



**COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2025
MINUTES**

Mayor Nichols brought to order at 6:30 p.m. the first regular meeting of the Craig City Council for the month of October 2025. In addition to Mayor Nichols, those present were Councilmembers Michelle Gottschall, Derek Duran, Jesse James Jackson, Randy Looper, Andrea Camp and Luke Tucker. Staff present were City Attorney Heather Cannon, Finance Director Mindy Elliott, City Clerk Katie Carmody, Police Chief Michael Cochran, Economic Development Manager Shannon Scott, and GIS/Technology Tech John Meinhart.

All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Katie Carmody took councilmember roll call. Those present were Mayor Nichols, and Councilmembers Michelle Gottschall, Derek Duran, Jesse James Jackson, Randy Looper, Andrea Camp and Luke Tucker.

Councilwoman Gottschall moved with a second by Councilman Jackson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included the approval of the minutes from the regular council meeting on September 23, 2025, the approval of bills through October 9, 2025, in the amount of \$1,610,248.82, and the approval of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Nominations for Members at Large (Two-Year Term, Voting Member) Ashley Kawcak and Jenny Earls and for Alternate Members (Three-Year Term, Non-Voting) Louise Thomas and June O'Neill. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Tucker to amend the agenda to remove the follow item from the agenda: Item 10B. The Public Works Report for September 2025. This item was removed from the agenda because Public Works Director Danny Paul could not attend the meeting. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Camp moved with a second by Councilman Jackson to approve the October 14, 2025, agenda as amended. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Economic Development Manager Shannon Scott presented on the 2025 Craig Business Plan Competition and announced the 2025 Craig Business Plan Competition winners.

City Manager Peter Brixius updated the group on current and future meetings and projects, including information from the Public Works Report for September 2025.

City Councilmembers discussed various meetings and events in which they participated in or will participate in soon.

The floor was now open for public comment.

Ashley Dishman gave a public comment.

Alvin Arnaud gave a public comment.

There being no additional public comment, Mayor Nichols recused himself and exited the dais due to conflict of interest.

Mayor Pro Tempore Duran closed the Regular Session and moved into Public Hearing at 7:22 p.m.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented a Tavern (City) Local Liquor License application from Dummy and Crane Cocktail Co. LLC dba Dummy and Crane Cocktail Co. LLC located at 406 Yampa Avenue, Craig, Colorado.

Applicants Kirstie McPherson and Tinneal Gerber gave a public comment.

There being no additional public comment, Mayor Pro Tempore Duran closed the Public Hearing and moved back into Regular Session at 7:31 p.m.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented for discussion and approval a Tavern (City) Local Liquor License application from Dummy and Crane Cocktail Co. LLC dba Dummy and Crane Cocktail LLC located at 406 Yampa Avenue, Craig, Colorado. After further discussion Councilman Jackson moved with a second by Councilman Looper to approve a Tavern (City) Local Liquor License application from Dummy and Crane Cocktail Co. LLC dba Dummy and Crane Cocktail LLC located at 406 Yampa Avenue, Craig, Colorado. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Abstained: 1. Motion carried.

Mayor Nichols entered the chamber and seated himself on the dais.

Economic Development Manager Shannon Scott presented for discussion and approval the Award of Request for Proposals of the Master Planner for the Industrial Park to Antero Group in the amount of \$256,000.00. After further discussion, Councilwoman Gottschall moved with a second by Councilman Jackson to approve the Award of Request for Proposals of the Master Planner for the Industrial Park to Antero Group in the amount of \$256,000.00. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Looper recused himself and exited the dais due to a conflict of interest.

City Manager Peter Brixius presented for discussion and approval Resolution No. 31 (2025) ~ A Resolution of the City of Craig approving the 2026 Strategic Plan and Budget from the Moffat County Local Marketing District (“MCLMD”) and its Operating Plan for the year 2026. After further discussion, Councilman Tucker moved with a second by Councilman Jackson to approve Resolution No. 31 (2025) ~ A Resolution of the City of Craig approving the 2026 Strategic Plan and Budget from the Moffat County Local Marketing District (“MCLMD”) and its Operating Plan for the year 2026. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Abstained: 1. Motion carried.

