



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

April 15th, 2025 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

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

Present: 5, Absent: 1.

3. Consent Agenda

Approved the Consent Agenda 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

3.A. Approve Meeting Minutes

3.A.1. April 1st, 2025 City Council Minutes

3.A.2. April 1st, 2025 Finance Committee Minutes

3.A.3. April 1st, 2025 Legislative & Economic Development Committee Minutes

3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report

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

3.D. Permit Log

4. Items of Business

4.A. Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Dave Bauer read the Arbor Day Proclamation

Approved the Arbor Day Proclamation Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.B. Public Hearing on the existing Department of Economic Development (DED) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project awarded to the City of Crete.

Opened the Public Hearing on the existing Department of Economic Development (DED) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project awarded to the City of Crete. 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

The Public Hearing opened at 6:04 p.m. on the existing Department of Economic Development (DED) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project awarded to the City of Crete.

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this second hearing is required. Ourada explained the City of Crete was awarded \$400,000 in CDBG-DTR funding for the 2020DTR projects. Of that \$400,000, \$352,017.75 was applied toward 16 downtown businesses, with matching funds totaling \$114,057.31. The remaining \$47,982.25 was de-obligated. An additional \$45,000 in grant funds were paid to SENDD for general administration and construction management services. This project met the national objective of substandard and blight on an area basis, meaning these funds helped address blighted buildings addressed in Crete's Substandard and Blight Assessment. This project has been completed and benefitted 16 businesses.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:06 p.m.

Closed the Public Hearing on the existing Department of Economic Development (DED) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project awarded to the City of Crete. 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.C. Consider the Application for Prohibited Animal Exception PA25-01 from Wranglers 4- Club

Approved the Application for Prohibited Animal Exception PA25-01 from Wranglers 4- Club 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.D. Consider the Application for Special Event SE25-03 from the Crete Chamber of Commerce for the Cinco de Mayo Celebration

Approved the Application for Special Event SE25-03 from the Crete Chamber of Commerce for the Cinco de Mayo Celebration 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.E. Consider authorizing Parks and Recreation to apply for the Exmark Big Rock Project grant

Approved to authorize Parks and Recreation to apply for the Exmark Big Rock Project grant 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.F. Consider approving the claims from Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$2,852.17

Approved the claims from Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$2,852.17 Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

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

Aye: 4, No: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

4.G. Consider the second reading of Ordinance 2242 Sale of 1209 and 1211 Main Ave

Approved the second reading of Ordinance 2242 Sale of 1209 and 1211 Main Ave Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.H. LB840 Program Report

City Administrator Tom Ourada went through and explained the LB840 Program Report. Ourada stated that the City of Crete match for the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund grant would only come out of LB840 if the grant is awarded. Ourada went through and explained the rest of the report.

Ourada also explained that there have been weekly highlights on the LB840 program projects to show the impact the program has had on the community. Mayor Dave Bauer explained that he is happy to help get the word out and if anyone knows of a group that would like a program on LB840 to let him know and he can present.

Approved the LB840 Program Report 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.I. Consider Ordinance 2243 Amending late fee for business registrations

Introduced Ordinance 2243 and moved that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that there has not been much compliance with some businesses paying the business registration. This late penalty would be added if the fee is not paid.

Enacted Ordinance 2243 Amending late fee for business registrations 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

Aye: 5, No: 0

5. Petitions - Communications - Citizen Concerns

6. Officers' Reports

○ Chief of Police Gary Young stated the following:

- As of today there have been 52 nuisance property cases 29 of the cases have been voluntarily resolved and there are 23 active cases.
- Thanked the Crete and Wilber exceptional team effort with the unfortunate tragedy last week.

○ Parks and Recreation Director Liz Cody stated the following:

- Gave thanks for the Arbor Day Proclamation.
- Seeking coaches for the youth programs
- New playground equipment will be installed at City Park.
- Will be waiting to oversee after the 5 de Mayo Celebration at City Park.
- Working with Crete Public Library to direct people to resources and promote recreation activities.

○ Building Inspector Trent Griffin stated the following:

- There are 16 nuisance building cases and 2 cases have been closed out.
- There are over 100 permits open.

- There are 2 single-family homes being built and a fourplex multi-family building.
- Will be doing playground and park inspections.

Mayor Dave Bauer stated that 100 new dwellings have been built in the last five years and an additional 3 apartment buildings.

- Council members Tom Crisman, Kyle Frans and Ashley Newmyer commended the Crete and Wilber Fire and Rescue and the Sheriff's Department for doing everything they could to help with the house fire.
- Council member Anthony Fitzgerald thanked City Administrator Tom Ourada and the Street Department for the list of projects.
- Asked Ourada if contact information for officials and department heads could be on the City of Crete website. Ourada stated they would work on the logistics of navigating the website.
- Community Assistance Director Marilyn Schacht stated that her leadership group has sessions to learn about City, County, State and School government and the systems we live in.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada stated the following:
 - Sales tax is down 3.8%
 - Given out \$25,000 in refunds
 - General fund is lagging on revenue due to property tax
 - For example 50% through the year and collected 36% from the county
 - Spending is right on track with 49.5% most of that is reoccurring
 - Police budget is over but grants have helped equal and level out the budget.
 - Grants have been helping departments such as the Police Department and Parks and Recreation so they can operate.
 - Hired a Power Plant Operator who has 7 years of experience and will be starting at the end of the month.
 - There is an opening for Street Operator.
 - Attended Community Assistance Director Marilyn Schacht's leadership group and member Carely Adame Ortiz is also a member of the Planning Commission.
 - Asked Department Heads to attend board and commission meetings to learn more about the process of doing things in the City.
 - All departments are in full force
 - Next meeting there will be discussion on electric rates.
- Mayor Dave Bauer stated the following:
 - Thanked everyone for their help with the fire last week.
 - Encourages people who would like to be more involved in the community to serve in committees and commissions.
 - If there are groups that would like a presentation on LB840 to please let him know so he can explain and spread the word.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 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)