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## **CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 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**

Ashley Newmyer: Absent

Dan Papik: Absent

Tom Crisman: Present

Anthony Fitzgerald: Present

Kyle Frans: Present

Dale Strehle: Present

Present: 4, Absent: 2.

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

Approved the Consent Agenda Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

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

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- 3.A.1. July 7th, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes**
- 3.A.2. July 7th, 2026 Public Works Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.3. July 7th, 2026 Finance Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.4. July 7th, 2026 Legislative Development Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.5. July 7th, 2026 Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.6. July 7th, 2026 Public Safety Committee Minutes**
- 3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report**
- 3.C. Approve the Payment of Claims Against the City**

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

##### **4.A. Resolution 2026-17 LARM 2026-27 Renewal Proposal**

Mayor Dave Bauer added that this is the 2026-2027 Renewal Resolution 2026-17 with LARM which stands for the League Association of Risk Management.

Adopt Resolution 2026-17 LARM 2026-27 Renewal Proposal with the 180 day and 3-year commitment, 5% discount. Carried with a motion by Kyle Frans and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 4, No: 0

##### **4.B. Consider approving the claims from Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$5,236.26**

Approved the claims from Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$5,236.26 Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Tom Crisman.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 4, No: 0

##### **4.C. Consider the Application for Special Event Permit from Sacred Heart Catholic Church**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this Special Event Permit is from Sacred Heart Catholic Church for their food festival and they are asking for part of 14th street to be closed off behind the St. James School.

Approved the Application for Special Event Permit from Sacred Heart Catholic Church Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 4, No: 0

##### **4.D. Ordinance 2279 regulate bicycle, E-bikes, minibikes and other motorized recreational transportation and create penalties for violation of these sections**

City Attorney Anna Burge explained the Ordinance 2279 and Mayor Dave Bauer added that the main reason for this ordinance is children's safety. Resident concerns were expressed related to this topic from Travis Coe 1605 Code Ave, Xochitl Boughtin, Ronald Fink 1235 Jasmine Ave, and Dorthy Forbes 529 Grove Ave.

Approved the second reading of Ordinance 2279 regulate bicycle, E-bikes, minibikes and other motorized recreational transportation and create penalties for violation of these sections Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye  
Aye: 4, No: 0

**4.E. Consider the CDBG DTR Project reimbursement payment request 5 Crete24DTR001 for Majo Jewelry**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this is the payment request #5 for the drawdown for the Downtown Revitalization Phase IV project.

Approved the CDBG DTR Project reimbursement payment request 5 Crete24DTR001 for Majo Jewelry Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

**4.F. Consider the Payment Request Packet 4 Crete 24DTR001**

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this is the 24DTR001 Payment Request #4 for the Downtown Revitalization Phase IV project.

Approved the Payment Request Packet 4 Crete 24DTR001 Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

**4.G. Consider the Payment Request 4 Crete 24PWI004**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this is the 24PWI004 Payment Request #4 and the 24PWI004 SENDD GA & CM Expenses for the pavement project.

Approved the Payment Request 4 Crete 24PWI004 Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

**4.H. Consider the LB840 Application from Becerritas**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this application went to the LB840 Advisory Board and they recommended it to the City Council. The Legislative/Development Committee also made a recommendation to the City Council.

Approved the LB840 Application from Becerritas Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

**4.I. Consider authorizing the City of Crete to apply for the FY2027 State Aid Grant Program**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this is for the FY2027 State Aid Grant Program with the NDOT Division of Aeronautics.

Approved to authorize the City of Crete to apply for the FY2027 State Aid Grant Program Carried with a motion by Anthony Fitzgerald and a second by Dale Strehle.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

**4.J. Consider the Invoice from IES Commercial Inc in the amount of \$20,746.00 for the Crete Airport Beacon**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the City of Crete applied for the State Aid Grant Program for the Airport Beacon.

Approved the Invoice from IES Commercial Inc in the amount of \$20,746.00 for the

Crete Airport Beacon Carried with a motion by Anthony Fitzgerald and a second by Dale Strehle.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

#### **4.K. Consider naming of new street to be Yellowwood Ave**

Approved the naming of new street to be Yellowwood Ave Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

#### **4.L. Consider the Change Order No. 1 from JEO Consulting Group, Inc. for Next Level Concrete, LLC for the 2024 Crete Street and Alley Improvements**

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this change order included a tree removal and Oak Ave to Norman Ave Alley changes.

