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# Cresco Sewer/Waste Water Project still on schedule

BY RACHEL RILEY  
TPD Reporter

Mayor Alex Fortune called the Cresco City Council meeting to order on August 4, 2025. Council members Gary Kriener, Rich McConnell, Sean Fosaaen, Amy Bouska, Jan Carman were present. Also present were City Clerk Niki Hill and Public Works Director Dave Brenno.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the agenda; claims; minutes from the July 21, 2025 meeting. Carman seconded and it passed all ayes.

## Public Works Report

Public Works Director Brenno noted the sewer project is on schedule.

He also reported storm sewers have been a key point since the last meeting. The storm sewer by Subway was complete, but had a partial collapse which had to be fixed. At the end of 2nd St/8th Ave E an issue was found last summer/fall which is now complete. On 4th Ave E, west of the fitness center, a man-made storm sewer

was found and pictures were taken. It seems to travel diagonally up to East Park, possibly under homes. CIT will televise the man-made storm sewer to find its exact location and give the report to the Public Works which will then be presented to the City Council.

Brenno brought up requests to remove one handicap parking space and also add one in a different location. Removal of the handicap spot in front of 102 3rd Avenue East, which is now apartments replacing the previous church, were requested by the owner of the building. Discussion about the legality of adding another handicap parking spot by the downtown retail stores is now in the works. Bouska suggested adding a handicap parking spot in front of Angie's Hair Salon. Council will check into if having a handicap spot not adjacent to an ADA compliant sidewalk is allowed and the legality of where that falls.

## Cresco Police Report

LT. Sam Fotiadis spoke of the National Night Out taking place on August 5, 2025

(prior to this printing). The event layout was covered as well as well wishes to the community to enjoy themselves. Most activities sponsored by the Police Department were free to the community. Some activities will accept donations and all proceeds for those activities sponsored by the Police Department will go to the Cresco Theatre Scene Shop Project.

## Administration

City Clerk Niki Kill reported that audits were happening this week. First date to file election papers is August 11, 2025, last date to file is September 18, 2025.

## Committee

Theater Commission did not meet this month due to the successful play of The Wizard of Oz. Turnout was good with over 100 people involved in the play. Money raised is being put towards donations to the Cresco Theatre Scene Shop Project.

## Public Comments

Lucas and Julian Merritt representing Hawkeye Sanitation stood at the podium to

speak. Concerns about requiring permits for residents to acquire dumpsters and rollaways to be placed in the street were brought up.

The council was not ready to fully discuss this issue as it is a new proposed ordinance that has not been fully investigated; it was suggested by the council that Hawkeye Sanitation meet with Dave Brenno from Public Works to further discuss possible ways to work on a solution that will work both for the city as well as Hawkeye and their customers.

Hawkeye Sanitation is concerned about adding another step for customers to acquire their dumpsters while the city council is concerned about the amount of time some of the dumpsters have been staying in the street, causing safety concerns for the public. This topic will be brought back up at a future Council Meeting.

## Meeting Date Changed

The September 1, 2025 meeting has been changed to September 2, 2025 due to the Holiday, passing with all ayes.

## Board Comments

Recommendation of the Park Board to reappoint Chelsey Hovden for a Term of three years expiring 6/30/2028 was approved.

Recommendation of the Park Board to Appoint Matt Johnson for a Term of three years expiring 6/30/2028 passed.

Review of Board of Adjustment Applications in which there were three applicants with two spaces available were passed. Motions to reappoint both Robert Story and Emily Dohman-Govern passed with all ayes.

## Sanitation

In a discussion to accept sewer septage waste from NES there was a trial run done last week in which 4800 gallons were dumped. Fee charged was \$60.25 base fee + \$22.32 per thousand pounds. Trial run went well with no issues. Bouska raised the question about why Decorah was not accepting the additional waste and suggested reaching out to them for insight before final approval.

## Proposed Ordinance

Fortune did the first read-

ing of proposed Ordinance No. 518 to amend Chapter 69.09 Sections 01, 02, 03, and adding Section 05 and 06 in the City of Cresco Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Parking Regulations.

These changes include limitation on vehicles and trailers left unattended if their weight is over 1 ton in both business and residential areas. Licensed contractors parking for more than 24 hours would have to give notice to the city. Available spaces for temporary parking are available in the parking lot at the airport for the public, these restricted vehicles could utilize that space if needed.

The ordinances also include noise limitations. Government and Emergency vehicles are exempt for all ordinances raised. The reading of proposed Ordinances passed on all ayes.

## Next Meeting

Carman moved to adjourn the Council Meeting at 6:16 pm. McConnell seconded, and it passed all ayes. The next regular Cresco City Council meeting will be August 19, 2025, at 5:30 pm at Cresco City Hall.