



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

February 4th, 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

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

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

3.A. Approve Meeting Minutes

- 3.A.1. January 21st, 2025 City Council Minutes**
- 3.A.2. January 21st, 2025 Public Works Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.3. January 21st, 2025 Legislative/Development Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.4. January 21st, 2025 Personnel Committee Minutes**
- 3.A.5. January 21st, 2025 Public Safety Committee Minutes**
- 3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report**
- 3.C. Approve the Payment of Claims Against the City**
- 3.D. Mayor's appointment of Colten Mach to the Board of Adjustments**
- 3.E. Mayor's appointment of Chris Kirkpatrick to the Board of Adjustments**
- 3.F. Mayor's appointment of Randall Shelton to the Board of Adjustments**
- 3.G. Mayor's appointment of Blaine Spanjer to the Board of Adjustments**
- 3.H. Mayor's appointment of Jay Quinn to the Board of Adjustments**
- 3.I. Mayor's appointment of Jeff Wenz as alternate to the Board of Adjustments**

4. Items of Business

4.A. Public Hearing on proposed Zoning Change Request Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the request had been withdrawn.

Tabled indefinitely the Public Hearing on proposed Zoning Change Request Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3
Tabled with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.B. Public Hearing on Proposed Zoning Map Amendment Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3

Tabled indefinitely Public Hearing on Proposed Zoning Map Amendment Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3
Tabled with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.C. Consider the Proposed Zoning Map Amendment Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this originates from the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission motioned 3 to 3 not to make a recommendation. After the meeting, the request was withdrawn.

Tabled indefinitely the Proposed Zoning Map Amendment Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3 Tabled with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.D. Consider the proposed Zoning Change Request Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3

Tabled indefinitely the proposed Zoning Change Request Crete PRCT PART SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC. 33-8-4 1 ACRE Commonly known as 675 Arizona Ave C3 to R3 Tabled with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.E. Public Hearing to hear testimony in favor of and in opposition to and to answer questions in relation to the review of the C-2 Special Exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, Crete, NE to allow individuals to use the space as a church.

Opened the Public Hearing at 6:06 p.m.

A public Hearing was held to hear testimony in favor of and in opposition to and to answer questions in relation to the review of the C-2 Special Exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, Crete, NE to allow individuals to use the space as a church.

Mr. Patel who owns the Crete Inn and property next to the proposed special exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, stated that he is against there being a church there because the sale of alcohol would not be permitted in the restaurant. Mayor Dave Bauer explained that the church can sign a waiver stating that alcohol can be sold.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that there are findings of fact that the City Council reviews and can also make additional specific findings of fact. Ourada also stated that the City Council could require screening and buffering so there is defined separation of the church and the commercial property next to it for traffic safety. This can be done in different ways, such as a fence or by plant, hedge or tree barrier.

Mr. Escobar, who submitted the request for the special exception, stated that they would sign the waiver so that alcohol can be sold in the restaurant, and he also stated that they would talk to the building inspector and make sure they do what needs to be done with remodeling the car wash and would be willing to notify the City of Crete if the building is sold in the future.

Opened the Public Hearing to hear testimony in favor of and in opposition to and to answer questions in relation to the review of the C-2 Special Exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, Crete, NE to allow individuals to use the space as a church. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

The Public Hearing closed at 6:19 p.m.

Closed the Public Hearing to hear testimony in favor of and in opposition to and to answer questions in relation to the review of the C-2 Special Exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, Crete, NE to allow individuals to use the space as a church. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.F. Consider the C-2 Special Exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, Crete, NE to allow individuals to use the space as a church.

Upon review of all the necessary facts and public comments, the City Council found that the application met the findings on the application for Special Exception Permit and the general compatibility with adjacent properties and other property in the district subject to additional findings.

Additional Specific Findings of Fact: applicant agrees to disable, demolish or renovate the car wash as soon as they take ownership.

- applicant agrees to notify the City of any future buyers and their plans to sell the property.
- applicant agrees to provide a waiver to not oppose liquor license applications by any business within 150 feet.

The City Council approved the Special Exception Permit Request.

