



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

September 1st, 2026 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

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

Present: 6.

3. Consent Agenda

3.A. Approve Meeting Minutes

3.A.1. August 18th, 2026 City Council Minutes

3.A.2. August 18th, 2026 Public Works Minutes

3.A.3. August 18th, 2026 Finance Committee Minutes

3.B. Accept the City Treasurer's Report

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

September 1st, 2026
Page 1

- 3.D. Approve Katelyn Iwata as new volunteer member of the Fire Department**
3.E. Mayor's appointment of Aaron Blackman to the Library Advisory Board
3.F. Mayor's appointment of Jorge Paredes to the Library Advisory Board

4. Items of Business

4.A. Consider the Special Event Permit Application SE26-08 from Bruce Cerny and Xochitl Boughtin with TJ Sokol's for a Halloween Festival on October 10th, 2026

Xochitl Boughtin addressed the City Council and stated that this would be their third year having the Halloween Festival. Boughtin explained that there would be food, music, and a costume contest.

Approved the Special Event Permit Application SE26-08 from Bruce Cerny and Xochitl Boughtin with TJ Sokol's for a Halloween Festival on October 10th, 2026 Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.B. Consider the FY2027 Transit Allocation

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the Public Works Committee had a discussion on this item. However, they would like Saline County Area Transit's Executive Director Scott Bartels to come present to the City Council.

Tabled the FY2027 Transit Allocation Tabled with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Kyle Frans.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.C. Saline County Aging Services Annual Report

Accepted the Saline County Aging Services Annual Report Carried with a motion by Dan Papik and a second by Dale Strehle.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.D. Consider the Special Event Permit Application SE26-07 from the Crete Chamber of Commerce for the Crete's Great Pumpkin Festival

Mayor Dave Bauer stated that this event is the same as the year before.

Approved the Special Event Permit Application SE26-07 from the Crete Chamber of Commerce for the Crete's Great Pumpkin Festival 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, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.E. Consider the Application for Prohibited Animal Exception from the Crete Chamber of Commerce and Wrangler's 4-H Club for the Pumpkin Festival Petting Zoo

Mayor Dave Bauer explained that since there will be a petting Zoo at the Pumpkin Festival, this application is for the animals that will be there.

Approved the Application for Prohibited Animal Exception from the Crete Chamber of Commerce and Wrangler's 4-H Club for the Pumpkin Festival Petting Zoo Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle 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

4.F. Resolution 2026-19 declaring the intent to reimburse the City for certain expenditures from the proceeds of bonds issued by the City

Bill Arth from Piper Sandler explained that this Resolution is to declare the intent to reimburse the City for certain expenditures from the proceeds of bonds issued by the City.

Adopted Resolution 2026-19 declaring the intent to reimburse the City for certain expenditures from the proceeds of bonds issued by the City Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.G. Consider Resolution 2026-20 Signing of Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between the City of Crete and JEO Consulting Group, Inc for Crete Pedestrian Bridge Project NDOT Project Number: DPS-76 (53)

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this Resolution is for the preliminary engineering services agreement between the City of Crete and JEO Consulting Group, Inc. for the Crete Pedestrian Bridget project that NDOT is helping administer.

Adopted Resolution 2026-20 Signing of Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between the City of Crete and JEO Consulting Group, Inc for Crete Pedestrian Bridge Project NDOT Project Number: DPS-76 (53) Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.H. Consider Resolution 2026-21 authorizing Chief Elected Official to sign an application for CDBG Funds for infrastructure grant to reconstruct 15th street and construct sidewalk improvements from Boswell Ave to Fir Ave

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that this Resolution is to authorize the Chief Elected Official to sign an application for CDBG funds for an infrastructure grant to reconstruct 15th Street and construct sidewalk improvements from Boswell Ave to Fir Ave.

Adopt Resolution 2026-21 authorizing Chief Elected Official to sign an application for CDBG Funds for infrastructure grant to reconstruct 15th street and construct sidewalk improvements from Boswell Ave to Fir Ave Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

Tom Crisman: Aye, Anthony Fitzgerald: Aye, Kyle Frans: Aye, Ashley Newmyer: Aye, Dan Papik: Aye, Dale Strehle: Aye
Aye: 6, No: 0

4.I. Consider adopting the Citizen Participation Plan

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the Citizen Participation Plan is part of the requirements for the CDBG grant application.

