

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 8, 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 June 8, 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, Brad Consbruck, Larry Consbruck, Matt Fong, Brian Hoffman, Marc Rowan. Absent: Maggie Esch. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator, Mark Funkey; 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; Director of Parks & Recreation, Jeff Hassenstab; Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Police Chief, Adam Story; Police Captain, Jason Haase.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, June 5, 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 reviewed 4th of July celebration events.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Service Anniversaries: Benjamin Erie, Fire, 20; Jared Shook, Operations, 5; John Reining, Street, 10; James Barron, Police, 10; Sabra Ditter, Police, 10; Nathan Hanson, Police, 10.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. All Consent Items. Moved by Marc Rowan seconded by Steve Huntley to approve the consent agenda except item i. 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 May 26, 2026
- (b) Approval of claims and payroll
- (c) Approval of Work Order GA-396, new 4" medium pressure gas main and adding a regulator station for Central Community College Phase 4
- (d) Approval of Work Order SW-392, reline 10" sanitary sewer on South Cedar from "D" Street south to "E" Street and reline 8" sanitary sewer main on North Briggs Avenue from 9th Street to 14th Street
- (e) Approval of Work Order WA-126, Well 17 (North Shore Drive), upgrade to dual pump and install 4,400 LF of 8" water pipe
- (f) Approval of Work Order WA-139, Well 17 (North Shore Drive), convert from municipal well to ASR extraction well with new dual pump system and controls
- (g) Approval of Work Order EL-315, conversion from 2400/4160Y to 7970/13800Y from East Side Boulevard to Elm Avenue along 2nd Street
- (h) Approval of the request of the YWCA Adams County to utilize city property for 4th of July Children's Parade on July 4, 2026
- (i) Approval of the agreement with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC for Qualified Environmental Professional Services for Hastings Former Middle School Asbestos Cleanup Grant. Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Steve Huntley to approve agreement with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC for Qualified Environmental Professional Services for Hastings Former Middle School Asbestos Cleanup Grant in the estimated amount of \$42,000. Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman reported that six bids were received and Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC was chosen as the preferred consultant based on their experience and the lowest estimated cost of \$42,000. The work is required by the EPA Brownfield Grant and paid for through the grant. Councilmember Huntley asked when the proposal will be available and Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman provided that it would take a couple of months for plans and bid documents; the process is EPA driven. Councilmember Rowan confirmed with Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman that another entity would do the work of asbestos removal with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC conducting the oversight. 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.
- (j) Approval of Water Stewardship Sponsorship Agreement between City of Hastings and Google LLC

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.
None.
- 3. Public Hearings.
None.
- 4. General Business.

(a) 2026-2027 Budget Presentations: Police, 911 and Fire.

Police Chief, Adam Story, reported that the Police Department is not asking for capital or operational increases; analysis of staffing shows an increase in personnel costs of about \$400,000. He stated that he is proud of what the agency can accomplish with the funding it received when compared to Kearney and Grand Island funding levels. Councilmember Fong asked Chief Story to address training costs, and Chief Story provided that training is mandated by the State which is based on the activities the officers are participating in and provided the example of downloading cell phones; training is important and liability is reduced when officers are well-trained. Much of the training is done in-house to reduce costs. Councilmember Huntley asked about community outreach. Chief Story highlighted the outreach on the Facebook page, Shop with a Cop and National Night Out, and speaking with service clubs. Councilmember Hoffman complimented the agency for doing more with less when compared to Grand Island and Kearney. Councilmember Rowan inquired about unforeseen expenses, and Chief Story explained that the department's budget for commodities for the worst-case scenario, and the agency will work within the budget.

Police Captain, Jason Haase reported that the 911 budget will be lower than initially requested due to the number of employees taking health insurance being lower. Police Captain Haase, discussed with Council Members Hoffman and Rowan the funding mechanisms for 911; the City receives wired telephone funds from Adams County residents and wireless funds which go from the wireless carrier to the Public Service Commission, which is then distributed to PSAPs based on call volume. The wireless fund is restricted as to how the funds can be used, while the wired fund is not limited; the wired rate is capped at \$1.00 per line and is currently at \$.75 and is difficult to increase. Councilmember Rowan inquired about staffing levels and Police Captain, Jason Haase reported that the department is currently in the hiring process for one position. Councilmember Fong asked about a potential future partnership with Adams County. Police Captain, Jason Haase reported that the likely future Sheriff is open to the conversation. Councilmember Anderson inquired about the top priorities for 911 moving forward. Police Captain, Jason Haase reported that 911 has focused heavily on technology while remaining within budget; there are needs for an updated radio system and an emergency medical dispatch system which improves the medical terminology dispatched to EMS for medical calls.

Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse reported that the department is not going to increase the budget aside from comparability wage costs. Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse addressed the status of personnel and highlighted the reduction of four part-time personnel which could be re-evaluated in the future. A possible schedule change may help with future recruitment and overtime issues. Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse discussed the capital request which is funded by the sinking fund and is utilized for various apparatus and equipment replacements. The public safety fund is utilized for grant match opportunities and will provide an ambulance in the first quarter of 2027 through an Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Priority capital expenditures include security improvements and window replacements at stations one and two respectively and continued concrete replacement projects. Councilmember Huntley inquired about grant opportunities. Fire Chief, Troy

Vorderstrasse reported that the City utilizes grants such as the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, but opportunities are limited for fire apparatus. Fire Chief, Troy Vorderstrasse reported that he will soon be presenting a purchase agreement to the Council for an apparatus which meets the Department's specifications.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions.

None.

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 6:56 p.m.

APPROVED:

George J.J. Beckby, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tyler Ficken, City Clerk

(SEAL)