



Official Proclamation

City of Hastings, Michigan

City of Hastings Sesquicentennial

- Whereas:** On the 26th day of July 1836, Eurotas P. Hastings, President of the Bank of Michigan, and Auditor General of the State, sold to Philo Dibble, Landings Kingsbury, and Cornelius Kendall for \$3,000.00 a tract of land in town 3 north range 8 west, known as Barry County Seat Purchase. The County Seat has already been located at that point but there were no settlers in that part of the County; and
- Whereas:** Dibble, Kingsbury and Kendall on the 25th of August following the purchase they together with Andrew L. Hays and Samuel Camp organized the Hastings Company for the purpose of laying out upon the land bought from Hastings a village which was to be called Hastings in Eurotas P. Hastings honor. To that end they sent out men and material for the erection of a sawmill, that was put on the creek; and
- Whereas:** Slocum H. Bunker was engaged to come with his family for the purpose of boarding men during the construction of the mill. In quick time, Mr. Bunker built a log cabin to serve as a boarding house. Beside the boarding house he constructed a house of entertainment for anyone that passed through. Although he did not then expect to remain in Hastings after the mill was completed, yet he did in fact stay there several years, and was considered the first settler in the City of Hastings; and
- Whereas:** Simultaneously with the movement to erect a sawmill, the Hastings Company was determined also to lay out a village, they accordingly platted the tract of land now including the business portion of the village and called it Hastings. Additions to the original plat of Hastings were subsequently laid out by men by the names of Striker, Kenfield, Chamberlain, Grant, Dunning and Bennett. A decided advance in the process of the new Village was made in 1839, when Bays and Dibble built a gristmill. Slocum H. Bunker was engaged as the miller and managed the business a few years, he then returned to Battle Creek where he resided until his death; and
- Whereas:** The village of Hastings continued to build, expand, and thrive and on February 13, 1855 by legislative act, Hastings was incorporated as a village and on March 11, 1871 became a City; and
- Whereas:** Hastings, Michigan is a home to be proud of. This beautiful City, the county seat of Barry County, located in the heart of one of Michigan's most scenic areas along the Thornapple River nestled amongst hundreds of lakes; and
- Whereas:** The founding fathers of Hastings built a sound foundation for us to continue to build on and it is our responsibility to cherish what we have!

Now Therefore be it resolved that I, David J. Tossava, Mayor of the City of Hastings on behalf of the City of Hastings and the City Council do hereby recognize our Sesquicentennial March 11, 2021 and invite our citizens to celebrate our 150th Anniversary Year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Hastings, Michigan, to be affixed this the 8th day of March 2021.

David J. Tossava, Mayor