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## **CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 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**

Tom Crisman: Present  
Anthony Fitzgerald: Present  
Kyle Frans: Present  
Ashley Newmyer: Present  
Dan Papik: Present  
Dale Strehle: Present  
Present: 6.

#### **3. Consent Agenda**

Approved Consent Agenda Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **3.A. Approve Meeting Minutes**

##### **3.A.1. March 5, 2024 City Council Minutes**

- 3.A.2. March 5, 2024 Finance Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.3. March 5, 2024 Legislative & Economic Development Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.4. March 5, 2024 Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.5. March 5, 2024 Personnel Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.6. March 5, 2024 Public Safety Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.7. March 5, 2024 Public Works Committee Minutes**
- 3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report**
- 3.C. Approve the Payment of Claims Against the City**
- 3.D. Permit Log**
- 3.E. Approve RESCO PO Number 1561 for the amount of \$380,159.78**

#### **4. Items of Business**

##### **4.A. Consider City property lease options**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained there were some options of crop share or straight lease. They decided to go with the cash rent lease of \$204 an acre.

Approved City property cash rent lease at \$204 an acre. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

##### **4.B. Approve payment of claims to Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$1,507.62**

Approved payment of claims to Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$1,507.62 Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Dan Papik: Abstain (With Conflict), Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

##### **4.C. Consider the East Ridge 4th Addition Administrative Subdivision**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that there are 2 lots on East Ridge. This is one of those lots.

Approved the East Ridge 4th Addition Administrative Subdivision Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

##### **4.D. Consider the East Ridge 5th Addition Administrative Subdivision**

This is the other.

Approved the East Ridge 5th Addition Administrative Subdivision Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.E. Consider the write-off of miscellaneous accounts receivable.**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that multiple attempts have been made to collect payment. Finance Committee and Council member Kyle Frans stated that they reviewed this, and they recommended the write-off.

Mayor Bauer added that in the past this was handled differently and, since some of the accounts have aged, there are not many options. However, now that the City has a new attorney, there is a new plan moving forward.

Approved the write-off of miscellaneous accounts receivable. Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans and a second by Ashley Newmyer.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.F. Consider fee schedule amendment**

Approve fee schedule amendment Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans and a second by Ashley Newmyer.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.G. Consider the sale of City farm**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the Public Works Committee did consider this. It was suggested that a minimum sealed bid be set. The two considerations were the assessed value and the appraised value. They decided the minimum sealed bid of \$356,000.00 2022 appraised value.

Approved the sale of City farm with minimum sealed bid of \$356,000.00 2022 appraised value. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.G.1. Establish a minimum bid for the sale of City farm**

#### **4.H. Consider altering street right-of-way on Block 27**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that there is no action required for this item.

#### **4.I. Consider having City Engineer prepare City Park bathroom specs**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that they sought out local bids but were not able to secure any bids.

Approve having City Engineer prepare City Park bathroom specs Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.J. Consider request for a beer garden at City Park for Cinco de Mayo**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that Xochitl Boughtin with the Corner Liquor Store asked to have a beer garden on City Park property for Cinco de Mayo. It was discussed at the Park and Recreation Committee and the discussion will now be continued at City Council. Parks and Recreation Committee and City Council member Ashley Newmyer stated that they discussed this item and approved the request to have a beer garden on the street but on City Park Property.

Mayor Bauer added that they are in the process of doing renovations to City Park and adding some handicapped equipment. Bauer stated that he always thought of City Park as being a park for the kids, and it's centrally located, making it easy for them to bike there. Bauer stated that he worries that if they allow alcohol in City Park, that would set a precedent and other organizations could request a permit and that can't be denied since it was allowed before. Bauer mentioned he would like to keep City Park a place without alcohol, and it is allowed at Tuxedo Park.

Approve request for a beer garden for the Cinco de Mayo celebration on the street and not on City Park Property. Carried with a motion by Ashley Newmyer and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.K. Consider authorizing to apply for the LARM Safety Grant**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this grant would be for first aid kits.

