

# CITY OF CROUCH

Meeting of the City Council

January 14, 2026

6:30 p.m.

**City Hall**

Garden Valley, ID 83622

## Minutes: Public Hearing/Regular Council Meeting

The public has the right to attend meetings, with the exception of lawful executive sessions.

**\*\*Changes on agenda are for emergencies only.\*\***

**Mayor-Trevor Schiefelbein**  
**Council President-Mike Hefner**  
**Shawna Martin-absent-resigned**  
**Tom Wentz**  
**Steve Pedersen**  
**Henry Vanderwyk-new Council Member**

**Treasurer-Steve Raddigan**  
**Water Master- Terry Tucker-absent**  
**City Clerk- Bonnie Horsewood**  
**City Attorney-Geoff Schroader**

### Open Regular Council Meeting- 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

### Open Public Hearing- 6:30PM

Hear testimony- Mayor opened the Public Hearing for any testimony from the public. Geoff clarified that this piece of property is owned by Dr. Ballou and it is currently zoned Public back when Crouch adopted their zoning code, it was implied as part of the City. The Public zoning code has a different set of setbacks than Central Business District, so he is seeking to rezone it to be consistent with the other properties zoned Central Business District. One person said that is it currently Public so what will it be rezoned to. Central Business District. No other input from the attendees. Mayor closed Public Hearing.

Close Public Hearing-6:32

### • **Consent Agenda**

- Review of Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 10th, 2025
- Review of Payables & Financials
- (\*) Approve Consent Agenda-Mayor inquired if Council had the chance to review the minutes from December's Meeting, yes, no questions or concerns from Council. Member MH made the Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda, Member SP Second the Motion. All: Yes, Motion Passed.

### • **Municipal Water System**

- (\*) Watermaster Report- Member MH spoke to Terry today. Terry said he dropped the water level down to  $\frac{3}{4}$ 's since we are not using as much. Everything is running perfectly. Terry is in the process of submitting his invoices for payment.

### • **New Business**

- (\*) Discussion/Decision by Council to appoint person for Mayor position- Geoff needed to explain the Mayor appointment. The Mayor was elected at the last general election

four years ago. Idaho Code 50-405 which states: a general election shall be held in each city governed by this title. All such officials, (which are Mayor and City Council Members), shall be elected and hold their respected offices for the term specified and until successors are elected and qualified. Further Idaho Code 50-702 for City Council people says each Councilmen elected at a general election, except otherwise specifically provided, shall hold office for 4 years and until his successor is elected and qualified. So that is a very important word, the word and, as in conjunction, both of those conditions must be met. In other words, the term of office and a successor is elected and qualified. Idaho Code 59-90, the general Statue covering vacancies, the vacancies in general, every elected civil office shall be vacant upon the happening of any of the following events, and one of them is the failure to elect someone at proper election and there being no incumbent to continue in office until a successor is elected and qualified. What that means, in spite of the fact that the Mayor did not file for his election, and nobody else filed to run against him he remains the incumbent until a successor is elected and qualified. Therefore, there is no vacancy for the office of Mayor, nor was there a vacancy for the office of City Council Person, until I received a written resignation of this Council Member, a little while ago. So, with that being said, there is no reason or need to nominate a Mayor nor a need to have him sworn in. He will continue in office as the Mayor as though happened. When and if he decides to resign, that will create a vacancy for which the Council will need to select a replacement. The Mayor will serve until the next election. Or there are other ways he can be removed from office, such as a rafting accident (laughter), committing a Felony. The Mayor wanted to clarify for those in attendance, he had planned to resign at the end of the term, December 21, 2025. When Charlie Kirk was killed, it profoundly impacted him and it took weeks for him trying to figure out and reflect that maybe he could do it, so he decided to tell Council if they would like him to stay on, he would be happy to do so. This caused him to miss the cutoff for putting his name on the ballot for the election in November. Council appears to want him to stay and it is really hard to get someone to do this anyway. He has been doing this for 6 years, two on Council and 4 as Mayor so he is familiar with what he is doing and his heart is here and he is committed to another 4 years, without question. This whole issue was unknown to him until today when Geoff explained it. This will modify our Agenda a little with this new information.

- (\*) Discussion/Decision on person/persons for City Council Member- The Mayor did meet with Henry Vanderwyk at length regarding things with the city. It is his recommendation that we appoint him in place of Shawna Martin who has resigned as a City Council Member. Henry has lived here for 39 years; he raised his daughter here until she left for college. He is deeply passionate about the community and prolonging the traditions that we have and making this community great for everyone. He is very family-oriented and would like to do as much as he can for the families here. The Mayor asks that the Council consider that appointment of Henry. Council can discuss and decide on this. Member TW said he has known Henry for many years and feels it is wonderful that he is willing to come and sit up here on Council. Member SP said he feels Henry would be a good fit. Member MH Made the Motion to Appoint Henry Vanderwyk as a member of the Crouch City Council. Member SP Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion Passed.
- (\*) Oath of office to be given to appointed Mayor & New Council Member(s)Member- The Mayor had Henry take the Oath of office and take his seat at the Council table. Jennifer Schmitt said she had a quick question: Mayor said not at this time. Geoff said that there was an issue omitted from the Agenda, we need to Appoint a Council

President. The Mayor asked for a Motion to amend the Agenda to Appoint a Counsel President. Member SP Made the Motion to Amend the Agenda to Appoint a Counsel President, Member TW Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion Passed.