Approved C-2 Special Exception request at 1575 Blue Acres Drive, Crete, NE to allow individuals to use the space as a church with additional specific Findings of Fact. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.G. Consider the S&L Anderson Addition Administrative Subdivision

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the S&L Anderson Addition Administrative Subdivision met all the requirements.

Approved the S&L Anderson Addition Administrative Subdivision Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.H. Consider the Emergency Dispatch Services Interlocal Agreement

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the Emergency Dispatch Services Interlocal Agreement was reviewed by him, the Sheriff, Police Chief, County Attorney, and the City Attorney. Ourada added that the County Commissioners also reviewed the agreement.

Approved the Emergency Dispatch Services Interlocal Agreement Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Tom Crisman.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 4, No: 0

4.I. Consider the CAMC Back up Paramedic Agreement

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that interim President & CEO at Crete Area Medical Center Julie Lacy offered paramedic back up services. The agreement states that if hospital paramedics are called for back up they shall be compensated at the rate of \$45 per hour for the time they spend on the call rounded to the nearest 1/4 hour increments from the time they leave the hospital until they return to the hospital grounds. Ourada stated this would be used if for example there was a mass casualty incident.

Approved the CAMC Back up Paramedic Agreement Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Tom Crisman.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

4.J. Ordinance 2234 amending historic preservation committees

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this is a change in our ordinance that was requested by the National Parks Service and the State Historic Preservation office in the City's quest to become a Certified Local Government.

Introduce Ordinance 2234 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

Enact Ordinance 2234 amending historic preservation committees Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

4.K. Consider Ordinance 2235 amending salaries and wages in Ordinance 2214, 2215, and 2223

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained there are several small changes to this with the Custodial Support being added and the Power Plant Operator salaries and wages are the ones being amended in Ordinance 2235.

Introduce Ordinance 2235 and move that the statutory rule requiring three separate readings be suspended. Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

Enact Ordinance 2235 amending salaries and wages in Ordinance 2214, 2215, and 2223 Carried with a motion by Tom Crisman and a second by Anthony Fitzgerald.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 4, No: 0

5. Petitions - Communications - Citizen Concerns

6. Officers' Reports

Officers' Reports

○ Chief of Police Gary Young stated the following:

- The switch over to Saline County will be taking place on March 19th, 2025 at 7 a.m. and training will start that week.
- Young stated he received resignation from an officer who is leaving on good terms and his last day will be on February 14th, 2025. They are wishing him well.
- On February 5th, 2025 there will be a big operations meeting.

- Parks and Recreations Director Liz Cody provided the following to Mayor Bauer, City Administrator Ourada and to the Council members:
 - Updated 2025 programs flyer
 - Micro and youth soccer registration forms
 - An executive summary of Tree City 2024 in Crete, NE
 - Cody provided information on the community forestry program and the strategic partnerships and expanded community engagement
- Finance Director Wendy Thomas introduced Jody Fichtner as the new Human Resources Coordinator
- Building Inspector Trenton Griffin provided a building permit log from July 25th, 2024 to December 20th, 2025
- Council member Dan Papik asked if there have been any updates on the railroad and City Attorney Anna Burge stated she will be following up.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada stated the following:
 - All grants are on hold for the time being
 - Grant conditions and requirements have changed there will be more rigorous economic analysis and positive cost-benefit calculations and user-pay models.
 - There was a vote with the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) and the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (NMPP) for 9.3% whole sale power cost increase.
 - The NMPP Energy Annual Conference will be on March 18th -20th, 2025 in Lincoln, Nebraska.
 - The League of Nebraska Municipalities Midwinter Conference will be on February 24th-25th, 2025 in Lincoln, Nebraska.
 - Our Town Crete will be taking place in March 2025.
 - Held a Department Head staff meeting and discussed that our mission to assist the community is not changing. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has not been in Crete and it was not in Schuyler. The Crete Police Department is going to follow the law and assist if they need to. The Community Assistance Office will be continuing to provide resources to the community.
- Mayor Dave Bauer stated that there were two prime examples of the collaborations with the CAMC Back up Paramedic Agreement and the Emergency Dispatch Services Interlocal Agreement.

6.A. Building Permit log

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 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)