

THE BRIDGE



Welcome to the Employee Newsletter!

Leadership Minute

Engagement & Enthusiasm

By Dan Wietecha

I recently read a brief article about “stay interviews.”

A stay interview is similar but more important than an exit interview. In an exit interview, a departing employee is asked about their experience in the job, what was good, and what they would change. The thought behind an exit interview is to learn about areas that could be improved, and it can be especially helpful since a departing employee may feel more able to give honest answers, speak their mind, or criticize the job.

[Continue reading...](#)

THE SAFETY COMMITTEE IS PROUD TO PRESENT

SAFETY DAY

JUNE 5, 2025
FIRE STATION

9:00 AM

AED/CPR TRAINING

10:00 AM

FIRE EXTINGUISHER
SIMULATION

11:00 AM

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT
PRESENTATION

1:00 PM

AED/CPR TRAINING

2:00 PM

FIRE EXTINGUISHER
SIMULATION

3:00 PM

INJURY PREVENTION STRETCHING
WITH ANYTIME FITNESS

ALL ATTENDEES WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE ENTERED INTO A
DRAWING WHERE FIVE LUCKY INDIVIDUALS WILL HAVE
THE CHANCE TO SELECT ONE WELLNESS-RELATED PRIZE
VALUED AT UP TO \$100!



THE WELLNESS PRIZES ARE MADE
POSSIBLE THROUGH FUNDING
PROVIDED BY THE SCSC WELLNESS
PROGRAM, WHICH IS OFFERED BY
THE SOUTH CENTRAL SERVICE
COOPERATIVE

Kudos Korner

From Dan Wietecha - Thank you to City Engineer Cody Mathisen and Fire Chief John Townsend for presenting City information to the Hastings Rotary Club. A couple of weeks ago, Cody talked about how the Public Works Department evaluates road conditions and plans maintenance projects. This week, John talked about the recent Fire Department Space Needs Study and planning to build a future Fire Station.



April Workiversaries

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



Is Your Information Up to Date?

Is the address on your paycheck accurate? Do you have an emergency contact on file? If you are unsure or need to update your information you can do so through BS&A. When you log in, go to Employee Self Service > My Information. From there you can update your address, view previous paychecks, see your W-4 withholdings, and even see what you have earned for the year. If you need any help, please reach out to Megan Schlei.

Management Team Notes

- The Food Drive with the Sheriff's Office begins April 21.
- Officer Gorney participated in the Pinewood Derby.
- 2 applicants for Special Use Permits for Retail Cannabis establishments.
- The City closed on 1292 N. Frontage Road (aka Carbone's) and the businesses will have until the end of June to vacate. The City is working with them to relocate. The design work is nearly complete and building of the water treatment plant will begin later this year.
- There was a water main break behind O'Reilly Auto Parts early this week. Fixed!
- There will be some striping in the downtown area and the Arena parking lot on April 29.
- Mn DOT is closing Hwy 316 from 200th south to Hwy 61 starting April 28 through early June.
- Nearly 600 swim lesson registrants so far! Work continues on the pool to get it ready for the summer season.
- The switch over to the new refrigerant system at the Arena will take place on April 28.
- Fire Department has been doing live burn trainings the past few weeks.
- Hastings High School is recognizing the Fire Department this week for being "friends of educators."
- A 10% increase in water rates has been proposed to Council. The 2nd Reading will be May 5. The increase would be effective July 1, 2025.
- Audit work continues as preparation for 2026 budgeting begins.
- Arbor Day and the opening of Isabel Park was celebrated on April 18 with the planting of trees in the park.
- Preparation for the Industrial Park Water Tower reconditioning began last week with flushing of main lines.

- Bid opening for the sewer lining program was this week.
- The Met Council has determined that a new wastewater treatment plant will not be built in Hastings, but rather wastewater will be piped west to Empire.
- Police Week Open House is May 13 from 5-7 pm outside the Police Station.
- Council met with the School Board in a workshop preceding the Council Meeting on Monday, April 21. Topics included existing joint projects as well as future opportunities to collaborate for the community.
- The Employee Engagement Survey will launch on May 5.
- A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Vermillion River Greenway is slated for early May.
- Presentation by MnDOT staff on the Hwy 61 project at Council. Some construction is anticipated to start in 2027, but the bulk of it will start in 2028. Keep up with the project at the [MnDOT project page](#).
- Presentation on Housing Study to Council—Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) contracted for a county-wide housing study, as well as some cities like Hastings. [Read the study report](#).

City Council Updates

April 21, 2025 Meeting

- Accepted a quote and awarded a contract to HCM Architects to rebuild the Lions Park shelter that was severely damaged by fire last fall.
- Accepted 1st Quarter 2025 Strategic Plan Report.
- Accepted a \$7,981 donation from the Side-by-Side ride to the Fire Department.
- Approved the designation of the 2025 Gobble Gait as a special event to be held on Nov. 27.
- Approved the designation of the Historic Car Show as a special event to be held on the 3rd Sunday of each month, May through October.
- Appointed John Moes to the Planning Commission.
- Withdrew membership from Red Rock Corridor and Great River Trail Commissions.
- Approved first reading and ordinance amendment for electric-assisted vehicles and speed limit for Hastings Trails.

[View the Council Packet for Details](#)

Wellness Spotlight

Employee Assistance Program

Food and housing insecurity are real concerns for many people. Use [perks at work](#) to live a better and healthier life, with access to 30,000 discounts on food and groceries, home appliances, and more.

[Need help finding child care, elder care or other daily living resources?](#)

Let's Dish

[Vegetarian Enchiladas](#)
[Keto Chicken Parmesan Hotdish](#)
[Gluten Free Dinner Rolls](#)

Fun Dates April/May

- April 25 - Arbor Day
- April 28 - National Superhero Day
- May 1 - May Day
- May 4 - Star Wars Day
- May 5 - Cinco de Mayo
- May 6 - International No Diet Day

[City Event Calendar](#)

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

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