

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, February 23, 2026

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 Municipal Airport, 3300 West 12th Street, on February 23, 2026.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in Regular Session by Mayor Beckby with the following members present Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brian Hoffman, Larry Consbruck, Brad Consbruck, Matt Fong, Marc Rowan. Absent: Maggie Esch. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator, Mark Funkey; City Attorney, Jesse Oswald; City Clerk, Tyler Ficken; Utilities Manager, Derek Zeisler; Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse; Police Chief, Adam Story; Development Services Director, Kevin Kubo; Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman; Director of Parks & Recreation, Jeff Hassenstab; Library Director, Kelly Reisig; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Director of Finance/City Treasurer, Roger Nash; Public Information Manager; Tony Herrman; Technology Director, Erik Nielsen; Information Technology, Kirk Layton; Safety Director, Trent Clark.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Moved by Steve Huntley seconded by Michael Anderson to adopt the current agenda. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: Marc Rowan. Absent: Maggie Esch. The motion carried.

Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, February 20, 2026. 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 and a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted and accessible to members of the public.

**COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

Councilmember Hoffman welcomed Hastings College students to the meeting. Councilmember Rowan reported on the new Museum exhibit. Councilmember Huntley asked for a report from Utilities Manager, Derek Zeiser which included posting charge and discussion of late fees, the availability of the At Your Service newsletter and the future cost of service study.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

### 1. All Consent Items.

Moved by Steve Huntley seconded by Matt Fong to approve all consent items. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: Maggie Esch. The motion carried.

(a) Approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting of February 9, 2026

(b) Approval of claims and payroll

(c) Approval of the request of the Hastings Public Library to utilize city property for the Summer Reading Program Block Party on May 30, 2026

(d) Approval of agreement between Mary Lanning Healthcare and City of Hastings for the use of the South Fire Station to conduct car seat installation demonstrations

(e) Approval of the request for Community Development Block Grant funds, drawdown #3, in the amount of \$350,000 for activity items for Community Development Block Grant Project 24-ED-003, Downtown Revitalization (Bruckman Rubber Expansion Project)

(f) Approval of Work Order SW-321, install new plastic sewer main, manholes and services along Highway 6

(g) Approval of Noah's Ark Processor's LLC to occupy or use city property to access Western Reserve

## **REGULAR AGENDA:**

### 2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

None.

### 3. Public Hearings.

(a) Public hearing on the application of Knees and Martinis, LLC dba "Valentinis" for a Class "C" Liquor License (Beer, Wine, Spirits, On and Off Sale) at 3609 Cimarron Plaza, Suite 135. Resolution No. 2026-09 approving the application of Knees and Martinis, LLC dba "Valentinis" for a Class "C" Liquor License at 3609 Cimarron Plaza, Suite 135. Mayor Beckby turned the meeting over to Council President Huntley to conduct items 3a and 3b at 6:05 p.m. Council President Huntley opened the public hearing. Police Chief, Adam Story reported that the Police Department processed the application and recommended approval. Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Brian Hoffman to approve Resolution No. 2026-09 approving the application of Knees and Martinis, LLC dba "Valentinis" for a Class "C" Liquor License at 3609 Cimarron Plaza, Suite 135. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: Maggie Esch. The motion carried.

(b) Approval of the manager application of George J. J. Beckby in connection with the Class "C" Liquor License of Knees and Martinis, LLC dba "Valentinis" located at 3609 Cimarron Plaza, Suite 135. Moved by Larry Consbruck seconded by Michael Anderson to approve the manager application of George J. J. Beckby in connection with the Class "C" Liquor License

of Knees and Martinis, LLC dba "Valentinis" located at 3609 Cimarron Plaza, Suite 135. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: Maggie Esch. The motion carried. Council President Huntley turned the meeting back over to Mayor Beckby at 6:10 p.m.

