

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, April 27, 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 April 27, 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, Maggie Esch. Absent: None. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator, Mark Funkey; City Attorney, Jesse Oswald; City Clerk, Tyler Ficken; Director of Finance/City Treasurer, Roger Nash; Technology Director, Erik Nielsen; Information Technology, Kirk Layton; Public Information Manager; Tony Herrman; Utility Manager, Derek Zeisler; Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman; Development Services Director, Kevin Kubo; Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Library Director, Kelly Reisig; Safety Director, Trent Clark; Museum Director, Teresa Kreutzer-Hodson; Police Chief, Adam Story; Airport Manager, Matt Kuhr.

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

Moved by Michael Anderson seconded by Maggie Esch to adopt the current agenda. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Maggie Esch, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: Marc Rowan. Absent: None. The motion carried.

Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, April 24, 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 Rowan expressed his thanks for the rain, and his granddaughter was born, and he thanked the 2nd floor of the hospital.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

Curtis Johnson and Edward Krontz spoke on Ordinance 4829

**MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. All Consent Items.

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

- (a) Approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting of April 13, 2026
- (b) Approval of claims and payroll except the claim of Vaughan's Printing
- (c) Approval of the request of First Street Brewing Company to utilize city property for the Fun Run and Bags Tourney on August 8, 2026
- (d) Approval of the request of No Coast Brewing, LLC dba First Street Brewing Company for a Special Designated Liquor License for a Fun Run and Bags Tournament event on North St. Joseph Avenue between 1st Street and the east-west alley dividing the block between 1st Street and 2nd Street on August 8, 2026
- (e) Approval of the request of First Street Brewing Company to utilize city property for the Do the Que BBQ event on August 22, 2026
- (f) Approval of the request of No Coast Brewing, LLC dba First Street Brewing Company for a Special Designated Liquor License for the Do The Que BBQ event on North St. Joseph Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street and on a portion of First Street on August 21 and 22, 2026
- (g) Approval of Addendum to Duncan Field Lease Agreement adding Hastings Sports LLC as a party to the original agreement
- (h) Approval of Invoice No. 2083 from South Central Economic Development District in the amount of \$10,505.30 for administrative services for Brownfield Grant
- (i) Approval of the request to draw funds to pay Invoice No. 2083 from South Central Economic Development District for administrative services for Brownfield Grant

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.  
None.

3. Public Hearings.  
None.

4. General Business.

(a) Approval of the claim of Vaughan's Printing in the amount of \$215.00. Moved by Steve Huntley seconded by Michael Anderson to approve claim of Vaughan's Printing in the amount of \$215.00. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Abstention: Esch. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(b) Approval of authorizing the Mayor to sign the application for the Federal Opportunity Zones 2.0 grant. Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Maggie Esch to approve authorization of mayor to sign the Federal Opportunity Zones 2.0 application. Community Development Director, Sydney Erickson of the Hastings Economic Development Corporation reported on the award for two census tracts within Hastings. The opportunity zone encourages private investment within the tracts by the use of tax incentives which are invested back into the projects and community. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad

Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Maggie Esch, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions.

(a) Resolution No. 2026-37 adopting and approving the execution of an Agency Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, for Project No. 3-31-0040-024-2026 to be submitted by the Department to the Federal Aviation Administration to obtain federal assistance for the development of the Airport. Moved by Brian Hoffman seconded by Steve Huntley to approve the execution of an Agency Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, for Project No. 3-31-0040-024-2026 to be submitted by the Department to the Federal Aviation Administration to obtain federal assistance for the development of the Airport. Airport Manager Matt Kuhr reported that this application agreement is for engineering for the entire runway project and there will be an additional grant from the state which will leave the City share at three percent. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Michael Anderson, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Maggie Esch, Marc Rowan, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

(b) Ordinance No. 4829 establishing a Restaurant and Drinking Place Occupation Tax. Moved by Brian Hoffman seconded by Maggie Esch to approve Ordinance 4829 establishing a Restaurant and Drinking place occupation tax. City Administrator, Mark Funkey reported that the restaurant tax was discussed nine or ten months ago, and the retreat in February, with the consensus being to move this forward soon. As presented, the Ordinance is at 2.5% to fund the Museum and general fund. Councilmember B. Consbruck stated that the problem the City faces is salaries that it cannot afford, and he supports the restaurant tax; people will have more control over where their money is going. City Administrator, Mark Funkey stated that one percent will raise approximately \$600,000 on average. The Council discussed how to capture the tax from mobile food vendors; the permitting process will need to be further developed. Councilmember Esch discussed the timing and upcoming budget; this will not address fully the City's budget issues, but it is a step in the right direction. Councilmember Esch added that the City is missing out on visitor dollars and many other larger and smaller communities have the tax currently. Councilmember Huntley suggested moving forward at the proposed amount and receive feedback from the community prior to the second reading of the Ordinance. Councilmember Hoffman added that Hastings does not collect as much as other communities from sales tax; collecting the tax from visitors is important; visitors receive services from the City. It is based on consumption, which is a choice. Councilmember L. Consbruck stated that he supports the restaurant tax over the property tax. Councilmember Anderson shared his concerns regarding collecting the tax from mobile vendors and how it would impact the elderly. Councilmember Rowan stated that the city should be able to find cuts to match the amount generated by the tax. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Huntley, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Maggie Esch, Brian Hoffman, Matt Fong. Nays: Michael Anderson, Marc Rowan. Absent: None. The motion carried.

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 6:51 p.m.

APPROVED:

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George J.J. Beckby, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tyler Ficken, City Clerk

( S E A L )