Councilman Looper entered the chamber and seated himself on the dais.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented for discussion and approval (Introduction and First Reading) Ordinance No. 1169 (2025) ~ An Ordinance of the City of Craig, Colorado amending Local Liquor Licensing Fees to reflect the Colorado Department of Revenue Liquor Enforcement Division Fee Schedule, and Declaring an Effective Date Retroactive to the date permitted by state law. After further discussion Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilwoman Gottschall to approve (Introduction and First Reading) Ordinance No. 1169 (2025) ~ An Ordinance of the City of Craig, Colorado amending Local Liquor Licensing Fees to reflect the Colorado Department of

Revenue Liquor Enforcement Division Fee Schedule, and Declaring an Effective Date Retroactive to the date permitted by state law. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented for discussion and approval (Introduction and First Reading) Ordinance No. 1170 (2025) ~ An Ordinance of the City of Craig, Colorado Amending Section 5.10 – Alcohol Beverages to reference the Appropriate State Statutes and to Include Transfer of Ownership Hearing Procedures. After further discussion Councilman Jackson moved with a second by Councilman Looper to approve (Introduction and First Reading) Ordinance No. 1170 (2025) ~ An Ordinance of the City of Craig, Colorado Amending Section 5.10 – Alcohol Beverages to reference the Appropriate State Statutes and to Include Transfer of Ownership Hearing Procedures. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran recused himself and exited the dais due to a conflict of interest.

Economic Development Manager Shannon Scott presented for discussion and approval of Resolution No. 32 (2025) ~ A Resolution of the City of Craig Approving the First Amendment to the Establishment Agreement Creating the Moffat Economic Development Authority (MEDA). After further discussion Councilman Jackson moved with a second by Councilwoman Camp to approve Resolution No. 32 (2025) ~ A Resolution of the City of Craig Approving the First Amendment to the Establishment Agreement Creating the Moffat Economic Development Authority (MEDA). Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Abstained: 1. Motion carried.

Economic Development Manager Shannon Scott presented for discussion and approval the 2026 MEDA Draft Budget. After further discussion Councilwoman Gottschall moved with a second by Councilman Tucker to approve the 2026 MEDA Draft Budget. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Abstained: 1. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran entered the chamber and seated himself on the dais.

City Manager Peter Brixius presented for discussion and approval Resolution No. 33 (2025) ~ A Resolution authorizing the Execution of an Option Agreement, Unanimous Written Consent, and all related Documents with SBA Communications for the Sand Rocks Communications Site. After further discussion Councilman Looper moved with a second by Councilwoman Camp to approve Resolution No. 33 (2025) ~ A Resolution authorizing the Execution of an Option Agreement, Unanimous Written Consent, and all related Documents with SBA Communications for the Sand Rocks Communications Site. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

There were no requests for future agenda items.

Police Chief Michael Cochran presented the Police Update for September 2025.

At 8:12 p.m. Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Looper to move from Regular Session into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive legal advice concerning the Settlement Agreement for case 1:24-cv-01664-STV. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Present for the Executive Session were Mayor Nichols and Councilmembers Michelle Gottschall, Derek Duran, Jesse James Jackson, Randy Looper, Andrea Camp, and Luke Tucker. City Staff present were City Manager Peter Brixius, City Attorney Heather Cannon, Assistant City Attorney Garry Rhoden, Police Chief Michael Cochran, Police Commander Doug Conrad, Sergeant Dalton Caudell, and Corporal Tracy Mendoza. Joining VIA ZOOM was Attorney Eric Ziporin. At 8:13 p.m. the recording was stopped, and the Executive Session started.

At 8:30 p.m. Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilwoman Camp to move from Executive Session back into Regular Session. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried. The recording was turned back on. No decisions or actions were taken during Executive Session.

Presented for discussion and approval of the Settlement Agreement for case 1:24-cv-01664-STV. After further discussion Councilwoman Gottschall moved with a second by Councilwoman Camp to approve the Settlement Agreement for case 1:24-cv-01664-STV. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Being no further business, Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Looper to adjourn the October 14, 2025, meeting at 8:34 p.m. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.