



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

October 17th, 2023 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

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

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

3.A. Approve Meeting Minutes

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3.A.1. October 3, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting minutes
3.A.2. October 3, 2023 Personnel Committee Meeting minutes
3.A.3. October 3, 2023 Public Safety Committee minutes
3.A.4. October 3, 2023 Public Works Committee Meeting minutes
3.A.5. October 3, 2023 City Council Meeting minutes
3.B. September 19, 2023 Public Works Committee Meeting minutes
3.C. Accept the City Treasurer's Report
3.D. Approve the Payment of Claims Against the City
3.E. Approve Blue River Arts Council LB840 Grant Reimbursement Request totaling \$108,761.47.

4. Items of Business

4.A. Consider the approval of a CDBG contract amendment to extend the contract end date to November 2024 for the completion of the City's Downtown Revitalization project.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this is a request for a one-year extension on the projects that are not yet completed and for a recently added project to start and be completed by the new deadline.

Approved a CDBG contract amendment to extend the contract end date to November 2024 for the completion of the City's Downtown Revitalization project. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.B. Consider Resolution NO. 2023-20 Accepting The Work In Street Improvement Projects Nos. 2021-1,2,3,4 and 5; Establishing A Time And Place For The Hearing On Special Assessments In Such Districts; And Related Matters.

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this is to start the process where the City Council sits as the Board of Equalization to determine benefits to properties for paving assessments in the 2021 gap paving projects.

Introduce and Adopt Resolution NO. 2023-20 Accepting The Work In Street Improvement Projects Nos. 2021-1,2,3,4 and 5; Establishing A Time And Place For The Hearing On Special Assessments In Such Districts; And Related Matters. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.C. Consider approving payment of claims to Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$1,268.66.

Approve payment of claims to Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$1,268.66. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Tom Crisman.

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

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

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4.D. Consider a motion to ratify all actions of Tom Ourada, our LARM representative, identified in the minutes of the Annual Members Meeting of the League Association of Risk Management on September 27, 2023, including the election of nominees to the LARM Board of Directors.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that he participated as the city's representative at the League Association of Risk Management annual meeting and voted on various agenda items including the election of nominees to the LARM Board of Directors. All board members have to go through this with their councils to ratify actions.

Approved a motion to ratify all actions of Tom Ourada, our LARM representative, identified in the minutes of the Annual Members Meeting of the League Association of Risk Management on September 27, 2023, including the election of nominees to the LARM Board of Directors. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.E. Consider authorizing submittal of a letter of interest to participate in the Thriving Communities Program "Grant Application".

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this application is for grant and technical assistance and coaching over the course of the next several years. This could help raise chances for grant approvals from 2% to maybe about 10% higher depending on the application.

Authorized submittal of a letter of interest to participate in the Thriving Communities Program "Grant Application". Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.F. Consider Gordon Bridges as a new volunteer firefighter.

Mayor Dave Bauer stated that Bridges is a current city employee and was on the department in the past.

Approved Gordon Bridges as a new volunteer firefighter. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.G. Consider the City of Crete Drug/Alcohol Testing Program Policy with the requirements of the Department of Transportation (DOT).

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the City of Crete has been working on the DOT policy since November 2017. Since then there has been many personnel changes and now it is ready for council action.

Approved the City of Crete Drug/Alcohol Testing Program Policy with the requirements of the Department of Transportation (DOT) to take effect in calendar year 2024. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

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

Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.H. Consider a recommendation to the City Council on the City of Crete Non-DOT Anti-Drug Plan & Non-DOT Alcohol Misuse Plan.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this policy is different from the DOT plan, which is dictated by federal law. This item will do pre-employment screening, test for cause, and testing for suspicion, which requires two people to validate reporting. That will help so that a person can't target another person based on personal issues.

Approved the City of Crete Non-DOT Anti-Drug Plan & Non-DOT Alcohol Misuse Plan to take effect in calendar year 2024. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.I. Consider Ordinance No. 2180 Relating to Business Registration; To Amend Section 10-301 Of The Crete Municipal Code To Include Businesses Transacting In The City Of Crete, Nebraska.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this amends an existing ordinance. Where, instead of referencing a business located in the city, it references businesses transacting in the city.

Introduce Ordinance No. 2180 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. a. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

Enact Ordinance No. 2180 Relating to Business Registration; To Amend Section 10-301 Of The Crete Municipal Code To Include Businesses Transacting In The City Of Crete, Nebraska. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.J. Consider Ordinance No. 2181 Relating to Business Registration; To Amend Section 10-302 Of The Crete Municipal Code To Define Transacting Business.

Introduce Ordinance No. 2181 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

Enact Ordinance No. 2181 Relating to Business Registration; To Amend Section 10-302 Of The Crete Municipal Code To Define Transacting Business. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.K. Consider Ordinance 2182 Amending Ordinance 2177 Non-Bargaining Unit Officer and Employees Salaries & Wages Salaried Positions.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this change adds the Library Aide position, which is not an additional staff position, but would take the place of a librarian who is not working that day. The pay is a little under the position they would be filling. The other change is with the Parks Seasonal Laborer, Transfer Station Attendant, and Public Works Seasonal Laborers, so they are consistent with each other.