Approved adopting the Citizen Participation Plan Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle 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

4.J. Consider the Excessive Force Certification

City Administrator Tom Ourada explained that the Excessive Force Certification is also part of the CDBG grant application and this is a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force.

Approved the Excessive Force Certification Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.K. Consider the Residential Anti-Displacement & Relocation Assistance Plan

Approved the Residential Anti-Displacement & Relocation Assistance Plan Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle 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

4.L. Consider the Apparatus Purchase Agreement with Toyne Inc

Fire Chief Tod Allen stated that funds for the purchase of this apparatus are all coming from donations and grants.

Approved the Apparatus Purchase Agreement with Toyne Inc with the appropriate documentation. Carried with a motion by Dale Strehle and a second by Dan Papik.

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

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.M. Consider authorizing the Crete Police Department to apply for the NHTSA Grant

Chief of Police Jon Pucket stated that the NHTSA Grant is being applied for by the Nebraska State Patrol and the Crete Police Department will be participating.

Authorized the Crete Police Department to apply for the NHTSA Grant 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, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.N. Consider authorizing the Crete Police Department to apply for the Taser Grant

Chief of Police Jon Pucket stated that this application is for Tasers.

Authorized the Crete Police Department to apply for the Taser Grant 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, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.O. Consider advertising for bids for an ambulance and setting a bid opening date

Approved to advertising for bids for an ambulance and setting a bid opening date of September 30th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. 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, Dale Strehle: Aye

Aye: 6, No: 0

4.P. FY2026-2027 Budget Work Session

City Administrator Tom Ourada provided two spreadsheets with the City of Crete General Fund Transfer Summary Tax Fund Operations. Ourada also provided the City of Crete Comparative Valuation, Taxes, Levies and Expenditures from 2017-2018 to 2026-2027. Ourada explained possible options for the FY 2026-2027 Budget year and answered questions from the City Council members. Ourada stated that Saline County Joint Public Hearing would be on September 23rd, 2026 at 6:15 p.m. at the Saline County Courthouse in the 3rd Floor District Court Room. The City Council Special Meeting will be on Monday, September 28th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

5. Petitions - Communications - Resident Concerns

6. Officers' Reports

- Chief of Police Jon Pucket stated the following:
 - School Resource Officer Noah Zach provided information on e-bikes, electric bikes and minibikes for students during lunch time at the Middle School.
 - Through the child safety grant the police department was able to complete 72 car seat inspections and give out 22 car seats to families.
 - City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the Police Department has been doing work towards stopping loud vehicles that are breaking the law. Pucket added that they can get tickets for disturbing the peace.
- Library Director Jessica Wilkinson stated that she is working on the library accreditation process and appreciates City Attorney Anna Burge's help.
- Parks and Recreation Director Liz Cody stated the following:
 - 4 new Doane Service Leadership volunteers interested in opportunities in parks, forestry, & recreation programs
 - Doane Student Andrew Langford assisting with tree projects during the fall
 - Interviewing applicants for part-time or full-time groundskeeper positions
 - Co-Ed softball season is underway & Flag Football registration is closed and coaching/referee positions are filled
 - Upcoming events in September include a Girl Scout-led park clean-up day at Library Park and the PlantNebraska Curator's Meeting

- Building Inspector Trent Griffin provided the Permit Log for the months of June and July. Griffin also explained that Cross-Connection Control Reporting Surveys are being mailed out.
- City Council member Anthony Fitzgerald asked about the City of Crete's dilapidated buildings and Ourada asked Fitzgerald to provide him with a list and he would follow up with the different departments. City Attorney Anna Burge stated that the City of Crete owns the land at Tuxedo Park but not the buildings and the owners have an obligation to maintain the buildings.
- City Council member Dan Papik stated that he is grateful to the City departments working together.
- City Council member Dale Strehle thanked the department heads for their work on the City budget.
- City Council member Ashley Newmyer thanked City Administrator Tom Ourada and Finance Director Wendy Thomas for their work on the budget.
- City Council member Tom Crisman thanked Chief of Police Jon Pucket for his work citing illegal loud vehicles.
- City Administrator Tom Ourada reminded the City Council members that the Employee Recognition Dinner is on Thursday, September 17th, 2026.
- Mayor Dave Bauer asked the council members who would be able to attend the dinner with the group of Hungarians that will be visiting Crete on Sunday, September 20th, 2026.

6.A. June and July Building Permit Log

6.B. Planning Commission Minutes

6.C. Airport Advisory Board Minutes

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 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

September 1st, 2026

Page 6

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)