Council Members discussed this. Member TW made the Motion to Appoint Mike Hefner as Council President, Member SP Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion Passed.

- (\*) Discussion/Decision on Public Hearing Rezone for Garden Valley Smiles- Council briefly discussed this. Member MH Made the Motion to Approve the rezone of 1058 Old Crouch Rd, Garden Valley Smiles parcel RPC00040154250 from Public to Central Business District. Member SP Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion Passed. Geoff said he will draft an Ordinance for this rezone. We will have this at our next Meeting.
- (\*) Phone and Internet Service- We are overpaying for our service and it is slow. Member MH thought we had looked awhile back for this. Steve Raddigan said, "we did and we got nowhere". We were shifted all around on the phone and after two hours, gave up. Our current internet service provider is only allowing us 3 megabytes of service which is over \$200 dollars a month. Steve R. found other businesses up here with better providers for half the price and double the speed. We are looking for authorization to look at other service providers. We will check with Verizon and T-Mobile and bring those findings to Council at our February Meeting.

- **Old Business**

- (\*) Discussion/Decision Tony Free for grounds keeper at City Hall area- The Mayor met with Tony and walked around our area. What they came up with is: Spraying the first couple weeks in the Spring, thatching the grass area and clean it all up, garden beds in front of City Hall and around it and jazz them up, fertilize and feed the grass, check out our sprinkler system and get them set up for Summertime, weekly services with mowing, trimming and blowing, removing all debris. Someone's dog is using our lawn as a bathroom; Tony will take care of that and any trash lying around, around Community Hall as well and close out the sprinklers at the end of the season. He would like to put some railroad ties along the garden bed by the roadway and plant some decorative bushes/trees there. Member MH said he did have some wood alongside the pavement and the snow removal took care of that, so we need to keep that in mind. Bonnie said we do have the orange poles to stick in the snow to show where the ties would be. Tony is asking for \$350 a month. Member SP said it would be nice to have someone to take care of all of that. Member SP Made a Motion to Approve Tony Free to do the grounds keeping around the City Hall area with the tasks that have been discussed and wages of \$350 a month. Member MH Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion Passed.
- (\*) Discussion/Decision on bids to repair the floor by the furnace in Community Hall- It was suggested that a hole be cut in the floor to get a better view of what needs to be done. Member MH said that it is possible to get under the Community Hall through a crawl space on the side of the building. It is small but doable. Member SP said another problem is that there is a layer of tile, laminate, tile and subfloor as well. He said he did not know what joists are rotted or if they are. He said if we cut the floor, it would be nice to see what we are getting into. If we crawl under the joists would be visible but be aware what is on top of them. A water leak from the furnace condensation caused the damage. Member MH said that if we get people to go under there, we can see what damage there might be and get a better idea of what we are dealing with. Member SP said he can go down there and take some pictures. No motions for this right now, table until February.

- **Scheduled Delegations**

- (\*) Crouch/Garden Valley Museum Board Report- Kim was absent, report in minute book.
- **Unscheduled Delegations-** The Mayor read a heartfelt resignation letter from Member Tom Wentz. Mayor accepted his resignation. Mayor and Council Thanked him for his service on Council!
- (\*) **Clerk Report-** Called ICRMP regarding insurance to fix the floor. The deductible would be \$10,000. Been busy with Business Licenses and Vendor Permits. I asked if the Mayor wanted me to look for a doggy clean up station for our property. Tony said he will get one or just make one for us.
- (\*) **Treasurers Report-** Submitted  
Before adjourning, the Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the big crowd. Jennifer Schdmit asked if they could be put on the Agenda to collaborate with the City on issues and to see what our City policy is on Social Media. Geoff said he has a power point for city social media but he will not be here for our February meeting. He will do it in March. Kraig Wees had some pamphlets on an organization called Wish Grantors. They grant wishes for the terminally ill. It was started by a guy down in the Valley that actually grew up, up here, Doug Raper. They are now serving Boise County. He explained how to nominate anyone we may know who is terminally ill. Last year they did 39 wishes in the Treasure Valley. There is a Wine & Wishes event coming later this year at Indian Creek but he did not know the date, possibly October, and they will have a booth up here at the Wine Festival at Terrace Lakes.
- **Adjournment-7:00PM**

**Next Regular Council Meeting is February 11th, 2025 at 6:30 PM**  
**ASTERISK (\*) ITEMS ARE ALL SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE CROUCH CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

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Trevor Schiefelbein-Mayor

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Bonnie M. Horsewood