

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 12, 2016  
MINUTES**

Mayor Ray Beck brought to order at 6:30 p.m. the first regular meeting of the Craig City Council for the month of January 2016. In addition to Mayor Beck, those present were Councilmembers Joe Bird, Jarrod Ogden, Derek Duran, John Ponikvar, Tony Bohrer and Councilman W. Kent Nielson. Staff present were City Manager Jim Ferree, City Attorney Sherman Romney, Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Director Randy Call, Parks/Recreation Director Dave Pike, Chief of Police Walt Vanatta and City Clerk Kathy Larson.

All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Ponikvar to approve, as presented, the minutes from the December 8, 2015, meeting. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve the December 2015 bills in the amount of \$336,431.82. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Ponikvar to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to remove items A and B (renewals of two Kum and Go liquor licenses) from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve items C and D on the consent agenda ~ these items being the renewal of a tavern liquor license for VFW Post #4265 located at 419 E. Victory Way and the appointment of Luke Tucker to the Craig/Moffat airport board. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Council asked for clarification on the liquor license renewal process for Kum and Go. City Clerk Larson explained the process to them for these renewals. After a few comments, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Nielson to approve the renewals of 3.2% beer licenses for Kum and Go Store #903 located at 700 E. Victory Way and Kum and Go Store #901 located at 895 Yampa Avenue. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilmembers offered their reports at this time.

Jill Shade, new executive director of Advocates Crisis Support Services (ACSS), introduced herself and spoke about stalking and human trafficking. She presented Council with two proclamations for approval. Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Bird to declare the month of January 2016 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Bohrer moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to declare the month of January 2016 as Stalking Awareness Month. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Drew Kramer, Senior Advisor for External Affairs at Tri-State G & T, appeared before Council to update them on the OSMRE environmental assessment at Trapper Mine. He also gave a Power Point presentation on the history and function of Tri-State and the supporting mines in the area. Mr. Kramer invited Council and the public to a community meeting that will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm to receive public input on a draft environmental statement regarding an expansion at Colowyo coal called the Collom Expansion Project. Mr. Kramer also mentioned a new website that will go live in the near future called “supportnwcolorado.com.” He asked Council for a letter of support for the Collom project.

Audrey Danner, executive director of the Craig/Moffat Economic Development Partnership (CMEDP) appeared before Council to update them on CMEDP and the Business Center. She discussed with Council some joint goals that CMEDP/Craig Chamber/Moffat County Tourism recently developed. Council asked questions and offered comments.

City Attorney Romney gave Council a history of the formation of the Craig Apothecary owned by Shaun Hadley whose medical marijuana conditional license is up for renewal tonight. After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Ponikvar to approve the medical marijuana conditional license for Craig Apothecary located at 6ll Breeze St., Craig. Ayes: 5. Nays: 2. Motion carried. Councilman Nielson and Councilman Bohrer voted in the minority.

City Manager Ferree presented the site development plan for an expansion at Lot 1 of the Kum and Go #903 subdivision located at 700 E. Victory Way. Ferree indicated that the site plan meets and exceeds all City requirements and has unanimous approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Two associates from the Kum and Go corporate offices appeared before Council to answer any questions Council might have. After a brief discussion, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Duran to approve the site plan for the expansion at Kum and Go #903 located at 700 E. Victory Way. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Manager Ferree presented a lease between the City of Craig and Colorado River Conservation District with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife to manage the public recreational uses and activities at Elkhead Reservoir. Ferree gave Council a history of the existing 20 year lease which is now up for renewal. City Attorney Romney discussed the financing involved with this lease. After a brief discussion, Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve a 20 year lease between the City of Craig and the Colorado River Conservation District with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife to manage the public recreational uses and activities at Elkhead Reservoir. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Moffat County Commissioner Frank Moe appeared before Council to give a presentation on a meeting he and other representatives from Craig attended in 2015 sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACO) specifically focused on coal reliant communities.

A recent discussion at the first Local Marketing District (LMD) meeting revolved around who will be the voting representatives for the LMD. City Attorney Romney offered some comments on this. After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Duran that any action taken at the LMD meetings must be approved by the majority of the board members present at that meeting. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Another discussion was held at the first LMD meeting regarding whether or not the LMD board should hire a facilitator to help them establish goals and objectives for the LMD. Commissioner Moe indicated that the County Commissioners did not feel that a facilitator was necessary at this time. After a brief discussion, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to not fund a facilitator at this time for the LMD. Ayes: 6. Nays: 1. Motion carried. Councilman Nielson voted in the minority.

City Attorney Romney presented Resolutions No. 1 and 2 for approval. These two resolutions designate an official posting place for agendas and an official newspaper for publication of legal notices. Councilman Bohrer moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve Resolution No. 1 (2016) which designates the public place for posting notice of any meeting as required under the open meetings law. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Then, Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Duran to approve Resolution No. 2 (2016) declaring the Craig Daily Press as the official newspaper of the City of Craig, Colorado. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

There were no questions for Chief Vanatta on the monthly police report.

During additional Council comments, the Council discussed whether or not it was necessary to have liquor licensees attend meetings for the renewal of their licenses if there was no cause shown for denial. Various opinions were offered. Council did not reach a consensus on this issue.

There being no further business, Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.