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CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 28TH, 2017

Members of the City Council of the City of Crawford, Nebraska, met in regular session in the City Hall Council Chambers, 135 Elm Street, Crawford, Nebraska on the 28th day of November, 2017, at 6:30 o'clock p.m. The following individuals were present: Mayor David Nixon, Attorney Adam Edmund, Council Member Ed Kuhnel, Council Member Roy Norgard, Council Member Connie Shell and Council Member Larry Olson. Absent: none.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publishing in The Crawford Clipper/Harrison Sun as shown by the affidavit of publication filed in the City Clerk's office at City Hall. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice of the Mayor and City Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Nixon called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present at 6:30 p.m. and announced to the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall in the Council Chambers. It is also available in pamphlet form.

Council Member Olson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2017 regular council meeting and to excuse the absence of Council Member Shell from the November 14, 2017 regular council meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Norgard. The following Council Members voted AYE: Olson, Norgard, Kuhnel and Shell. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

Board Reports:

Golf: meets Dec. 6 at 5:00 p.m., followed by a joint Golf Board and City Council workshop at 6:00 p.m.

Ponderosa Villa: meets Thursday.

Hospital: cash-on-hand \$1,862,326.16; Prairie Pines assisted living is full and independent living will be full in December; looking into a generator for the building as Hospital's Disaster Plan places people in Prairie Pines; Chadron Community Hospital has been designated a Safe Sleep Hospital; Chadron Community Hospital and Home Health and Hospice also received a Silver Star Award for their performance and compassion.

SWANN: meeting in December; changing insurance providers.

Rodeo: issue of weight limit on bridge and how it may affect July 4th activities; a 4-H group will be using the Rodeo building every Saturday; getting a new herring bone chute which will make timed events go faster and will not require as much help.

NNDC: \$70,000 in all three accounts, but \$50,000 will go out in January; a national developer is looking for a building and/or acres.

Chamber of Commerce: Friday 12-1-17 is the Christmas celebration from 5 pm to 7 pm. and will include s'mores, rides on the BNSF children's train, lighting the tree and Santa at the Fire Hall.

Sub-Committee on Cultural Center: John Jones and the Industrial Arts students are taking a lot of stuff out of the building; scaffolding is inside; waiting for roofers to come on Thursday; there's no heat on the south side or in the back, and plans are being worked on how to best use the building.

Park, Fire: no report.

Council Member Shell made a motion to approve the monthly Treasurer's Report and the annual Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Council Member Olson. The following Council Members voted AYE: Shell, Olson, Norgard and Kuhnel. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

The hearing on completion of the Comprehensive Development Plan was opened at 6:44 p.m.

Mayor Nixon provided an update on the Railroad Safety Crossing. He attended the County Commissioner's meeting on 11-28-17. Some of the issues involved are the two railroads; Crawford and Dawes County are both involved as well as several residents in the area. Stakeholders need to get together to discuss the various issues and effects, requirements of notices and public hearings.

Quiet Zone Committee member Tim Bosak stated that we all need to work together, so we can all win – a joint effort to benefit everyone; there is not a timeline deadline with Department of Transportation. The City was asked to keep the contract with the engineering firm Felsburg Holt & Ullevig, and it was clarified that such approval would need to be an agenda item at a future council meeting.

BNSF Kate Kalinosky explained that the NDOT historically has a policy that if they are contributing money for the project to upgrade one crossing, they require another crossing to be closed; and the closing would have to be done first, before the other crossing would be upgraded to a safe, silent crossing. Some of the pieces in the process would be notice of intent, comment period, agreements between NDOT, Crawford and BNSF and can take up to a year for the authority to spend, etc. NDOT, the Federal Railroad Administration and Rick Haden with FHU Engineering would have more information.

Representatives of Pine Ridge Service Center (who have bulk fuel tanks in the affected area) and other private residents stated concerns of road access, and if the First Street crossing is closed, the City of Crawford should be responsible to put in a reliable road access. Concerns were also stated of the effects of the train horn on the cattle at the sale barn.

No action was taken on Resolution 2017-12: Railroad Safety Crossing.

Public comment was heard on the process of waiving any properties subject to the new Ready-to-Serve water fees, definition of adjoining lots, feasibility study on the charge, enforcement issue for those not paying the fee, thoughts that it should be the whole council to decide on waivers, not just the mayor; getting on the agenda for individual cases of appeal; what will be done with the old fire truck; when will be the next time Resolution 2017-12 regarding the Railroad Crossing will be on the agenda.

No action was taken on the hire of more snow removal employees.

Council Member Olson made a motion to approve the hire of Judy Gortsema as a substitute, part-time Public Transportation driver. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kuhnel. The following Council Members voted AYE: Olson, Kuhnel, Norgard and Shell. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Norgard made a motion to approve the upcoming six-month raises for Jennifer Dean to \$13.25 per hour and Timothy Schultz to \$12.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kuhnel. The following Council Members voted AYE: Norgard, Kuhnel, Olson and Shell. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Olson made a motion to approve the appointment of Anthony Krajewski as Street Superintendent and to continue with Baker and Associates as the city engineer for 2017-2018. The motion was seconded by Council Member Shell. The following Council Members voted AYE: Olson, Shell, Kuhnel

and Norgard, with the condition on accountability of what we are receiving. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

No comments were received and the hearing on the completion of the Comprehensive Development Plan with CDBG funding was closed at 7:33 p.m.

Council Member Olson made a motion to approve the Comprehensive Development Plan with CDBG funding. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kuhnel. The following Council Members voted AYE: Olson, Kuhnel, Norgard and Shell. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Shell made a motion to approve the engagement letter with Gardner, Loutzenhiser and Ryan for the 2016-2017 audit. The motion was seconded by Council Member Olson. The following Council Members voted AYE: Shell, Olson, Kuhnel and Norgard. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Kuhnel made a motion to approve the Special Designated Liquor License for Bosses Night on Jan. 6, 2018 at the old Fire Hall. The motion was seconded by Council Member Shell. The following Council Members voted AYE: Kuhnel, Shell, Olson and Norgard. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Shell made a motion to approve the registration for the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) but to do it the easiest way possible, e.g. using utilities addresses. The motion was seconded by Council Member Olson. The following Council Members voted AYE: Shell, Olson, Kuhnel and Norgard. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

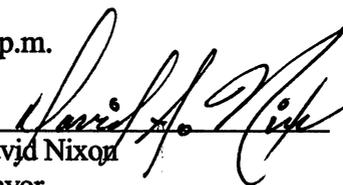
No action was taken on interim financing for the water and sewer extension for the new Fire Hall. It is not necessary at this time.

Bills and claims received approval of three Council Members as indicated by their signatures.

Council Member Shell made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by Council Member Olson. The following Council Members voted AYE: Shell, Olson, Kuhnel and Norgard. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

The November 28, 2017 regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes by: 
Jane Dailey
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by: 
David Nixon
Mayor