

NOTICE AND CALL OF PUBLIC MEETING

GOVERNMENTAL BODY: THE CITY COUNCIL OF CRESCO, IOWA

DATE OF MEETING: FEBRUARY 2, 2015

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: 7:00 P.M. AT CRESCO CITY HALL

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE MENTIONED GOVERNMENTAL BODY WILL MEET AT THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE SET OUT ABOVE. THE TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR SAID MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

ROLL CALL: CARMAN, BOUSKA, McGEE, McCARVILLE, LOVELESS

ACT ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed under the consent agenda will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a request is made prior to the time council votes on the motion.

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Claims
3. Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2015
4. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2015 Special Session
5. Approval of Tree Surgeon License for Wilson Custom Tree
6. Application for Tax Abatement under the Urban Revitalization Plan for Dean and Kim Zakostelecky

STAFF REPORTS: There may be action taken on each of the items listed below.

1. Public Works
2. Police
3. Administration

BUSINESS: There may be action taken on each of the items listed below.

1. Discuss Bids for Stump Grinding Contract for 2015 and Possible Award of Contract
2. Request from Judy Fisher to Credit Sewer Charges for Water not Entering the Sanitary Sewer System
3. Request from Rod and Annette Trachta to Credit Sewer Charges for Water not Entering the Sanitary Sewer System
4. Resolution Allowing Partial Tax Exemption under Cresco Urban Revitalization Area for Gordon and Patricia Koehler
5. Dusty Burnikel to Discuss Trees
6. Curt McNew to Discuss Northeast Iowa Community Action Transit
7. David Boss to Discuss Northeast Iowa Community Action
8. Request from Linda Quam to Apply the Water Hookup Charge to a Property Tax Assessment
9. Discuss Electrical Issues and Ballast on City Hall Sign

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:

ADJOURN:

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN AT THE DIRECTION OF THE MAYOR PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 28A, CODE OF IOWA AND THE LOCAL RULES OF SAID GOVERNMENTAL BODY.
POSTED JANUARY 29, 2015.

Credit for Fisher – please read her letter to council. The water did not enter the sanitary sewer system. Total bill is \$1,307.37 of which we recommend a credit of \$835.62 based on the past year's average sewer charges.

Credit for Trachta– please read their email to council. The water did not enter the sanitary sewer system. Total bill is \$876.64 of which we recommend a credit of \$546.29 based on the past year's average sewer charges.

Koehler – Malek built this spec house and majority of the value was assessed in 2013. Koehlers purchased the house in June 2014 which was after the deadline of February 1, 2014 to apply for the first year's exemption. They are requesting to receive the credit for years 2-5 which must be done by resolution since it is after the deadline.

Trees – Dusty Burnikel requested to be on the agenda to discuss trees.

Transit – Curt McNew of Northeast Iowa Community Action would like to inform Council of the Transit system and the new program they have.

NE IA Comm Action – David Boss would like to inform Council of the various programs that they administer. We pay them \$2,901 every year based on \$.75 per person (pop = 3868).

Quam – She hooked up to City water and is outside the City limits. The Ordinance reads that she would be charged a minimum \$5,000 connection charge. She wants to pay it over 10 years with her property taxes like we did for the street projects. I said I wasn't sure if it could be assessed but if she wanted to request it that I would present it to Council. This is Attorney Joe Braun's opinion per email I just received:

"I don't believe the City can legally assess those costs over time like on a street improvement. Iowa Code Chapter 384 describes the conditions under which a City can levy a special assessment. Essentially we can assess for a "public improvement" which this is not. It is simply a hook up fee or user fee for an existing public improvement. So, I think it needs to all be paid at once because state law does not allow for a special assessment over time for this type of charge."

Next question will probably be whether she can set up a payment plan. What are your thoughts? For the future do you think the fee should be paid prior to the connection being made?

City Hall Sign – We have received a complaint that the sign outside City Hall (with the temperature and time) is not lit up at night. Rod thinks the ballast is probably bad and that we probably need to redo the whole electrical thing and maybe upgrade to LED. We have no idea what the cost is. Our question is whether we really need to have it lit up at night.

Michelle

The Cresco City Council met January 19, 2015, at 7:00 pm at City Hall. Council Members Carman, Bouska and McGee were present. Loveless arrived at 7:02 pm. Council Member Steve McCarville was absent.

