

# THE BRIDGE



**Welcome to the Employee Newsletter!**

## Leadership Minute

### Busy Springtime

By Dan Wietecha

This morning at Rotary, I was asked, "What's new in the City?" A normal question, but I was momentarily at a loss for words. We're always busy, very busy, but we're kind of at that moment in between seasons. What's new is more of what's about to become new.

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## Supporting Yourself and Each Other Through Challenging Times

Right now, several of our colleagues are facing serious health challenges, either personally or within their families. This impacts all of us in different ways. Many of us are deeply concerned about our coworkers and their loved ones, wanting to offer support but sometimes feeling unsure of how to help. At the same time, we're stepping in to cover for those who need time away, which can add to the emotional and practical weight we're carrying. As a team, we want to ensure that everyone has the resources they need. Materials will be available—both in print and digital formats—to offer guidance and support. Please feel free to share these with others, and don't hesitate to remind colleagues about the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This is exactly what they are here for (see the article below). EAP also supports families and can help with a wide range of concerns. Let's take care of each other and lean on the resources available.

[EAP Resources](#)

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# March Workiversaries

[See who's celebrating a workiversary in March](#)

## Kudos Korner

Kudos to the City's police and fire departments for providing excellent service to our community.



Kudos to Dawn Skelly and Libby for working so hard on the website project and putting everything together for the departments.



## Management Team Notes

- The Preliminary Audit was held last week. No news is good news.
- Both Police and Fire Departments have had a large number of calls the past two weeks. Kudos to all for managing them well.
- The City will be closing on the 1292 Frontage Road property for the central Water Treatment Plant in April. The tenants have been given 90 day notice to vacate. Part of the process for acquiring the property requires the City to assist in relocation for the existing businesses, Stacy's Stars and Carbones.
- There was an Open House for residents near the central water treatment plant and water line project this past Tuesday to address questions. The project will begin this summer.
- Signage is being added to the 10 mile loop.
- Pool repairs will be done in April; pool to be filled mid-May.
- The Police Department has all vehicles in for 2025—yes, something to celebrate. Vehicle acquisition has been difficult over the past few years!
- The officer position has been posted; internally there are two applicants for the School Resource Officer position recently approved by the District.
- The Salt Shed at Public Works is getting a new roof next week.
- The summer programming schedule will be released next week.

# City Council Updates

March 17, 2025 Meeting

- Council welcomed new employees Anna Henn, Lucas Knoll, and Charlotte King.
- Amended the city's legal agreement with LeVander, Gillen & Miller, P.A to modify the responsible attorney. Greta Bjerkness, shareholder and vice president at the firm, will serve as the city's attorney. Watch for a later article about Greta's appointment.
- Authorized the city's entry into a Municipal Cooperative Construction Agreement with MnDOT for the Highway 55 Signal Replacements Project. The cost share for the city to complete this project is currently estimated to be \$616,305.15.
- Accepted a \$100 donation from Tina Foster in Memory of Earl Foster to the Fire Department.
- Accepted a \$600 donation from Allen and Kathy Plaisted and a \$500 donation from Miesville Lions Club to the Fire Department.
- Accepted a \$1,000 donation from The Hastings Youth Athletic Association (HYAA) to the Parks and Recreation Department to be used for a memorial bench in a city park or on a city trail.
- Approved the designation of the Run for the Roses 5k & Family Day as a Special Event on May 3, 2025.

[View the Council Packet for Details](#)

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## Wellness Spotlight

Vital WorkLife - Employee Assistance Program

[Expanded Access to Virtual Therapy](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[BetterHelp/Vital WorkLife Website](#)

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## Let's Dish

[Steak Fajita Bowl](#)

[Black Bean and Spinach Burritos](#)

[Gluten-Free Lemon Brownies](#)

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## Fun Dates

March/April

- March 29 - Earth Hour
- April 1 - April Fool's Day
- April 3 - National Burrito Day
- April 7 - World Health Day

## City Event Calendar

City of Hastings | Hastings City Hall 101 4th Street East | Hastings, MN, MN 55033 US

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