to celebrate the start of summer reading with ice cream and activities. Learn about honeybees in the pollinator garden and enjoy music by the Steel Drum Band.
- The City’s Parks & Recreation and Police Departments are partnering with Hastings Prescott Area Arts Council to serve up fun for youth in Hastings. The Rec + Art + Police program will offer free activities, treats, and giveaways this summer. The first event is Wednesday, June 14, from 1 to 2 pm at Levee Park with a mural, DJ, and contests. Recommended for elementary and middle schoolers. Supported by SC Toys, Country Financial, Hastings Lions Club, Hastings Family Service, and Community Ed.
- Makers Alleyway Market will be in Levee Park on Thursday, June 15. Support area makers and artisans within our historic downtown and riverfront park by shopping at the markets.
- Wednesday, June 21, is Make Music Day with 17 performers over 12 hours at 4 locations. Bring a blanket or chair to enjoy live music from talented musicians in Hastings parks.

Meetings

- Finance Committee Meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- Arts & Culture Commission Meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- HEDRA Meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- City Council Workshop – 2024 Budget on Monday June 26, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
- City Council Regular Meeting on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. - Cancelled

Councilmember Pemble motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 PM, seconded by Councilmember Leifeld. Ayes 6; Nays 0.

Kelly Murtaugh, City Clerk

Mary D. Fasbender, Mayor