Bouska made the motion to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the: agenda; claims; minutes of the January 5, 2015 meeting and January 8 & 12, 2015 worksessions; Class C Beer Permit (BC) with Class B Wine Permit and Sunday sales to DOLGENCORP LLC d/b/a Dollar General Store #2400; Special Class C Liquor License (BW) (beer/wine) with Sunday sales to Mad Cam Inc d/b/a Mages Pizza; Tax Abatement under the Urban Revitalization Plan for: Ann Marie Sullivan, David & Tamara Lickteig, Gary & Janell Langreck, Travis Cummings, Joseph & Barbara Labosky, C&W Properties; parade permit to establish snowmobile route through Cresco for the Driftrunners Inc; permit for supervised display of fireworks for the Driftrunners at the Howard County Fairgrounds on January 24, 2015. McGee seconded and it passed all ayes.

Public Works Director Rod Freidhof reported (a) Street: Christmas decorations have been taken down and put in storage. Trimming boulevard and alley trees. Minor repairs to a snow plow; (b) working on removing the old oil tank this week; (c) Sewer: replacing piping in the big digester tank. These pipes are over 40 years old and are the third and final tank. They are also experiencing problems with the drip pump and we are using a loaner pump. There is a leak in the non-potable water system that they have shut down until it can be repaired in the spring; (d) Water: still trying to locate a watermain break in the system; (e) Traffic Lights – problem with traffic lights changing too fast but was able to temporarily fix them until someone can come and repair them.

Police Chief Ruroden reported the Police have been busy last few weeks and he thanked Assistant Chief Winkie for filling in some extra. Officers have been busy with many investigations and making arrests.

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo reported she has been busy working on the budget.

Bouska reported they had a very productive Energy Management Team meeting. They brain-stormed and came up with many ideas for projects and started working on goals.

Stump Grinding bids were received for 2015. They were broke down by gas prices of \$2.50-\$2.99, \$3.00-\$3.49 and \$3.50 & up. Bids were received from Tarzan Tree Service of \$1.10, 1.00, \$.60 average \$.90; Walton Tree Service \$.90, \$.92, \$.92 average \$.913; Wilson Custom Tree Service for \$.95, \$.98, \$1.00 average \$.977. The bid requests were sent out before gas prices plummeted to below \$1.90 per gallon. The reason for the bid breakdowns must have been done in the past when gas prices kept going up. Consensus of Council was that the bids would be better if they were just bid for so much per inch regardless of the gas prices. None of the other bidding that the City does allows for gas price changes. Loveless made the motion to reject all bids and to go out for new bids with no reference to gas prices. Bouska seconded and it passed all ayes.

Carman made the motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an Industrial Sewer Rental Agreement with Cresco Food Technologies LLC. McGee seconded and it passed all ayes.

Lori Brockway from Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission updated the Council on the Northeast Regional Housing Trust Fund. The City of Cresco has pledged \$5,000 since the startup in 2010 that goes towards the 25% match required by the Iowa Finance Authority. Projects in Howard County since 2010 were funded for \$270,025.45 of which \$204,136.75 was funded by Iowa Finance Authority. She also discussed other programs they administer if the City of Cresco was interested in doing other projects.

Police Chief Ruroden informed Council that he received a very good resume for a part-time officer. We currently have two part-time officers but both work full-time doing road maintenance. The potential candidate is a full-time certified Officer in the Postville

Police Department and is an instructor in several different specialties that we could use for in-house trainings. Consensus of Council was to add him to the list of part-time Officers to call if needed to cover shifts.

Mayor asked if there were any comments from the audience and there were none.

Carman moved to adjourn at 7:28 pm. McGee seconded and it passed all ayes. The next regular Cresco City Council meeting will be at 7:00 pm on February 2, 2015 at Cresco City Hall.

