

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 12, 2022

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 220 N. Hastings Avenue, on December 12, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session by Mayor Stutte with the following members present: Jeniffer Beahm, Ginny Skutnik, Ted Schroeder, Butch Eley, Joy Huffaker, Chuck Rosenberg, Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann. Absent: None.

The following City Officials were present: City Administrator, Shawn Metcalf; City Attorney, Jesse Oswald; Utility Manager, Kevin Johnson; City Clerk, Kimberly Jacobitz; Police Chief, Adam Story; Fire Chief, Brad Starling; Parks & Recreation Director, Jeff Hassenstab; Finance Director, Roger Nash; Information Technology Director, Erik Nielsen; Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Museum Director, Teresa Kreutzer-Hodson; Library Director, Amy Dissmeyer; Airport Manager, Matt Kuhr.

The Mayor led the group in recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Moved by Butch Eley seconded by Ted Schroeder to adopt December 12, 2022 Regular meeting agenda. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, December 9, 2022. Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Section 84-1412, the public is advised that a copy of today's agenda and all reproducible written material which will be discussed at today's meeting is located at the back of the Council Chambers. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Council Chambers which is accessible to members of the public.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

Councilmember Fong reported that he attended a special meeting held by Hastings Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) last week. A discussion was presented about a partnership with the Hastings Chamber of Commerce, and how it might work. HEDC unanimously approved to move forward with the partnership.

Councilmember Schroeder reported on the involvement of staff and council in the community play and encouraged citizens to support the Community Theatre. He also mentioned Ministry in Motion puts on a performance annually at Christmas in the City Auditorium. He has served on the Youth Rehabilitation Training Center (YRTC) Board and reported that it is going well. He also reported that the mall area construction and airport are doing well.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stutte introduced Shawn Metcalf, the new City Administrator. Shawn will start fulltime employment on December 21st.

Mayor Stutte recognized anniversaries for Gwendolyn Sheppard, Utility, 15; Logan Klein, Utility, 5; Cody Williams, Parks, 5; Vicki Sinner, Police, 25; Rebecca Kvetensky, Museum, 25.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Matt Fong to approve all consent items, as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting of November 28, 2022

(b) Approval of the minutes of the Worksession of November 21, 2022

(c) Approval of claims and payroll

(d) Approve receiving and placing on file department monthly reports

(e) Receive and place on file Adams County Clerk's abstract of votes cast at the election held November 8, 2022

(f) Approval of Work Order EL-241, street light improvements on A Street, B Street and D Street at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad track crossings west of Emerson Avenue

(g) Approval of Work Order WA-106, replace and upgrade a 4" water main with an 8" water main on Third Street from California Avenue to Fourth Avenue

(h) Approval of Work Order WA-107, replace and upgrade a 4" water main with an 8" water main on 4th Street from Cedar Avenue to 2nd Avenue

(i) Approval of Work Order WA-108, new 8" water main on Second Avenue from Second Street to Fifth Street

(j) Approval of Work Order WA-109, replace and upgrade a 4" water main with an 8" water main on Fifth Street from California Avenue to Second Avenue

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

3. Public Hearings.

None.

4. General Business.

(a) Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Shawn Hartmann to approve submittal of a Letter of Support to the Nebraska Art Council, for the Business Improvement District's Creative District Development Grant Application. Megan Arrington-Williams requested a Letter of Support for the Business Improvement District (BID). They are applying through the Nebraska Arts Council for a Creative District Development Grant on behalf of the BID to continue the growth of our Downtown District. The initial grant is for \$10,000. They would submit a workbook and then be eligible for up to \$250,000. They want to make improvements locally to make Hastings a place where people want to be, not just a place to spend money. The turnaround time to complete the workbook, is as soon as she can get it done after community involvement. There are no matching funds required of the city. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(b) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Ginny Skutnik to approve a professional service agreement with South Central Economic Development District for construction management services for Community Development Block Grant Project 21-DTR-007, Downtown Revitalization. Randy Chick, Community Redevelopment Authority Director, reported that the City of Hastings was awarded a CDBG grant to undertake downtown revitalization

improvements within an identified area of downtown. Construction management is a budget line item within the CDBG grant. The City is required to utilize the services of a CDBG certified administrator to provide construction management services. A contract between SCEDD and the City is being submitted to provide construction management services for the project.

Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(c) Hastings Municipal Airport Update by Matt Kuhr, Airport Manager. Activities mentioned were the 2021 Air Show, Air Exec (chartered airplanes), four new private pilots, eight new students, Antique Airplane group moved in, contract with Phillips 66 for fuel, painting at airport, hangars are full (including the house), EAA Chapter held young eagles day, snow removal equipment building was constructed, new mechanic, and raising money for veteran memorial.