Introduce Ordinance 2182 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans. Tom Crisman: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 5, No: 0

Enact Ordinance 2182 Amending Ordinance 2177 Non-Bargaining Unit Officer and Employees Salaries & Wages Salaried Positions. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.L. Consider Ordinance No. 2183 Relating to Solid Waste Rates

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this codifies rates which were already approved as part of the Waste Connections franchise agreement.

Introduce Ordinance No. 2183 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

Enact Ordinance No. 2183 Relating to Solid Waste Rates Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.M. Consider Ordinance No. 2184 Relating to Consumer Deposits; To Amend Section 3-121

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained this is a small change that will allow how deposits are calculated when someone has a deposit returned to them. This change will update the new service deposit amount instead of an average.

Introduce Ordinance No. 2184 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

Enact Ordinance No. 2184 Relating to Consumer Deposits; To Amend Section 3-121
Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

4.N. Consider authorizing a contract for TraCS to provide e-citation services for the Police Department.

Chief of Police Gary Young stated that there have been failures with their current software Brazos. Just last Monday there were 77 errors with the record keeping software. TraCS is already being used by numerous agencies and it works. The Police Department would like to stop using Brazos and switch to Tracs for e-citations. They are alreadyign using TraCS for accident reports.

Authorized a contract for TraCS to provide e-citation services for the Police Department.
Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Tom Crisman.

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

Aye: 5, No: 0

5. Petitions - Communications - Citizen Concerns

6. Officers' Reports

- Officer's Reports:

- Library Director, Joy Stevenson stated the following:
 - Over 100 people attended the Solar Eclipse activities last Saturday, October 14th 2023.
 - On Sunday, October 22nd at 1pm Crete Reads 2023 author Ellen Marie Wiseman will be part of the speaker series. There will be a lunch provided for those who wish to purchase
 - Thursday, October 26th 2023 will be the Crazy Scientist activities at 5:30 p.m.
 - The next Puzzle Race will be on November 14th 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the 1206. There are already 6 teams registered and the cost per person is \$5 to cover the pizza.
 - The Pinkalicious Party will be on November 18th 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
 - The Teen Nights Beginners Crochet will be on November 30th 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
- Chief of Police, Gary Young mentioned the following:
 - The traffic grant Captain Pucket had explained to the City Council to apply for has been awarded to the Crete Police Department in the full amount of \$77,490.00. The police department won't have to apply for the traffic grants now they can allocate the hours from events such as the truck or treat as long as there is a traffic safety message.
 - The Police and Fire Department have lost Colin Gaman, a solid performer, he has moved to Houston, Texan and will continue his law enforcement career. The Crete Police Department wish him the best of luck.

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- Parks and Recreation Director, Liz Cody stated the following:
 - Has returned from completing her lifeguard certification in Ogallala, NE.
 - With this training they can continue to provide lifeguard and CPR instruction to aquatics staff and CPR to all parks staff.
 - This training will also help Cody with the 3-year contract which is coming up in the Spring for renewal and to be a part of the training curriculum they use to train the staff.
 - There will be additional programming for youth and adults this fall.
 - Park improvements have been happening. Cody stopped by the ADA accessible Peyton Parker Lane Park in York, NE which has many great amenities and will serve as ideas for future projects here. The next step will be looking and grants and how to fund those projects.
 - Highlighted the work being done at the Library Park and the work being done with Library Director, Joy Stevenson.
 - Cody gave thanks for the plants and planters donated by Crete ACE Hardware.
 - Closing down the pool. They are taking the pool pump to Omaha for repairs.
 - The construction at City Park is wrapping up.
 - Tyler Ward with the Eagles Scouts has been collaborating with Cody on trail restoration at Tuxedo Park.
- City Administrator, Tom Ourada informed the following:
 - Reminded that the Nuisance Hearings will be Wednesday, October 18th at 4:00 p.m.
 - The large water loan and grant is being differed so the scope of the project can be expanded. The grant will be expanded to get more grant money. The loan is less than 1% interest over thirty years. They would like to finish the water remediation project which is going to possibly be over 1 million dollars. They will possibly get 3 or 4 hundred thousand in grant money and a loan of \$800,000.
 - Burlington Northern Santa Fe will be working on the Main Street crossing all of next week.
 - Talked about the temporary signs on Iris Ave, possible next steps and will be gathering information and looking at possible partnerships.
 - Discussed more gap paving opportunities and reconstruction of streets including 15th street.
 - Ourada mentioned that there will be new restrooms built at City Park. The current location of the restrooms will be rebuilt to expand office space for the Community Assistance Office and the Building Inspector's office and a sitting area for clients.
 - Ourada, Wilcox, and Mayor Dave Bauer attended the Grand Grand Opening of the Calabria Italian Restaurant located at the College Heights Country Club.
 - The City of Crete will be submitting an inquiry for a very large Economic Development project.
- Mayor Dave Bauer stated that if BNSF does work on the Main Ave crossing that would be a major change we have been waiting for a long time. Bauer thanked everyone who participated in the Great Pumpkin Festival and especially the Doane University Students.
- Meeting adjourned: 6:49 p.m.

6.A. October 3, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting minutes

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6.B. September 12, 2023 Library Board Meeting Minutes

7. Adjournment

6:49 p.m.

Mayor

(SEAL)

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.

City Clerk-Treasurer

(S E A L)

October 17th, 2023