Mayor Mark Bohle

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo

Following is a list of claims approved for payment:

ADVANCED SYS	Maint	78.95
ALLIANT	Elect	98.38
BACKFLOW PRE	Srvc	270.00
BAKER&TAYLOR	Books,audios	1,136.74
BLACK HILLS	Nat gas	395.59
BC / BS	Insur	29,512.23
BOB'S ELECT	Supp	212.30
BODENSTEINER	Supp	62.65
CANOE RID KENNELS	Srvc	33.00
CARDMEMBER	Equip	287.90
CITY OF CRESCO	Util,insur	2,733.53
CPU	Srvc	120.99
CO-OP THEATRE	Fees	310.00
COURTNEY SRVC	Srvc	660.00
CREATIVE PRODUCT	Supplies	137.03
CRESCO FIRE SAFETY	Srvc	100.00
CRESCO INSUR	Insur	531.11
CRESCO SHOPPER	Advert,publ	120.00
CRESCO TPD	Advert, publ	657.97
CRICCET	Tourism grant	3,000.00
DALCO	Supp	589.30
DEANS BODY	Rprs	1,880.82
DEMCO	Supp	112.27
DES MOINES STAMP	Supp	61.95
FAREWAY	Concessions	27.49
FENCL OIL	LP gas	399.11
FENCO	Rprs	4,658.40
FOLEY'S CONST	Srvc	159.50
GALLS	Unif	732.24
GOSCH'S	Supp	17.45
GROUP SRVC	Fees	358.75
HACH	Supp	365.41
HAWKEYE REC	Elect	6,243.45
HAWKEYE SAN	Grb/rcyl	49,026.26
HOMETOWN ACCTG	Supp	50.00
HOVDEN OIL	Supp	583.55
HOW COUNTY	Shared LEC	19,108.74
HOW CO BUSS&TOUR	Dues	15,000.00
IA ONE	Srvc	6.30
IA POETRY	Book	9.00
IA SPORTS	Supp	191.85
JIM'S AUTO	Supp	19.16
K & H COOP	Lp gas	36.65
KAERCHER, DAN	Publ prgm	225.00
KEYSTONE LABS	Analys	1,319.65
KUBIK	Srvc	124.59
LAW ENFORCE	Supp	495.00
NE IA TELEPHONE	Srvc	988.75
NUSTEP	Equip	4,143.00
O'HENRY'S	Unif	66.00
PAYROLL		60,237.54
PEPSI-COLA	Concessions	1,434.10
PETTY CASH	Postage	19.93
POOL TECH	Supp	50.20
POSTMASTER	Postage	75.00

REGIONAL HEALTH	Srvc	198.00
RICOH	Copies	182.02
RILEY'S	Supp	280.16
RUPPERT	Supp	261.46
SIGNS&DESIGNS	Supp	72.50
SIRCHIE LAB	Supp	247.25
STATE HYG LAB	Analys	148.00
STOREY KEN THY	Supp	701.52
TECHNICOLOR	MovieRent	40.22
TEL-COMM SRVC	Srvc	40.00
TREAS, ST OF IA	Sales Tax	6,752.00
UNIFORM & ACCESS	Supp	384.01
WARNER BROS	MovieRent	350.00
WHKS	Engr srvcs	65,867.44
WINDSTREAM	Phone	56.91
ZEE MEDICAL	Supp	189.11
	GENERAL	113,678.26
	HOTEL/MOTEL	3,000.00
	LOST PROJ	15,250.05
	NUISANCE HSE	98.38
	MEDIACOM	1,262.50
	DRUG DOG	1,988.32
	CRESCO COMM FIRE	631.11
	ROAD USE	10,126.99
	EMPLOYEE BEN	29,401.59
	FC TRUST	4,302.50
	STREET ASSESS	61,647.76
	WATER	15,143.33
	SEWER	25,457.77
	CAP IMPROVE	2,807.74
	YARDWASTE	249.08
	EXPENDITURES	285,045.38
	Revenues 1/6 to 1/19/15	152,956.75

The Cresco City Council met in special session on January 22, 2015, at 10:00 am at City Hall. Paul Greufe, Robin White, David Godman, Mike Born, Jason Miller, Cody Courtney and Michelle Girolamo were present. No council members were present.

Paul Greufe presented the Initial Proposal to the Union AFSCME Council 61. Robin White accepted the Proposal on behalf of the Union Members.

The public meeting was adjourned at 10:01 am.

The next regular Cresco City Council meeting will be at 7:00 pm on February 2, 2015 at Cresco City Hall.

Mayor Mark Bohle

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo

\$ 50.00

No. 172

Tree Surgeon License

February 2 , 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

That in consideration of FIFTY DOLLARS

License is hereby granted to Wilson Custom Tree for the purpose

Of tree trimming in the municipality of CRESCO, IOWA, County of HOWARD.

