

**HOPKINS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting of the Hopkins City Council was held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1010 1<sup>st</sup> Street South.

Mayor Hanlon called the meeting to order with Council Members Balan, Beck, Garrido and Hunke attending. Others attending included City Manager Mornson, Assistant City Manager Lenz, City Clerk Domeier, Deputy City Clerk Osman, Finance Director Bishop, Planner Howard, Special Projects and Initiatives Manager Imihy Bean, Police Chief Johnson and Economic Development Director Elverum.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

**Motion** by Balan. **Second** by Hunke.

**Motion** to Adopt the Agenda.

**Ayes: Balan, Beck, Garrido, Hanlon, Hunke**

**Nays: None. Motion carried.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**III.1. Introduction and Oath of Office for Police Officers; Johnson/Domeier**

Police Chief Johnson introduced and shared background information of Officers Malmstedt and Yeber and Cadet Dek. City Clerk Domeier issued the Oath of Office to the officers and cadet.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion** by Garrido. **Second** by Balan.

**Motion** to Approve the Consent Agenda.

1. Second Reading: Ordinance 2023-1198 Amending Chapter 102 of the City Code Regarding Attached Garage Setbacks for new Construction in N3-B Zones

**Ayes: Balan, Beck, Garrido, Hanlon, Hunke**

**Nays: None. Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**VII.1. Hopkins Center for the Arts and Stages Theatre Company Lease Agreement; Lenz**

Assistant City Manager Lenz summarized a lease agreement between the City of Hopkins and Stages Theatre Company for use of portions of the Hopkins Center for the Arts from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2028, with an optional 5 year extension to 2032. The recommended agreement comes after a year of negotiations with Stages regarding lease renewal. The lease is similar to previous leases between the partners but recognizes a change in market value, capital and operational costs associated with the facility since the last negotiations in 2011.

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Representatives from Stages Theatre Company provided an update on their programming and more information on their mission. The City Council thanked Stages for the commitment and opportunities in Hopkins. City Manager Mornson thanked Assistant City Manager Lenz for her work during negotiations and for taking the lead on the project.

**Motion** by Beck. **Second** by Hunke.

**Motion** to Approve lease agreement with Stages Theatre Company.

**Ayes: Balan, Beck, Garrido, Hanlon, Hunke**

**Nays: None. Motion carried.**

**VII.2. Review 2024 General Fund Budget and Tax Levy; Bishop**

Finance Director Bishop reviewed the 2024 General Fund Budget and Tax Levy with the Council. A preliminary levy must be adopted by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The City Council reviewed draft versions of the 2024 General Fund Budget and Tax Levy on July 18<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>. The Council's direction was to continue to review and look for options to reduce the tax levy. The purpose of this review is to provide input and guidance for the 2024 General Fund Budget and Tax Levy.

Council Member Beck appreciated the creativity from staff and that taxes would go down for the average homeowner. He shared concerns about the projected revenue and expenditures, bond issuance and new programming. Mayor Hanlon did not oppose using the fund balance for the projected levy. He asked for further clarification on budget increases in Administrative Services, Inspections and Planning; requested a reduction in the equity and diversity funding; and an update on the permit and licensing fee study. Council Member Garrido questioned the ACE Program funding to which Finance Director Bishop provided the breakdown. Council Member Hunke shared concerns about using the general fund surplus and prolonging any maintenance and infrastructure projects. Council Member Balan agreed with most comments and was looking for opportunities to reduce the budget. City Manager talked about the budget projections, cost savings, proposed levy and staff initiatives to reduce the levy.

**VII.3. Second Quarter Financial Report; Bishop**

Finance Director Bishop summarized and gave a presentation regarding the second quarter operating results. Council Member Beck requested that staff to monitor the Depot deficit.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Hanlon reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, and upon a motion by Hunke, second by Balan, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Domeier, City Clerk