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## **CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

February 15, 2022 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 and publishing in The Crete News, the appointed method for giving notice as shown by the Proof of Publication attached to the minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the Mayor and City Council. 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. Additional copies are available to read. The City may consider items listed on the agenda in random order. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

#### **1. Open Meeting**

##### **2. Roll Call**

Kyle Frans: Absent  
Ryan Hinz: Present  
Jack Oelschlager: Present  
Dan Papik: Present  
Travis Sears: Present  
Dale Strehle: Present

Present: 5, Absent: 1.

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

Approve consent agenda items as presented. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Travis Sears.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

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

###### **3.A.1. February 1, 2022 City Council meeting**

###### **3.A.2. February 1, 2022 Finance Committee meeting**

###### **3.A.3. February 1, 2022 Legislative Development Committee meeting**

##### **3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report**

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

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

##### **4.A. Review and consider verifying the calculation of the November sewer billing for Crete Core Ingredients.**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that after this was brought up in January, he and Mayor Dave Bauer were anticipating billing questions from Crete Core Ingredients that not received.

Table this item indefinitely. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Travis Sears.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

##### **4.B. Consider offering scholarships or discounted swimming lesson rates in the summers of 2023 and 2024 as part of Crete Public Schools' expanded learning opportunity program.**

This went to the Legislative and Economic Development Committee, who determined that there was not enough information for them to make a decision. More information will be gathered and brought back for the next meeting.

Table this item until the next meeting in order to gain more information on the program. Carried with a motion by Ryan Hinz and a second by Jack Oelschlager.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

##### **4.C. Consider approving a livestock exception permit for Saline County Extension to hold animal education programming at Crete Intermediate School, St. James School, and Tuxedo Park.**

City Administrator Tom Ourada informed the Council that this permit is for an entire year of events, which must be approved by the council.

Approve a livestock exception permit for Saline County Extension to hold animal education programming at Crete Intermediate School, St. James, and Tuxedo Park. Carried with a motion by Ryan Hinz and a second by Jack Oelschlager.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

##### **4.D. Consider entering into open contracts with SEI for electronic door lock systems at the Library.**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that SEI was the low bidder for the new library construction and that they installed the same system at the fire station. The contracts are to have the system installed in the Crete Carrier Community Room at the library and the south door of City Hall. The Finance Committee met on this and recommended moving forward with the contracts.

Approve entering into open contracts with SEI for electronic door lock systems at the Library and City Hall. Carried with a motion by Travis Sears and a second by Dan Papik.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.E. Consider approving a permit to occupy the right-of-way from Black Hills Nebraska Gas to install a new natural gas distribution pipeline along Highway 33.**

Black Hills Nebraska Gas is installing new gas lines and it involves occupying the right-of-way for multiple properties on Iris Avenue and on Highway 33. They are following all of the state and city requirements. The Public Works Committee met on this and recommended approving the permit.

Approve the permit for Black Hills Nebraska Gas to occupy the right-of-way to install a new natural gas distribution pipeline along Highway 33. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Travis Sears.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.F. Consider entering into a contract with JEO for engineering services related to the 2022 gap paving projects.**

City Administrator Tom Ourada reported that this proposal is very competitive. The Public Works Committee discussed this and recommended entering the contract.

Approve entering into a contract with JEO for engineering services related to the 2022 gap paving projects. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Travis Sears.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.G. Consider approving Van Kirk change order and final pay application for the West Crete Sewer Project.**

This item was tabled due to not having received the paperwork for it yet.

Table this item until the next council meeting. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Travis Sears.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

**4.H. Consider changing the Library's hours of operation.**

Library Director Joy Stevenson explained the back and forth changes in the Library's hours of operations due to moving to a new building and the ever changing Covid regulations.

Stevenson researched peer libraries to compare their hours to ours and found that our library is way behind others. She took that research to the Library Advisory Board meeting and the board voted to recommend the change in hours to the Council. The changes are as follows: Monday & Friday 9a.m. - 5p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9a.m. - 7p.m., and Saturday 9a.m. - 4p.m. The Legislative and Economic Development Committee met on this and recommended approving said changes.

Approve changing the Library's hours of operation as stated. Carried with a motion by Ryan Hinz and a second by Jack Oelschlager.

Ryan Hinz: Aye, Jack Oelschlager: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Travis Sears: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 5, No: 0

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

**6. Officers' Reports**

**Library Director Joy Stevenson:**

- gave her annual report, explaining the difficulty in comparing the last few years due to moving buildings and Covid
- gave an update on the fundraising for musical instruments. They have raised half of the funds needed for the 3 instruments they've been looking at, so they may have to choose just one
- the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program has over 130 kids already signed up

**Police Chief Steve Hensel:**

- gave an update on the 2 newest officers in training, one being in the NE Law Enforcement Training Academy and the other in field training
- PD was asked to do a bicycle safety program for the 'Explore Nebraska' program with Crete Public Schools
- as today is National Schools Resource Officer Appreciation Day, Chief Hensel pointed out that Officer Dawn Jonas is deeply involved with the welfare of Crete's children
- will brief Tom Ourada on Thursday about a K9 program

**Council Member Ryan Hinz**

- thanked Tom Ourada and Jerry Wilcox for their help in putting together the job fair that will be on February 17

**City Administrator Tom Ourada:**

- a selection committee chose Olsson Associates for the substation design. He will be meeting with Olsson tomorrow to work on a scope and fees
- the 22nd Street lift station project will start in April and the box culvert project in December
- city staff met with the preferred comprehensive planner and will meet again to cover scoping considerations
- met with Schimmer regarding a railway transportation safety district
- met with Windstream yesterday and have project areas for the fiber expansion, but no timeline yet
- met with JEO about altering City Hall spaces, including the Community Assistance Office and the Building Inspector with a receptionist and relocating the public bathrooms
- noted the newspaper article on Council action regarding nuisances

**7. Adjournment**

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Mayor

(SEAL)

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City Clerk-Treasurer

I, Jerry Wilcox, 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-Treasurer

(S E A L)