



**COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2026
MINUTES**

Mayor Nichols brought to order at 6:30 p.m. the first regular meeting of the Craig City Council for the month of January 2026. In addition to Mayor Nichols, those present were Councilmembers Michelle Gottschall, Jnl Linsacum, Derek Duran, Randy Looper, Joe Herod, and Luke Tucker. Staff present were City Manager Peter Brixius, City Attorney Heather Cannon, Finance Director Mindy Elliott, City Clerk Katie Carmody, Public Works Director Danny Paul, Water and Wastewater Director Carl Ray, Police Chief Michael Cochran, 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, Jnl Linsacum, Derek Duran, Randy Looper, Joe Herod, and Luke Tucker.

Councilman Looper moved with a second by Councilman Herod to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included the approval of the minutes from the regular council meeting on December 9, 2025, and the approval of bills through January 8, 2026, in the amount of \$1,864,516.59. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Tucker to approve the January 13, 2026, agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Police Chief Michael Cochran presented a life saving award to School Resource Officer Sambu Shrestha.

City Manager Peter Brixius updated the group on current and future meetings and projects.

City Councilmembers discussed various meetings and events in which they participated in or will participate in soon. There was a disclosure of a potential conflict from Councilman Looper regarding Item 7F.

There was no Public Hearing scheduled.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented for discussion and approval Resolution No. 1 (2026) ~ A Resolution designating the public place for posting notices pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(2)(c). After further discussion, Councilwoman Gottschall moved with a second by Councilman Looper to approve Resolution No. 1 (2026) ~ A Resolution designating the public place for posting notices pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(2)(c). Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented for discussion and approval Resolution No. 2 (2026) ~ A Resolution declaring the Craig Press as the official newspaper for the publication of Legal Notices for the City of Craig. After further discussion, Councilman Looper moved with a second by Councilwoman Linsacum to approve Resolution No. 2 (2026) ~ A Resolution declaring the Craig Press as the official newspaper for the publication of Legal Notices for the City of Craig. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Clerk Katie Carmody presented for discussion and approval Resolution No. 3 (2026) ~ A Resolution approving the appointments of City Council Members to various Committees and Boards. After further discussion, Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Tucker to approve Resolution No. 3 (2026) ~ A Resolution approving the appointments of City Council Members to various Committees and Boards. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Water and Wastewater Director Carl Ray presented for discussion and approval the recension of the Award of Bid for the 2026 Chemicals as approved at the December 9, 2025, regular city council meeting. After further discussion, Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Herod to approve the recension of the Award of Bid for the 2026 Chemicals as approved at the December 9, 2025, regular city council meeting. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Water and Wastewater Director Carl Ray presented for discussion and approval the revised Award of Bid for the 2026 Chemicals for the Water and Wastewater Departments. After further discussion, Councilman Looper moved with a second by Councilman Duran to approve the revised Award of Bid for the 2026 Chemicals for the Water and Wastewater Departments. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Looper recused himself and exited the dais due to a conflict of interest with the next agenda item.

City Attorney Heather Cannon presented for discussion and approval the removal from the table of the December 9, 2025, regular city council meeting the discussion and approval of the Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Craig and the Northwest Colorado Innovation Center (NCIC) as it relates to the Craig Industrial Park. After further discussion, Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilwoman Gottschall to remove from the table of the December 9, 2025, regular city council meeting the discussion and to approve the Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Craig and the Northwest Colorado Innovation Center (NCIC) as it relates the Craig Industrial Park. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Abstained: 1. Motion carried.

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

Police Chief Michael Cochran presented for discussion and approval the Police Vehicle Lease Program. After further discussion, Councilman Looper moved with a second by Councilman Herod to approve the Police Vehicle Lease program not to exceed \$87,243.00. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

There were no requests for future agenda items.

Public Works Director Danny Paul presented the Public Works report for December 2025.

Finance Director Mindy Elliott presented the Finance Report for November 2025.

Police Chief Michael Cochran presented the Police Report for December 2025.

The floor was now open for public comment.

There was no public comment.

There were no closing remarks or informational items presented.

Being no further business, Councilman Looper moved with a second by Councilman Duran to adjourn the January 13, 2026, regular city council meeting at 8:22 p.m. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.