



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

November 5th, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Crete City Hall, 243 East 13th Street

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

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

Present: 6, Absent: 0.

3. Consent Agenda

Approved the 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. October 15th, 2024 City Council Minutes

3.A.2. October 15th, 2024 Finance Committee Minutes

3.A.3. October 15th, 2024 Legislative/ Economic Development Committee Minutes

3.A.4. October 15th, 2024 Public Safety Committee Minutes

3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report

3.C. Approve the Payment of Claims Against the City

3.D. Crete Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Minutes

3.E. Airport Advisory Board Minutes

3.F. Planning Commission Minutes

4. Items of Business

4.A. Consider the Application for a permit to occupy City of Crete Right-of-Way from Black Hills Energy.

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this application for a permit to occupy City of Crete Right-of-Way is from Black Hills Energy.

Approved the Application for a permit to occupy City of Crete Right-of-Way from Black Hills Energy. 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, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.B. Consider Ordinance 2220 Sale of City Farm Property

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this is an Ordinance required by state law for the sale of the City Farm property, and it requires a 30-day remonstrance period, and it also went to Public Works.

Introduce Ordinance 2220 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended 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, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

Enacted Ordinance 2220 Sale of City Farm Property 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, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.C. Consider adopting Resolution 2024- 23 Year-End Certification of City Street Superintendent 2024

Council member Dale Strehle stated that the Public Works committee met on this.

Adopt Resolution 2024- 23 Year-End Certification of City Street Superintendent 2024 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, Dan

Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.D. Consider the Highway Safety Grant Application from the Crete Police Department

Chief of Police Gary Young explained that this is for the Radar Mini-Grant Application. The radars were going to be \$2,400 and with this grant it would only be \$1,200.

Approved the Highway Safety Grant Application from the Crete Police Department 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.E. Consider the Request for Contract Amendment CDBG #20-DTR-002 to extend the original contract end dates from October 4, 2024, to January 4, 2024.

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this extension would extend the original contract end date from October 4th, 2024 to January 4th, 2024. Ourada stated that the City of Crete will not be seeking any more extensions. Ourada added that there are possibly two more applicants.

Approved the Request for Contract Amendment CDBG #20-DTR-002 to extend the original contract end dates from October 4, 2024, to January 4, 2024. Carried with a motion by Anthony Fitzgerald and a second by Dale Strehle.

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 the Invitation to Bid for the "Walnut Creek Sewer Repair" project

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that there are two parts to this. One is the invitation to Bid and this is that part. Dane Simonsen with JEO addressed the Public Works committee.

Approved the Invitation to Bid for the "Walnut Creek Sewer Repair" project 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. Consider the Walnut Creek Aerial Sewer Bid Documents

Council member Dale Strehle stated that this is the second part of the Walnut Creek Aerial Sewer Bid.

Approved the Walnut Creek Aerial Sewer Bid Documents 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.H. Consider the amended Stehlik Administrative subdivision, now titled Stehlik Family Acres.

City Attorney Anna Burge explained that the county denied the initial submission. The surveyor didn't ask the county and the name had already been taken for the administrative subdivision. The other part was to clarify that the little triangle on the left side is also part of lot 1.

Approved the amended Stehlik Administrative subdivision, now titled Stehlik Family Acres. 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.I. Consider enacting Ordinance 2222 amending sewer department billing and collecting

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this changes the way sewer rates are calculated. The old way was the lowest three months in the winter and the new way is more defined and is December, January and February.

City Attorney Anna Burge explained that the Ordinance 2222 is the Ordinance that was motioned to recommend for approval to the City Council. The attachment is the only thing that had the wrong number.

Introduce Ordinance 2222 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended 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, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

Enacted Ordinance 2222 amending sewer department billing and collecting as posted in the Public Works Committee 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, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.J. Consider granting relaxation from sidewalk placement on Iris at Eastgate

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this is a requirement by ordinance anytime a sidewalk deviates from the standard that the City Council has officially approved. The rest of the sidewalk was done according to the State of Nebraska and federal standards.

Approved granting relaxation from sidewalk placement on Iris at Eastgate 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.K. Consider Resolution 2024-24 Authorizing the termination of the Emergency Medical Services Tiered Response Agreement and negotiation of ALS Transfer Agreement

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this was the result of council action and a discussion between Mayor Bauer, City Administrator Tom Ourada, City Attorney Anna Burge, Stephanie Boldt President/CEO with Crete Area Medical Center, and Julie Lacy Chief Financial Officer for Crete Area Medical Center. CAMC agreed to a three-month transition period away from rescue paramedic assistance and agreed that we would enter into negotiations on ALS transfer assistance.

Adopted Resolution 2024-24 Authorizing the termination of the Emergency Medical Services Tiered Response Agreement and negotiation of ALS Transfer Agreement Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans 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.L. Consider Fire Department grant application for additional ARPA funds

Assistant Fire Chief James Yost stated that they had applied for this grant two years ago and the application was denied. They would like to apply again for funds to be able to purchase Lucas devices.

