

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 27, 2023

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 March 27, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Regular Session by Mayor Stutte with the following members present: Jeniffer Beahm, Steve Huntley, Brad Consbruck, Butch Eley, Joy Huffaker, Marc Rowan, Shawn Hartmann, Matt Fong. 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; 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; Director of Environmental, Marty Stange.

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

Moved by Butch Eley seconded by Shawn Hartmann to adopt current agenda for March 27, 2023 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, 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, March 24, 2023. 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 Rowan reminded citizens of Arbor Day, April 28th. He encouraged citizens to visit the Hastings Museum.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Heartwell Park Item 4(b): Against-Roger Coffman, 849 North Burlington; Willis Hunt, 616 Madden; Peg Wallace, 2825 North Columbine.

Highway 6 Project Item 8(a): For: Ron Sekora, 901 South Elm; Curt Oerter, 3350 South Smokey Hill, Werner Construction; Mat Habrock, Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce; Julie Budnick, 1946 West 8th, Werner/AGC; Scott Kvols, 1203 Lochview, Hastings Economic Development Corporation; Todd Allen, 5003 Jordan Way; Bill Hitesman, 1612 Hillcrest, Juniata; Bob Amyot, 3300 Shadow Ridge.
Against: Mike Bruns, 1613 West 6th, Big Dally's Deli; Kim Anderson, 1405 South Baltimore.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stutte expressed his condolences to the families affected by the fatal incident last week. He also thanked the first responders for their work at the scene and continued hard work to keep us safe.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Shawn Hartmann to approve all consent items, as presented. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Abstain: Marc Rowan. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting of March 13, 2023

(b) Approval of claims and payroll except the claim of Eldon's Automotive Repair

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

(d) Approval of Work Order EL-248, installation of a three-phase overhead transformer bank to serve an irrigation well north of 26th Street, west of Baltimore Avenue

(e) Approval of Work Order CO-185, new 50KW generator and transfer switch for substation building at North Denver Station

(f) Approval of Work Order CO-186, tools and equipment for Utility Department mechanic

(g) Approval of the request of the Hastings YMCA to utilize Hastings sidewalks and Hastings Lake for the YMCA Spring Duathlon on May 13, 2023

(h) Approval of the request of the Hastings Community Arts Council to utilize city streets for the Do the Brew event on April 29, 2023

(i) Approval of the request of the Hastings Community Arts Council for a Special Designated License for an outdoor craft beer festival event (Do The Brew) to be located at 1st Street and St. Joseph Avenue on April 29, 2023

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

3. Public Hearings.

None.

4. General Business.

(a) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Marc Rowan to approve the claim of Eldon's Automotive Repair in the amount of \$602.68 (City). Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Abstain: Joy Huffaker. Absent: None. The motion carried. Councilmember Huffaker recused herself because of Conflict of Interest.

(b) Moved by Butch Eley seconded by Shawn Hartmann to approve the bid from Crouch Recreation in the amount of \$103,649.00 for the purchase of a shelter to be installed at the Heartwell Park island. Jeff Hassenstab reported that over the last couple of years the shade trees on the Heartwell Park island have been damaged during wind storms. It was determined that adding a gazebo type shelter would be a nice addition to replace the damaged trees. The remaining damaged trees were removed this past winter while the lake was frozen. Feedback on the shelter design was given by the Heartwell Park neighbors. The final design did change from the original budget amount of \$75,000, so the project is over budget by \$28,649. This project is being funded by the Parks & Rec Sales Tax fund and we are using the Sourcewell Purchasing program. Installation would not occur until early Fall, so a portion of this project would need to be re-budgeted in the next fiscal year's budget.

Councilmember Fong reported that he went around the neighborhood and had good conversations and feedback about the gazebo. The consistent feedback received was that the design is aesthetically pleasing to the community and the surrounding architecture. It is muted in tone and is a classic design. He recognized that it is more expensive, but will stand the test of time and high utilization. Councilmember Hartmann stated that he and Mr. Fong are Ward 4

representatives. Mr. Hartmann reported that he had recently received comments of support for the project, but had not received negative feedback until tonight. Councilmember Huntley mentioned that college or high school students could design and build a gazebo to get the price down. Jeff Hassenstab strictly went off public feedback over the past year, and showing different possible designs to others. Jeff explained that the design had changed, based on public feedback, and therefore increased the project cost. The project area is very challenging, because of the bridge and building the structure. Mr. Fong stated that he received comments on the community Facebook group, and has met with multiple individuals to discuss the park. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: Marc Rowan, Steve Huntley. Absent: None. The motion carried.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions.
None.

6. Final Passage of Ordinances.
None.

7. Appointments.
None.

8. Miscellaneous and Other Business.

(a) Request to speak concerning State Highway 6 Project - Rebecca Bruns on behalf of Big Dally's Deli. Rebecca Bruns, 2403 West 4th Street.

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Steve Huntley there being no further business to come before the council to adjourn at 6:12 P.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: Marc Rowan. Absent: None. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

Corey Stutte, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly S. Jacobitz, City Clerk

(S E A L)