Approve authorizing to apply for the LARM Safety Grant Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Tom Crisman.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.L. Consider authorizing to apply for the Walmart Spark Good Local Grant**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this matching grant would be for an AED.

Approved authorizing to apply for the Walmart Spark Good Local Grant Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Tom Crisman.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

#### **4.M. Consider police sergeant timeline**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the last time this position had opened up there were no viable applicants. They have now identified some funding sources and the FOP has mentioned two key concessions that would help to make this possible. Mayor Bauer stated that our Police Department is very busy, this is a position we need, and this would be good for the

City of Crete.

Approved the police sergeant timeline Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Tom Crisman.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

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

## **6. Officers' Reports**

- Police Captain Pucket stated he appreciates the council action on the sergeant timeline.
- Parks and Recreation Director Liz Cody stated the following:
  - Water Safety instructor curriculum is complete.
  - Accepting applications for seasonal aquatics staff and parks staff until April 15<sup>th</sup> 2024.
  - Didn't receive a shade grant for the pool. The odds were 1 in 15 there was a 93% rejection rate.
  - Youth Soccer began last Sunday with 190 registrations and 18 teams. Micro Soccer will begin April 3<sup>rd</sup> with almost 125 participants.
  - Any interest in volunteer coaches should reach out to Dan Dunaway at dan.dunaway@crete.ne.gov.
  - Swim Team registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup> and practices begin end of May and Crete is scheduled to host the league meet on June 15<sup>th</sup> 2024.
  - Campgrounds open to the public on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.
  - Thanked Friends of the Library and Justin Evertson, Rick Brown for their participation in A Tree Grows in Crete.
  - Continuing to work on Crete's Community Forestry Toolkit.
- Human Resource Coordinator Savannah Anderson introduced Brenden Hooper as a water operator for the City.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada stated the following:
  - Letters have been sent to property owners in the 9<sup>th</sup> and Quince area. Both property owners stopped in and voiced a desire to purchase their half of the street at a \$1 a square foot.
  - The inaugural Railroad Transportation Safety District Board met last week. Stephanie Krivohlavek was voted President of the Board, Dale Strehle was voted Vice President of the Board, Kyle Frans was voted Secretary of the Board and Ourada mentioned he was appointed Executive Director. Anna Burge was appointed Attorney, Debbie Spanyers was appointed Treasurer, and Diann Nettifee was appointed Clerk. This is the fourth RTSD in the state.
  - Council members Dale Strehle and Anthony Fitzgerald mentioned that there are many benefits to having a RTSD.

- Ourada mentioned they are working on a utility plan for the northeast Crete area that was annexed last year. There is a lot going on there and they have had meetings with developers. Some want to be up and running by the end of the year.
- Paving projects for next year. The Public Works Committee and City Council will make some decisions coming up soon. There are several gap paving projects that do make sense to get into the design for construction for next year. There is very little City cost for those. There is an alley that is no cost to the City that was petitioned in. There are a couple northside paving projects that were asked for.
- One of the big paving projects is 15<sup>th</sup> street. We need to make a hard decision on how we are going to do that. Ourada mentioned 2/3 1/3 isn't a bad idea for a possible enticement. The City Council does have the authority to create a paving district 51% would have to protest it out. Ourada mentioned he would get proposed cost per square foot.
- The other 1- and 6-year projects are not viable without federal grant funding. We are going to be reaching out to Senator Deb Fischer for funding for the pedestrian walkway and Representative Adrian Smith for the Iris Projects.
- Ourada and Mayor Bauer met with Jason Maly about a decorative wall that will separate the park from the highway.
- The City Park fountain will start up soon it will be a joint effort between Park and Rec and Public Works departments.
- Ourada will be at NMPP Energy meetings for the next couple days in Lincoln. Ourada will start his term as Chairperson of the Board on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.

- Mayor Dave Bauer welcomed the scout group and invited them to stay after to visit with him.

## 7. Adjournment

6:36 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)