Approved to authorize the Fire Department grant application for additional ARPA funds Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

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 the Fire Department purchasing Lucas devices

Assistant Fire Chief James Yost stated that the old Lucas devices are no longer serviceable, and they would be able to buy three new ones and every truck would have one.

Approved the Fire Department purchasing Lucas devices Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.N. Ordinance 2223 Amending nonunion salaries

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the only change is amending the Airport Manager's salary. In the past the Airport Manager was only managing the airport. Ourada stated that he asked for this change to reflect the possibility of an Airport Manager who would also be a Fixed Based Operator and a mechanic.

Introduce Ordinance 2223 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Dale Strehle.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

Enacted Ordinance 2223 Amending nonunion salaries Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Dale Strehle.

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

- Chief of Police Gary Young stated the following:
 - The Trunk or Treat was well attended and a success.
 - There will be other k-9 units in town. Captain Pucket is going to be helping other agencies with extra training for their certification. The City of Crete's Police Department's K-9 certification is going to be in 2 months.
- Tod Allen, Fire Chief stated the following:
 - Introduced Yazmin Belk who will be on the next council agenda to be approved as a new volunteer member of the Fire Department.
 - Chief Allen thanked the Mayor and City Council for the Lucas Devices.
- Library Director Jessica Wilkinson stated the following:
 - They will be hosting a winter book sale
 - The Princess Tea party is going to be November 23rd, 2024
 - Two additional book clubs will be added in the coming months
 - Over 200 people attended the Bluey program a few weekends ago
 - The concrete pad for the musical instruments is completed.
- Parks and Recreation Director Liz Cody stated the following:
 - Crete was one of 4 communities selected to receive a tree nursery from the Nebraska Forest Service/Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. They selected a nursery site on the Doane campus next to the Nature Explorers outdoor classroom. On Nov. 1st 2024, Doane Grounds staff and Parks department staff planted 32 young trees with the help of local volunteers Justin Jones and Dave Jurena. During the event, arborists Graham Herbst and Gregg Lemke shared their advice on planting depth, root health, young tree care and information about the trees, including oaks, hickory, and more.
 - As part of their ongoing IRA grant projects Cody will attend arborist training on November 14th and 15th 2024 in Ashland with the Nebraska Arborists Association. Additional training or exam opportunities will be available this fall to sit for the arborist certification exam.
 - Anyone is welcome to participate in a free arborist education and test prep program by Graham Herbst with the Nebraska Forest Service.

- Tuxedo Park Campgrounds closed for the season on November 1st 2024 and their groundskeeper is working to winterize all park locations.
 - Tuxedo Park entrances and roads will be closed for training purposes on Nov. 13-16th 2024.
 - The Nebraska Game and Parks offers a Watchable Wildlife Grant of up to \$6000 to promote opportunities to observe local wildlife. Eligible activities such as a nature explorers backpack program, would facilitate collaboration between the Parks department, the library, and Public Health Solutions.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada stated the following:
- City Hall will be closed next Monday, November 11th, 2024 for Veterans Day.
 - Went over the draft financial for the last fiscal year and sales tax finished a little over \$2.5 million dollars, over our projections, despite numerous refund submissions.
 - There were a number of sales tax refunds and there is another this month.
 - Ourada will have a total of the number of refunds issued in the last year for the next City Council meeting.
 - There are a couple of interested parties in the City owned buildings downtown. Since there are more than one there is going to be a process with it. There will be performance stipulations with the sale of the buildings.
 - JK Energy Consulting, LLC is sending a proposal on electric cost of service study.
 - The City has been very active and making progress on nuisance properties and will probably have five more cases this month.
 - Ourada was going to ask City Attorney Anna Burge, Finance Director Wendy Thomas and City Clerk Nancy Tellez to give a report on the Department of Transportation trip to Washington D.C. However, Wendy Thomas was not at the City Council meeting since she was getting awarded the 2024 Cornhusker State Games Female Athlete of the Year for Tennis from the Nebraska Sports Council.
 - Ourada has been having Media Specialist Jenn Lampila put picture highlights of success stories of business utilizing the LB840 program.
 - LB840 sunsets next year and to be renewed the City Council would put it on the ballot. Money can be used to promote it until it gets put on the ballot then we cannot.
 - The goal is to put 2 or 3 pictures and stories so that people understand how valuable LB840 has been in the Crete community to businesses and infrastructure over the course of the last 15 years.
 - Ourada stated that there is strong interest of an Airport Manager who is a very experienced mechanic and a fixed based operator. He has a very strong clientele and wants to move here and bring a ton of business and airplanes with him. The salary adjustment that the City Council approved goes a long way towards that.
- Mayor Dave Bauer stated that in December it is going to be time for committee assignments and he may do some new assignments. Bauer informed the council members that if they have an interest in a specific committee to let him know so that he can consider that.

7. Adjournment

6:48 p.m.

Mayor

(SEAL)

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.

City Clerk

(S E A L)