Minutes City of Crofton City Council Meeting

And Public Hearing of Vacation of Alley

February 13, 2025

Mayor Robert Evans called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. He pointed out the Open Meetings Poster and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor called the roll. Present was Council Chair Larry Peitz, Jason Wavrunek, Randy Ausdemore, Bryce Rossman.

The Mayor said the agenda needed to be amended to include an Ordinance from Larry Cooper and Austin Partridge for funding the pool program. Motion by Ausdemore 2nd by Peitz to amend the agenda. Vote-Aye-All Motion carried.

The Mayor asked for a motion to begin the Final Public Hearing to vacate an alley of city property. Motion by Wavrunek 2nd by Ausdemore to start the public hearing. Vote Aye All. Motion carried. Hearing began at 6:34 PM. Mayor asked for public comments about the vacating of the property to Gary Nohr. The property is part of his yard and hasn’t been used as an alley. No public comments but councilman Rossman was concerned this would set a precedence for other alleys. Jon Zavadill Chair of Planning and Zoning said this isn’t the first time the city has vacated an alley and the requests are processed on an individual bases.

The Mayor asked for a motion to waive the three reading of Ordinance 2-13-25-1 an ordinance to vacate a portion of City of Crofton owned property 540000273 approximately 20’ X 150’ parcel of land between and dividing parcel 540000274. Motion by Peitz 2nd by Wavrunek to waive the three readings. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried. The Ordinance was read aloud. Motion by Ausdemore 2nd by Rossman to approve Ordinance 2-13-25-1 An Ordinance to vacate a portion of City of Crofton owned property 540000273 approximately 20’ x 150’ parcel of land between and dividing parcel 540000274. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried.

Motion to close the Public Hearing and resume regular meeting by Wavrunek 2nd by Rossman. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried. Meeting resumed at 6:40 PM.

Motion by Rossman 2nd Ausdemore by to approve the corrected minutes from December 12th 2024 meeting. Tim Evans not Tim Arens was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Committee. Vote-Aye-Ausdemore, Rossman, Wavrunek. Abstain Peitz had been absent. Motion Carried.

Motion by Rossman 2nd by Ausdemore to approve the Minutes from the January 9th meeting. Vote-Aye-Peitz, Ausdemore, Rossman. Abstain Warunek had been absent. Motion carried.

Motion by Wavrunek 2nd by Rossman to approve the claims for February 2025 as presented. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried.

Claims: American Legal-$495.00-Arts Garbage-$6606.25-Barco-$455.15-Black Hill Power-$1664.73-Blackburn & Stevens-$17.50-Cedar Knox PPD-$2748.52-Cedar Knox Water-$16571.43-Colonial Life-$74.78-Core & Main-$976.37-Crofton Journal-$244.36-Crofton Lumber-$9.99-EMC-$5347.34-Five Rule -$8000.00-FNBO(visa Maintenance)$201.61-Great Plains-$187.53-Grossenburg-$145.09-Kayton-$3.56-Kayton(lease bobcat)$2500.00-Knox Co. Sheriff-$4912.50-Leaf-$181.28-Menards Card-$115.99-Met Life-$152.26-Midwest Lab-$206.12-Milbrath-Sayler-$450.00-Municipal Supply-$5437.09- Napa-$903.25-NE Lab-$515.00-NDEE-Pool Permit-$40.00-NE Dept Rev.-$1036.36-Next Level-$350.00-One Call Concept-$4.67-Peoples Grocery-$60.72-Quill-(deposit books/office supplies)-$655.17-Steffens Inc-$36.00-Steffens Service-$388.08-US Cellular-$97.48-Yankton Janitorial-$847.00-Modern Woodman-$342.24-Net Payroll(January)-$9235.26-Fed & State withholding and FICA-$2450.86.

Public Comment: No Public comment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Stacy Miller was unable to attend.

Larry Cooper of Farmers and Merchants Bank and Austin Partridge of Northland brought the Council up to date on the pool funding. Austin presented Ordinance 2-13-25-2 for the funding bonds for the pool project. Because the council had not had the funding Contract in their packets, they chose to table the item until March Meeting so they can read through it. A special meeting may be held to get it approved.