Approved the Change Order No. 1 from JEO Consulting Group, Inc. for Next Level Concrete, LLC for the 2024 Crete Street and Alley Improvements Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

#### **4.M. Consider the Community Policing Development Micro Grant for software for investigation of child exploitation.**

Police Captain Jon Pucket explained that this is for the digital software they use for investigations.

Approved the Community Policing Development Micro Grant for software for investigation of child exploitation. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

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

Travis Coe who lives at 1605 Code Ave addressed the City Council and stated that he had sent emails to multiple people in regards to street work being done by Code Ave. He wanted to know what is going on since there are temporary no parking signs and it would be nice for someone to get back to him. City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that he spoke to the Street Supervisor and he was going to make contact with Coe.

### **6. Officers' Reports**

Police Captain Jon Pucket explained that they have been doing the nuisance process differently with Code Enforcement Officer Hermes Trujillo. These changes will help to expedite the process.

- Council member Anthony Fitzgerald thanked Captain Pucket and City Attorney Anna Burge and City Administrator Tom Ourada for making these changes to the nuisance process.
- Mayor Dave Bauer stated that the goal is to get all these properties cleaned up and with these changes the City is making strides towards that goal. Bauer added that people may not realize that when City Attorney Anna Burge sends people a nuisance property letter they are willing cooperate and work with the City to clean up their properties.
- Library Director Jessica Wilkinson provided Mayor Bauer and the City Council a handout with information on how much the library has saved people in Crete with resources in the library such as checking out books and DVDs. Wilkinson stated that the savings have been about \$972,000 for the 2024-2025 year and that doesn't account for using the meeting rooms and programs are not calculated into that. Wilkinson added that the summer reading program is going well and their original reading goal was 3,000 books and children have already read over 11,000 books. They are thinking that by the end of the program that number will be closer to 15,000 books.
- Parks and Recreation Director, Liz Cody reported that following a successful county fair, the city will resume campground fee collection and enforcement in Tuxedo Park on Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The pool will be celebrating shark week the week of July 27<sup>th</sup> for our final week of the season, and Flag football program enrolment opens on July 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Building Inspector Trent Griffin provided and explained the June 2026 Permit Log.
- Council member Anthony Fitzgerald asked City Administrator Tom Ourada if there was a tentative start date on the airport hangar project. Ourada explained that on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 there was a pre-construction meeting for the construction of the 2-Bay Box Hangar and Approach at the Crete Municipal Airport. Ourada explained that the contractor has to provide concrete pavement specifications for the FAA to review and approve. Ourada further stated that once the notice to proceed is granted the project will start and it will most likely be sometime in August.
- Council member Tom Crisman asked if there have been any updates on the Main Ave railroad crossing and Ourada stated that there have not been any updates. Crisman also mentioned that there are weeds growing around the light poles in the downtown area. Mayor Dave Bauer explained that there is a Downtown Business District and the areas where those weeds are growing are not in the district. The goal would be to expand the district and that way all of downtown would have snow removal and weed control. Ourada stated that by city ordinance property owners are responsible for removing weeds.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada stated the following:
  - The decibel meter located in the conference room is to help monitor noise levels. There was council discussion on placing a couple of the decibel meters in different areas of town with surveillance cameras to help police officers identify people who are driving with an excessively loud exhaust.
  - The next Nuisance Board Hearings will be on Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. and there are at least 5 properties.
  - There was a meeting today with the planning consultant on zoning. Ourada stated that the first draft is over 300 pages of zoning and there are many pictures and definitions of terms. Once that is ready it will go to the Planning Commission and then Council Committee and then to the City Council for ratification.

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- Ourada has been working with Finance Director Wendy Thomas on a budget timeline. The first part of August will be meeting with the different departments to talk about their needs. Then there will be conversations with the elected officials while keeping in mind the Municipal Equalization Fund issues that we have to deal with. We will get the assessed value for the community around the third week in August.
- Had a preliminary meeting with the planners on south Crete Sports Complex area. Ourada stated that there are 5-year short term plans and 25-year long term plans. Ourada stated that the planning work is completely covered by a Brownsfield grant.
- Mayor Dave Bauer thanked all the departments that helped with the county fair and thanked the Police Department and City Attorney Anna Burge for their work with the nuisance properties. Bauer stated that has been a goal of his to clean up the city.

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 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)