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## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Crete City Hall, 243 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street

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### MINUTES

Notice of the meeting was given by posting, the appointed method for giving notice as shown by the attached notice, at the following locations:

City Hall, 243 East 13th Street

Post Office, 1242 Linden Avenue

City Bank and Trust, 1135 Main Avenue

Advance notice of the meeting was also given to committee members. Pursuant to Section 84-1412(8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, the City has posted a current copy of the Open meetings Act, Laws of the State of Nebraska, in the back of the council chambers. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

#### 1. Open Meeting

#### 2. Roll Call

Dan Papik: Absent

Tom Crisman: Present

Anthony Fitzgerald: Present

Kyle Frans: Present

Ashley Newmyer: Present

Dale Strehle: Present

Present: 5, Absent: 1.

#### 3. Consent Agenda

Approved the Consent Agenda Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Tom Crisman.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

#### 3.A. Approve Meeting Minutes

- 3.A.1. July 1st, 2025 City Council Minutes**
- 3.A.2. July 1st, 2025 Public Works Minutes**
- 3.A.3. July 1st, 2025 Park and Rec Minutes**
- 3.A.4. July 1st, 2025 Personnel Minutes**
- 3.A.5. July 1st, 2025 Finance Minutes**
- 3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report**
- 3.C. Approve the Payment of Claims Against the City**
- 3.D. Approve Cyrus Wampole as a new volunteer member of the Fire Department**

**4. Items of Business**

**4.A. Consider authorizing the Crete Police Department to apply for the Vested Interest in K-9s-K9 Vest grant.**

Chief of Police Gary Young stated that this grant is for a K9 vest. Young stated that this is a no-match grant.

Approved to authorize the Crete Police Department to apply for the Vested Interest in K-9s-K9 Vest grant. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.B. Consider authorizing the Crete Police Department to apply for the CALEA Agency Support Program Grant**

Chief of Police Gary Young stated that the CALEA Agency Support Program Grant helps to support the professional development of law enforcement agencies seeking accreditation for the first time.

Approved to authorize the Crete Police Department to apply for the CALEA Agency Support Program Grant Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.C. Consider the JEO agreement for the Crete Water Treatment Plant Piping repair**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this would be to modify the pipes.

Approved the JEO agreement for the Crete Water Treatment Plant Piping repair Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.D. Public Hearing City of Crete Economic Development Plan**

Opened Public Hearing City of Crete Economic Development Plan Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Ashley Newmyer.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

The public hearing opened at 6:06 p.m. City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this is the most recent plan, and it was for 15 years. It will sunset at the end of the year. The swimming pool was updated with this. However, now the plan has changed, and infrastructure projects are not allowed. The plan is limited to economic development with businesses, housing, and daycare. The major uses and intentions are to help business thrive.  
The public hearing closed at 6:09 p.m.

Closed the Public Hearing City of Crete Economic Development Plan Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Ashley Newmyer.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.E. Consider the City of Crete Economic Development Plan**

Approved the City of Crete Economic Development Plan Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Ashley Newmyer.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.F. Consider the Saline County Aging Services request for financial support.**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the Saline County Aging Services request is the same as last year. They are asking Crete for financial support in the amount of \$8,007.00.  
Approved the Saline County Aging Services request for financial support. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.G. Consider the claims from Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$1,632.02**

Approved the claims from Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$1,632.02 Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.H. Consider amending the Master Fee Schedule**

Approved amending the Master Fee Schedule Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans and a second by Dale Strehle.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.I. Consider Resolution 2025-10 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with NDOT**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this is an agreement with the State of Nebraska, Department of Transportation, allowing the City of Crete to install, operate and maintain an automatic license plate reader system.

Adopted Resolution 2025-10 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with

NDOT Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.J. Consider Resolution 2025-11 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with SE Solar**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this is an agreement with SE Municipal Solar, LLC and The United States of America for the solar field south west of Crete.

Adopt Resolution 2025-11 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with SE Solar Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Kyle Frans.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.K. Consider the LARM 2025-26 Renewal Proposal**

Approved the LARM Renewal and to provide written notice of termination at least 180 days prior to the desired termination date and 3-year commitment; 5% discount.