This License to be in force from February 2 , 2015, to December 31 , 2015

PROVIDED that said Tree Surgeon attentively observes all limitations and restrictions to be found in Chapter 125 Code of Ordinances, City of Cresco, Iowa, relating to Tree Surgeon's License made by the Council of said municipality.

Attest: _____
Clerk

Mayor

APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT UNDER THE
URBAN REVITALIZATION PLAN FOR

CRESCO, IOWA

Date 1-26-15

Prior Approval for
 Intended Improvements

Approval of Improvements
 Completed

Address of Property: 124 4th Ave S.W Cresco Ia 52136

Legal Description: _____

Title Holder or Contract Buyer: DEAN-Kim Zakostecky

Address of Owner (if different than above): _____

Phone Number (to be reached during the day): 563-390-8383

Existing Property Use: Residential Commercial Industrial Vacant

Proposed Property Use: Personal

Nature of Improvements: New Construction Addition General Improvements

Specify: 28 x 28 Foot Garage

Estimated or Actual Date of Completion: Est. 6-15-15

Estimated or Actual Cost of Improvements: _____

Tax Exemption Schedule is attached.

Signed: 

January 21, 2015

Judy Fisher

7916 Winslow Road

Janesville, Iowa 50647

319-415-2570

Dear Cresco City Council:

The city works employees discovered that my unoccupied rental home at 607 2nd Street SW, had a water pipe break. (The renter who left in December had apparently turned the heat down TOO much!...and a pipe broke in the bathroom).

Your public works director, Rod, says the water did not go into the city sewer, as it leaked to the ground below the bathroom and out to the backyard.

So, I request that I not be required to pay the \$819 sewer bill.

Thank you for considering my request!

Sincerely,

Judy K. Fisher

Owner of 607 2nd St. SW, Cresco

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	12.80 -
0002	835.62 *
<i>Possible Credit</i>	
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<i>Average</i> 153.53 ÷
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12.80 *

Utility Billing Inquiry



Balance | Customer | History Summary | History Detail | Consumption | Payment Agreement | Bad Debt

Account # Begin Date End Date Service Type

Name JUDY FISHER	Move in Date 2-07-2013	Last Bill 1307.37
Property 607 2ND ST SW	RESIDENTIAL Move out Date	Penalty
	Active	Adjust
		New Charges
<input type="button" value="Account"/> <input type="button" value="Service"/> <input type="button" value="History"/> <input type="button" value="Credit"/> <input type="button" value="Property"/>	Bank Pay	Payment
Times Delq	30 Days 60 Days 90 Days Over 90	Amt Due 1307.37
	1,307.37	Due Date 2-12-2015

Date	Description	Consumption	Charge	Bill	Penalty/Pmt	Balance
2/01/2015	YARD WASTE		1.75			
2/01/2015	WATER	113123	406.18			
2/01/2015	SEWER	113123	848.42			
2/01/2015	RECYCLING		4.47			
2/01/2015	GARBAGE		16.12			
2/01/2015	CAPITAL IMPROVE		2.00			
	TAX		28.43	1307.37		1307.37
1/12/2015	PAYMENT				42.07-	0.00
1/01/2015	YARD WASTE		1.75			
1/01/2015	WATER	15	6.06			
1/01/2015	SEWER	15	11.25			
1/01/2015	RECYCLING		4.47			
1/01/2015	GARBAGE		16.12			
1/01/2015	CAPITAL IMPROVE		2.00			
	TAX		.42	42.07		42.07

Niki Hill

From: Rod Trachta <trachta92@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 9:43 PM
To: cityhall@iowatelecom.net
Subject: Letter to City Council

To the members of the City Council:

We are sending this e-mail to ask for the sewer charges to be waived on our current bill. We discovered a water leak in the crawl space under the back porch of our house at 503 Vernon Rd. The crawl space consists of a dirt floor with no drain so none of the water entered the sewer system. This was confirmed by a city employee the morning of January 23rd. The water leak has been addressed so the leak is no longer a concern. We do understand that we are responsible for the water usage portion of the bill. Your help would be greatly appreciated in this matter.