(d) Moved by Chuck Rosenberg seconded by Butch Eley to approve contract with A&E Electric, LLC to install trail lights at Lake Hastings in the amount of \$109,544.52. Jeff Hassenstab reported on the scope of this project, which is to install twenty-nine lights along the bike trail at Lake Hastings. The lighting would provide security for trail users and make the trail usable and safe when it's dark out. Bids were opened on November 30th. We received two bids, both over the budgeted amount, with the low bid coming from A&E Electric in the amount of \$109,544.52. The project would be paid for using ARPA funds and Parks/Rec sales tax funds. The completion date for the project is set for June 1, 2023. Councilmember Skutnik asked for trails for Ward 1 to be considered in the future. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(e) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Butch Eley to approve awarding the purchase of In-Car, Body Worn, and Interview Room Video Equipment to Sector Technology Group in the amount of \$478,458.03. Police Chief Story spoke on this item, which was budgeted for ARPA funds. The quote amount is \$478,458.03 and the budget is \$442,000. The project is \$36,458.03 over budget as quoted. We have worked with the company on the quote and products. This is a State approved quote, which provided a discount. The current system is from 2013, and is no longer sustainable or compliant. This system is updated to include live views and redacting software for public records. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(f) Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Matt Fong to approve submitting a Letter of Intent to apply for Rural Workforce Housing Land Development Funds from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Randy Chick, Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA), reported that the Rural Workforce Housing Land Development Program is funded with federal dollars allocated to the State from ARPA funds and the awards made to eligible municipalities. An eligible municipality is defined as a rural community that has been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, as determined by the Department of Economic Development (DED). DED has determined that one census tract in Adams County is qualified to apply for projects using the Program. The Community Redevelopment Authority has executed an option on a 3-acre parcel located within Hastings, which is the only eligible Qualified Census Tract and is encouraging the City to apply for funding. The Letter of Intent is the first step and is due December 15, 2022 and the full application is due January 19, 2023. The maximum award is \$1,000,000 and no formal match is required. This program is different than the Rural Workforce Housing Fund application approved by the Council in November, and the land development grant requires the City to work

in conjunction with an existing Rural Workforce Housing Fund program. (HEDC).

Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(g) Moved by Chuck Rosenberg seconded by Matt Fong to approve authorizing the Mayor to sign the Public Utilities Easement Agreement with Heartwell Renewables, LLC. Lee Vrooman reported that this easement is across the north end of the Heartwell Renewables property and will allow the City to construct an electrical feeder across this area. The electrical feeder will run from East 7th Street Substation to Whelan Energy Center (WEC) and provide a backup feeder for the Heartwell site. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions.

(a) Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Jeniffer Beahm to approve Resolution No. 2022-43 approving Hastings Public Library Policies. Amy Dissmeyer reported that the Library Board has been working on updating policies. They are bringing four policies in front of council tonight. Every three years, the Library Board must update policies for the accreditation process. The only new policy is the social media policy. Matt Fong has been a part of the Library Board, and this is a regular process to review policies. There is a separate policy committee that supports the governing board of the public library. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(b) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Ted Schroeder to approve Resolution No. 2022-44, to submit the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) for the City of Hastings and Hastings Regional Center to the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). Kevin Johnson reported this is a five year requirement, because the Utility Department has a long-term agreement with WAPA and the Youth Rehabilitation Training Center. There is a requirement to report what our resource capabilities are for electricity usage for the city load. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

6. Final Passage of Ordinances.

None.

7. Appointments.

None.

8. Miscellaneous and Other Business.

(a) Brian Gerdes spoke on truck parking in designated portion of the street. He requested a resolution to park his semi-tractor by his home on Eastside Boulevard.

Mayor Stutte presented each outgoing member of the council with an award for their service to the Hastings community. He recognized Chuck Rosenberg (Ward 3), Ted Schroeder (Ward 2), and Ginny Skutnik (Ward 1).

Oaths of Office

City Clerk administered Oath of Office to Council Members: Steven Huntley - First Ward; Brad Consbruck - Second Ward; Marc Rowan - Third Ward; Matt Fong - Fourth Ward.

Mayor Stutte asked for roll call. Following members were present: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steven Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm.

Election of City Council President

Shawn Hartmann nominated Matt Fong as Council President.

Steven Huntley nominated Butch Eley as Council President.

Mayor Stutte asked for further nominations for Council President. Seeing no further nominations, nominations were closed. After tally of votes cast via secret ballot, Mayor Stutte announced that Matt Fong received four votes and Butch Eley received four votes. Jesse Oswald explained that in this circumstance, the mayor has the right to provide the fifth vote, should the mayor choose to do so. Mayor Stutte cast his vote for Matt Fong, and announced Matt Fong as the Council President.

Election of City Council Vice President

Shawn Hartmann nominated Butch Eley as Council Vice President.

Marc Rowan nominated Jeniffer Beahm as Council Vice President.

Mayor Stutte asked for further nominations for Council Vice President. Seeing no further nominations, nominations were closed. After tally of votes cast via secret ballot, Mayor Stutte announced that Butch Eley received five votes and Jeniffer Beahm received three votes. Mayor Stutte announced Butch Eley as Council Vice President.

Moved by Butch Eley seconded by Shawn Hartmann there being no further business, to adjourn at 6:28 P.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Jeniffer Beahm, Brad Consbruck, Steven Huntley. Nays: Marc Rowan. Absent: None. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

Corey Stutte, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly S. Jacobitz, City Clerk

(S E A L)