Approved the LARM 2025-26 Renewal Proposal Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans and a second by Dale Strehle.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.L. Consider Novak auction service agreement for City surplus auction**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this went to the Finance Committee. This will be an in-person auction at Tuxedo Park, and it will be almost 30 years since the last one took place. The auction will be in conjunction with Crete Public Schools and possibly the county as well.

Approved the Novak auction service agreement for City surplus auction Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans and a second by Dale Strehle.  
Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**5. Petitions - Communications - Citizen Concerns**

**6. Officers' Reports**

- Parks and Recreation Director Liz Cody stated the following:
  - Thanked the Crete Public Library for the Underwater Library.
  - Appreciates the help from City departments with the Saline County Fair.
  - Thanked Nestle Purina for the picnic tables and the dog waste bags.
  - There are three more days left for teams to register for coed softball.
  - Wrapping up swim lessons

- Library Director Jessica Wilkinson stated the following:
  - Started the reading with dogs programing in collaboration with Healing Hearts.
  - Blue Reads Day will be on Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.
  - Crete Public Library will be showing the movie "Jaws" for shark week.
  - Hosting Touch a Truck event with a variety of City of Crete vehicles.
- Chief of Police Gary Young stated the following:
  - Pleased with the ongoing renewal with LARM. This has helped the Crete Police Department with training obligations with little to no cost.
  - Met with Community Assistance Director Marilyn Schacht and representatives from Nebraska Appleaseed to discuss immigration. The Crete Police Department continues to help keep the community safe and enforcing the law.
- Assistant Fire Chief James Yost introduced Cyrus Wampole as a new volunteer member of the Fire Department. Wampole is originally from Nebraska and moved out of state and now is living in Crete with his family.
  - Yost stated that the department currently has 33 members and 4 associate members.
  - The Crete Volunteer Fire and Rescue BBQ is this Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  - Yost stated that the members of the fire department went above and beyond helping with the Fib Fest and they plan to do things differently for next year.
  - Having discussions with the Highland Fire District for a possible purchase of an ambulance. It takes about three years to be able to get an ambulance.
- Building Inspector Trent Griffin stated the following:
  - In the month of June there were three more permits for single family homes.
  - Continuing to work on nuisance violations with buildings.
- Council member Tom Crisman asked City Administrator Tom Ourada where the City is at with the annexation plans that were discussed a couple years ago. Ourada explained that no more annexations are planned and benefit/cost analysis on others considered indicate that it is would be too soon to move forward unless there was new developer interest. He consulted with the Confluence planner who concurred with this assessment.
- Council member Anthony Fitzgerald asked Ourada about the Crete Municipal Airport's septic system and if there were bids on that. Ourada explained there were bids and they went with the lowest one. Fitzgerald asked Ourada about the City of Crete's Comprehensive Plan and zoning. Ourada explained that the Comprehensive Plan has been accepted and the City is working with JEO on zoning. It will go to the Planning Commission and then to the City Council.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada stated the following:
  - Thanked the City Council for the purchases of the line truck and the street sweeper.
  - Finance Director Wendy Thomas will be attending a Grant Training on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

- There will be a department meeting on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to discuss the budget at which time he will provide guidance on what might be available for the next year's financial availability.
- The Airport Advisory Board has been meeting to discuss hangar rental rates. There are two members that have hangars and are not able to vote and at the last meeting there was not quorum in order to vote on the rates.
- After the hangar rates are discussed and voted on at the Airport Advisory Board, they will then it will go to Council and the members that have a conflict of interest will also be abstaining from voting.
- Council member Anthony Fitzgerald asked Ourada about the fuel and if there is going to be special training for Finance Director Wendy Thomas to help with that accounting. Ourada explained that Thomas has already been helping with the fuel over the last year or so. The current fuel system contract is expiring in September and the City will be meeting with the current fuel manager to discuss changes to the fuel management.

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

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Mayor

(SEAL)

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City Clerk

I, Nancy Tellez, City Clerk for the City of Crete, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council. I hereby certify that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted in the back of the Council Chambers. I certify that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk. I certify that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting and that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public. I certify that the minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of the City Council. I certify that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of the City Council were provided with advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed.

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City Clerk

(S E A L)