Thank you,
Rod and Annette Trachta

Possible Sewer Credit
of \$ 546.29

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RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION ALLOWING PARTIAL TAX EXEMPTION
UNDER CRESCO URBAN REVITALIZATION AREA
(Gordon and Patricia Koehler)**

WHEREAS, the City has previously designated an area of the City as a revitalization area called the Cresco Urban Revitalization Area; and

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides that an application can be filed within two assessment years after the first assessment year if the City provides authority for such action by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Application (attached hereto as Exhibit 1) by Gordon and Patricia Koehler, contains, but is not limited to the following information:

The nature of improvement, its cost, the actual date of completion, and the exemption which has been elected; and

WHEREAS, the improvement project was first assessed in 2013 and so January 1, 2014 was the first exemption year; and

WHEREAS, the initial Application was not filed by February 1, 2014, but was filed within two years of the original February 1, 2014 filing deadline.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The attached Application is approved as follows:

The Application for exemption is approved for the remaining number of years available in the exemption, which remaining years is four years instead of five years (Years 2-5):

<u>Date of Assessment</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Eligible Expenses</u>	<u>Percentage of Abatement</u>	<u>Date taxes to be paid</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1/1/2014	1	\$0	75%	9/2015 and 3/2016	Not Eligible (Application filed late)
1/1/2015	2	\$75,000	75%	9/2016 and 3/2017	
1/1/2016	3	\$75,000	50%	9/2017 and 3/2018	
1/1/2017	4	\$75,000	25%	9/2018 and 3/2019	
1/1/2018	5	\$75,000	25%	9/2019 and 3/2020	

Dated this _____ day of February, 2015.

Mark Bohle, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Michelle Girolamo, City Clerk

January 28, 2015

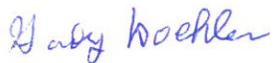
Dear Cresco City Council:

We are requesting the Council to grant us permission to apply for the Urban Revitalization Tax Abatement program for our house located at 1006 Yankee Avenue. The house was built in 2013 and was finished in 2014. We purchased the house on June 30, 2014 and finished the house in August 2014.

In discussing this with City Clerk Michelle Girolamo, we understand that it is too late to apply for the 1st year abatement because the majority of the cost of the house was assessed in 2013 and therefore the application was due February 1, 2014. We would like to be granted permission to apply for the 2nd through 5th year tax abatements on this new house.

We appreciate you reviewing this application and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Gordy Koehler

APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT UNDER THE
URBAN REVITALIZATION PLAN FOR

CRESKO, IOWA

Date 12-01-2014

Prior Approval for
Intended Improvements

Approval of Improvements
Completed

Address of Property: 1006 yankee Ave, Cresco, Ia

Legal Description: see Attached Addendum

Title Holder or Contract Buyer: Gordon H and Patricia S. Koehler

Address of Owner (if different than above): P.O. Box 197 Cresco

Phone Number (to be reached during the day): 547-4509

Existing Property Use: Residential Commercial Industrial Vacant

Proposed Property Use: residential

Nature of Improvements: New Construction Addition General Improvements

Specify: Purchased new dwelling, spec house, for 235,000.00
closed on 6/30/2014. finished Basement, sewing room,
family room, and shop and patio - total cost 18,332.00

Estimated or Actual Date of Completion: August 2014

Estimated or Actual Cost of Improvements: 235,000 + 18,332 = 253,332.00

Tax Exemption Schedule is attached.

Signed: Gordon H. Koehler

1-15-2015

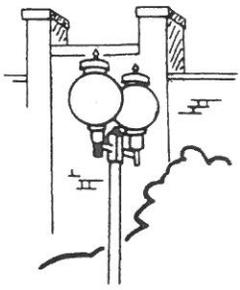
Please submit to city council
to put on agenda for next
meeting, 1-19-15.

Request to have the enclosed
copy of bill for city water hook
up to be assessed to property
taxes.

Thank you
Linda Luom

563-203-0199

Rec'd 1-19-15



THE CITY OF
Cresco
I O W A

130 N. Park Place Cresco, IA 52136

(563) 547-3101 FAX (563) 547-4525

www.cityofcresco.com

December 16, 2014

Linda Quam
103 10th Ave SW
Cresco, IA 52136

BILLING

1 1" Water Tap	\$ 100.00
1 6" Water main saddle	\$ 96.48
Hook up fee	\$ 150.00
Connection fee	\$5,000.00
Tax	\$ 24.25
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	<u>\$5,370.73</u>