CCCFF Crofton Aquatic Center grant application update was presented by Bobbi Pettit Five Rule Planning. A letter of support was presented for a grant application. Moton by Wavruenk 2nd by Rossman to approve the Mayor signing the letter of support. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried.

Bret Melson of Johnsons Service had an update on the sewer cleaning that took place last week. He talked about the sewer liners and proposed work this spring. He presented the council with three bids for Liners and the areas most needing of repairs. A motion by Peitz 2nd by Ausdemore to accept Johnson Service bid of $65,414.00 Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried. Mr. Melson told the council there are companies that line water lines too. He is looking into more information about this for the council.

Motion by Wavrunek 2nd by Rossman to raise the city garden space rental to $30.00 a year and reinstate the garden program at the 5th & Sharon Street intersection. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried.

Two bids were opened for the abandoned 2010 GMC Yukon XL SUV. One bid was for $100.00 and one was $150.00. the council decided they can get more money by scraping it for junk. So, no bid was approved.

Bobbi Pettit Five Rule Planning explained the application for the revolving fund grant. The technical assistance money can be used to pay the contract for Five Rule Planning. Motion by Wavrunek 2nd by Rossman to approve and adopt Resolution 2-13-25-2 A Resolution of the City of Crofton, Nebraska Authorizing the city to apply for a USDA Rural Business Development grant. A USDA grant for $99,000.00 with local match of $33001.00 to create local small business revolving loan fund and provide technical assistance. Vote-Aye-Rossman, Wavrunek, Ausdemore, and Peitz. Motion carried. Motion by Wavrunek 2nd by Ausdemore to have the mayor sign the letter of intent for the funding. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jason Wavrunek updated the council on the water valve replacement in the firehall. The work of replacing the valve will begin the week of the 17th. The Council wanted to talk about the water line being replaced while Iowa Street will be torn up when it is repaired in front of the firehall. They decided to get three estimates for replacing the water lines on Iowa while the street is torn up and being replaced.

The Frisbee Golf “holes” are done and ready for installation and volunteers are needed to accomplish this. Ausdemore has a post hole digger to dig the holes for the placement of the baskets. They will be installed in and around North Park.

Councilman Rossman wants to rebid the sidewalks in South Park and get that work started. They will call the original bidders and see if the bids stand for spring of 2025. They are adding concrete to be placed on the north and south side of the large stone near the memorial. No motion was needed as the motion to get bids and hire has been approved months ago.

Dustin Anderson brought the council up to date on the water discoloration from the Harold Street area. He said the home owner said after the flushing the water is much better. Councilman Ausdemore said there is no outlet at the end of 4th street and putting one there may help remedy the problem. He and Councilman Rossman would like to be involved when Dustin flushes the lines next time.

Pool Hiring will be put on March agenda as the applications aren’t due until March 6th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning and Zoning Jon Zavadil. Jon talked with the Planning and Zoning committee about a sidewalk committee and they said they are too busy to be on it. They could use a few more members on the P & Z committee. They are working to finish the rezoning map of Crofton and will be informing the residents of changes and will have a public hearing when it is ready. He asked to have the P & Z need for members added to the Facebook page.

Economic Development Bobbi Pettit with the quarterly report from Five Rule Planning. She had the report for the council. She had presented the updates when she presented the CCCFF grant.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

City Clerk Donna Benac the clerk applied for an AARP grant to help costs of repairing sidewalks around the city. The work will make it safer to walk as so many residents do. We will know in March if we got it. The Audit should be done soon.

Head Maintenance Dustin Anderson

City Mayor Robert Evans said Cedar Knox Power had asked if the city wanted to keep the security light at the baseball field on the west side. The council all agreed it was needed. He was asked if the City has any police prospects as there had been some robberies around the city near 4th and 5th streets. He said there is a possibility. He reminded everyone to lock their vehicles up especially nightly.

No Closed Session:

Motion by Wavrunek 2nd by Ausdemore to adjourn meeting. Vote-Aye-All. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by the Crofton City Clerk and are available for review at the office.

Donna Benac