

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 9, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted at the Hastings Public Library, 314 N. Denver Avenue, on October 9, 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, Butch Eley, Joy Huffaker, Marc Rowan, Shawn Hartmann, Matt Fong. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm.

The following City Officials were present: City Administrator, Shawn Metcalf; City Attorney, Jesse Oswald; City Clerk, Kimberly Jacobitz; Police Chief, Adam Story; Police Captain, Raelee Van Winkle; Assistant Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse; Parks & Recreation Director, Jeff Hassenstab; Information Technology Director, Erik Nielsen; Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman; Director of Development Services, Chad Bunker; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Museum Director, Teresa Kreutzer-Hodson; Director of Energy Production & Supply, Derek Zeisler; Public Information Manager, Tony Herrman; Chief Building Official, Kevin Kubo; 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 October 9, 2023, Regular Meeting. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, October 6, 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 available for public review. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted and accessible to members of the public.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

Councilmember Rowan reported that he, along with Councilmember Fong and City Administrator Shawn Metcalf, attended the League of Nebraska Municipalities conference last week.

Councilmember Fong thanked Parks and Recreation staff for their quick response on Sunday for unlocking bathrooms for the CROP walk attendees.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stutte recognized service anniversaries for James Howsden, Airport, 15; Alan Munsell, Street, 10; Roger Aspen, Utility, 5; Taylor Crawford, Library, 5; Veronica King, Utility, 45; Justin Kohl, Utility, 10; Rachel Mueller, Library, 5; Matthew Dvorak, Cemetery, 5.

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, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting of September 25, 2023

(b) Approval of the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of September 27, 2023

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

(d) Approval of Work Order EL-184, replacement of nine existing decorative street light poles along 3rd Street from Lincoln Avenue to Denver Avenue

- (e) Approval of Work Order EL-257, installation of a single-phase underground electric line and padmount transformers to serve Lakeview 10th Addition along Lakeview Avenue from Martin Avenue to 33rd Street
- (f) Approval of Work Order EL-258, installation of 1ph UGD electric lines and transformers north of Avalon Lane from Kingston Drive to Kingston Drive at Kingswood Plaza Trailer Park
- (g) Approval of Work Order EL-259, installation of street lights along Utecht Circle north of 39th Street

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

3. Public Hearings.

(a) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Butch Eley to adjourn as Mayor and City Council and reconvene as Board of Equalization. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

Public hearing on the levying of assessments in the Business Improvement District

Sara Tall, Director of Business Improvement District (BID) spoke on behalf of the BID. She has been the Director since mid-June. The BID was established by the City Council in 1986 to address concerns over a large number of vacancies and numerous maintenance issues. The district includes approximately 150 properties. Property owners within this district pay an annual assessment of the property value to enhance the physical and economic wellbeing of this twenty-block area in the heart of our town. This assessment provides the funds to host public activities and events, newsletters and promotional material, as well as physical improvements. Spoke For: Dave Rippe, 1312 Heritage Drive Either Way: Katie O'Callaghan, 828 West 2nd Street. City Clerk received no objections.

(b) Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Shawn Hartmann to adjourn as Board of Equalization and reconvene as Mayor and City Council. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

(c) Moved by Shawn Hartmann seconded by Butch Eley to approve Resolution No. 2023-31 making assessments in the Business Improvement District of the City of Hastings. Sara Tall reported that she did not receive any objections at the BID meeting when the assessments were discussed. She also explained that the statues downtown are usually a community effort for funding. Her job is to find a location for the statues. Jesse Oswald explained why the City Council sits as the Board of Equalization. The State statute says that a city levying special assessments against real estate in a Business Improvement District is required to determine the amount of each special assessment. The governing body (City Council) must sit as the Board of Equalization to make that determination. The local governing agency is responsible for adjusting tax rates in different districts to ensure an equitable distribution of the tax burden. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

4. General Business.

(a) Moved by Butch Eley seconded by Shawn Hartmann to approve claim of Eldon's Automotive Repair in the amount of \$1,577.54 (City). Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Abstain: Joy Huffaker. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried. Joy Huffaker abstained because of conflict of interest.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions.

None.

6. Final Passage of Ordinances.

None.

7. Appointments.

(a) Moved by Steve Huntley seconded by Marc Rowan to approve Mayor Stutte's appointment to the Board of Adjustments: Bryon Jorgensen, term is from 10/9/2023 to 10/9/2026, Replacement. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

8. Miscellaneous and Other Business.

None.

Moved by Steve Huntley seconded by Shawn Hartmann there being no further business to come before the council to adjourn at 5:47 P.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Marc Rowan, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Brad Consbruck, Steve Huntley. Nays: None. Absent: Jeniffer Beahm. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

Corey Stutte, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly S. Jacobitz, City Clerk

(S E A L)