

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 26, 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 June 26, 2023.

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

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 Development Services, Chad Bunger; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Museum Director, Teresa Kreutzer-Hodson; Environmental Engineer, Marty Stange; Directors of Safety, Trent Clark and Bob Davis; Airport Manager, Matt Kuhr.

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

Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Shawn Hartmann to approve current agenda for the June 26, 2023 Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, June 23, 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 Fong reported that Ward 4 (Mr. Fong and Mr. Hartmann) will host a Town Hall meeting this Thursday at 7 P.M., at the Barrett Alumni Center on the Hastings College campus. He also reported the summer reading program at the Hastings Public Library is going well, and there is still time to sign up.

Councilmember Rowan reported that Highland Park is well taken care of by staff.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stutte reported that Marty Stange and Hastings were recognized for an Excellence in Creative Solutions award from the Environmental Protection Agency for the ASR (Aquifer Storage & Restoration) project. He received the award last week at the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) Environmental Quality Council Meeting.

Sister City Report.

Mayor Stutte reported on Jessica Henry's students, who then gave an update on their recent trip to Ozu, Japan, our Sister City.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items.

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

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting of June 12, 2023

(b) Approval of claims and payroll

(c) Approval of the request of Hastings Public Schools to utilize city property for the Hit the Ground Running event on August 31, 2023

(d) Approval of Work Order PL-623, replacement of roof at North Denver Station, Floors 3,4 and 5

(e) Approval of Work Order EL-230, new 3-phase feeder 249 from 7th Street Substation to Whelan Energy Center

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

3. Public Hearings.

None.

4. General Business.

(a) Moved by Jeniffer Beahm seconded by Steve Huntley to approve the selection of Garver as the Aviation Consultant for future Airport Development Projects for the next 5 years.

Matt Kuhr reported that the City of Hastings sent out a Notice to Airport Consultants soliciting a Statement of Qualifications for airfield development projects that are anticipated to occur within the next five fiscal years. The Federal Aviation Administration asks that this process is done every five years. Finalists were interviewed, with Garver being selected unanimously by the selection committee. The Airport Advisory Board voted unanimously to support the selection of Garver. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

(b) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Matt Fong to approve the agreement with Ziemba Roofing for the North Denver Station (NDS) Plant Roof Replacement in the amount of \$314,829. Lee Vrooman reported that this project is to replace the roof on the third, fourth and fifth floors of the power plant due to hail damage. We received one bid on April 19th, which was from Ziemba Roofing. The bid was \$100,000 higher than budgeted, so staff worked with Ziemba to redesign the roof system to bring down the cost. The project meets FM Global's (insurance carrier) specifications. The bid is over the budgeted amount by approximately \$65,000. The project is scheduled to start in August. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

(c) Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Shawn Hartmann to approve moving City Council Meetings from the Council Chambers in the City Building, 220 North Hastings Avenue, to the Hastings Public Library, 314 North Denver Avenue, at 5:30 P.M. beginning July 10, 2023 and to include following meetings.

Shawn Metcalf reported that staff has been moved out of the building. It is appropriate to move meetings to another location. Once the airport is ready, we will move from the Hastings Public Library to the Hastings Municipal Airport. We are moving because we want to limit the exposure of anyone who comes into the building. Erik Nielsen spoke about the sound system, laptops, projector and screens that will be utilized at the Hastings Public Library. He stated if we move to the library, staff can move the dais, cameras, and other equipment to the airport. Kim Jacobitz reported that current locations of city hall departments are posted on the doors at 220 North Hastings Avenue. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Joy Huffaker, Jeniffer Beahm, Corey Stutte. Nays: Marc Rowan, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

(d) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Matt Fong to approve moving City Council Worksessions from the Council Chambers in the City Building, 220 North Hastings Avenue, to the Hastings Public Library, 314 North Denver Avenue, at 5:30 P.M. beginning July 17, 2023 and to include following meetings. Councilmember Consbruck asked that relocation of meetings wait until after the city hall decision is made. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Joy Huffaker, Jeniffer Beahm, Corey Stutte. Nays: Marc Rowan, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions.

(a) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Matt Fong to approve Resolution No. 2023-18 authorizing plaques, certificates of achievement or items of value may be awarded to City of Hastings employees in an amount not to exceed \$25 per award. Trent Clark, Director of Safety, spoke on this item. This resolution helps reinforce a safety culture. We are on the right track, prioritizing safety city-wide. He explained that there is a possibility to lower insurance cost in the long-term. It gives employees an incentive to work towards the goal of safety. Shawn Metcalf explained that the Utility Department already receives these awards. He explained that the Utility budget is \$25,000. He wants to continue the program that Utility has, and budget for the entire city. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

(b) ORDINANCE NO. 4738 CONVEYING OWNERSHIP OF ALLEY ALONG SOUTH STREET BETWEEN KANSAS AND COLORADO AVENUE TO THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Jesse Oswald spoke on this item. The alley on South Street between Kansas and Colorado Avenue was previously vacated. The adjacent property owner, the CRA, requested ownership from the City. The City has reviewed this piece of property and determined that this is not a beneficial use for the City to retain this alley. The north part of this alley was previously vacated and conveyed so it is currently only a partial alley. The CRA is wanting to sell lots 8-13 to a developer who has offered to buy this property, but wants this alley as part of the purchase. With conveyance of this property to the CRA, these lots will be able to be developed and put to beneficial use and increase the tax base.

Said Ordinance was read by title and thereafter Councilmember Matt Fong moved for passage of the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Jeniffer Beahm. Upon roll call vote the following Councilmembers voted Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

Councilmember Matt Fong moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended; Councilmember Shawn Hartmann seconded the motion to suspend the rules and upon roll call vote the following Councilmembers voted Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three fourths vote of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance. The ordinance is declared to be lawfully adopted upon publication as required by law.

6. Final Passage of Ordinances.

None.

7. Appointments.

(a) Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Matt Fong to approve Mayor Stutte's appointments, as presented:

Zoning Board of Adjustment: Dan Schwartzkopf, 7/01/2023 to 7/01/2026, Reappointment

Civil Service Commission: Rick Schnase, 7/01/2023 to 7/01/2028, Reappointment

Utility Advisory Board: Scott Snell, 7/01/2023 to 7/01/2028, Replacing Shayne Raitt

Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

8. Miscellaneous and Other Business.

None.

Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Steve Huntley there being no further business to come before the City Council to adjourn at 6:08 P.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

Corey Stutte, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly S. Jacobitz, City Clerk

(S E A L)