(c) Second public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project: #21-DTR-007 assisting with the completion of downtown revitalization improvements, including commercial rehab/facade improvements, etc. Mayor Beckby opened the public hearing. Lori Ferguson of the South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) reported on the project history and purpose of the hearing. Community Redevelopment Authority Director, Randy Chick reported that this project is behind schedule due to changes of projects. He reported that the program has been incredible for the downtown, with eleven buildings being completed, fifteen commercial spaces, thirteen new businesses to the downtown area and twenty-six housing units. Mayor Beckby closed the public hearing.

(d) Second public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project: #24-ED-003, Bruckman Rubber Co. Economic Development Expansion Project. Mayor Beckby opened the public hearing. Lori Ferguson of SCEDD reported that the required hires have been completed and the new production line has started. Kirk Feeney of Bruckman Rubber Co. provided examples of the products being manufactured and reported on the hiring that has been completed. Sydney Erickson expressed support for the project on behalf of the HEDC and Chamber of Commerce and reported that \$175,000 will be repaid to the NDO revolving loan fund which can be loaned again in the future. Mayor Beckby closed the public hearing.

#### 4. General Business.

(a) Approval of MOU between City of Hastings and Chief Ethanol Fuels designating the City of Hastings as the Public Sponsor/Lead Applicant for the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Grant. Moved by Brad Consbruck seconded by Matt Fong to approve Memorandum of Understanding between City of Hastings and Chief Ethanol Fuels. City Administrator, Mark Funkey reported that the City would serve at the public sponsor entity; Chief Ethanol Representatives are available for questions. Councilmember L. Consbruck asked if the item is for expansion or rail infrastructure. Wayne Garrett, General Manager for Chief Ethanol Fuels reported that the plant is being modernized as well as expanding and is expected to be one of the most efficient plants in the country; it will be the largest investment that Chief Industries has made with any of their brands. Tory Kory of Chief Ethanol Fuels reported that the rail portion will improve safety, efficiency and production on the site. The grant with the Federal Rail Administration is expected to be approximately \$10 Million. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: Maggie Esch. The motion carried.

#### 5. Ordinances and Resolutions.

(a) Resolution No. 2026-11 accepting the work and the Certificate of the City Engineer in Street Improvement District 2025-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17. Moved by Steve Huntley seconded by Michael Anderson to approve Resolution No. 2026-11, 2026-12, 2026-13, 2026-14, 2026-15, 2026-16, 2026-17 and 2026-18 accepting the Engineer's Certificate of completion to the street, gas, water, sewer, paving and setting the public hearing date to set the levies. Director of Engineering reported that the hearing date will be April 13, 2026 and notices will be mailed to the property owners. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: Maggie Esch. The motion carried.

(b) Resolution No. 2026-12 accepting the schedule of assessments as prepared by the City Engineer for special assessments proposed to be levied in Street Improvement District 2025-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17 and setting a hearing date relative to the levy of said special assessments

(c) Resolution No. 2026-13 accepting the work of the Certificate of the City Engineer in the Gas Extension District 2025-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17

(d) Resolution No. 2026-14 accepting the schedule of assessments as prepared by the City Engineer for special assessments proposed to be levied in Gas Extension District 2025-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17 and setting a hearing date relative to the levy of said special assessments

(e) Resolution No. 2026-15 accepting the work and the Certificate of the City Engineer in Sewer Connection District 2024-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17

(f) Resolution No. 2026-16 accepting the schedule of assessments as prepared by the City Engineer for special assessments proposed to be levied in Sewer Connection District 2024-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17 and setting a hearing date relative to the levy of said special assessments

(g) Resolution No. 2026-17 accepting the work and the Certificate of the City Engineer in Water Extension District 2025-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision 17

(h) Resolution No. 2026-18 accepting the schedule of assessments as prepared by the City Engineer for special assessments proposed to be levied in Water Extension District 2025-1 Lochland Meadows Subdivision Number 17 and setting a hearing date relative to the levy of said special assessments

6. Final Passage of Ordinances.  
None.

7. Appointments.  
None.

8. Miscellaneous and Other Business.

None.

9. Possible Closed Session (if necessary or requested).

None.

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Beckby adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

APPROVED:

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George J.J. Beckby, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tyler Ficken, City Clerk

(SEAL)