

CITY OF CRETE, NEBRASKA  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
November 1, 2022

Notice of the meeting was given by posting and publishing in The Crete News, the appointed method for giving notice as shown by the Proof of Publication attached to the minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the Mayor and City Council. Pursuant to Section 84-1412(8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, the City has posted a current copy of the Open Meetings Act, Laws of the State of Nebraska in the back of the Council Chambers. Additional copies are available to read. The City may consider items listed on the agenda in random order. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

1. Open Meeting
2. Roll Call

Kyle  
Frans: Absent

Dan  
Papik: Present

Travis  
Sears: Present

Present: 2, Absent: 1.

3. Items of Business

- 3.A. Presentation by BRAC regarding funding for the rehabilitation of the Isis Theater.

The Blue River Arts Council president, Shay Smith, gave a presentation explaining their request for funds and why they need the funds. BRAC has done fundraising, grant writing, and exhausted many avenues to raise money for the rehabilitation of the Isis Theater. This whole process started four years ago and when Covid hit, there were bumps in the road, but they kept on moving forward with the project. This project is good for the community, bringing in something for community members to do in Crete. It will not only be a movie theater, it will hold other events as well. Shay mentioned that the City has funds that were put away years ago for a community center that have not been used and those are the funds that BRAC is requesting.

The Committee needs to discuss the request further before making a decision.

4. Officers' Reports
5. Adjournment

Mayor

(SEAL)

City Clerk-Treasurer

I, Jerry Wilcox, City Clerk for the City of Crete, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council. I hereby certify that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted in the back of the Council Chambers. I certify that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk. I certify that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting and that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public. I certify that the minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of the City Council. I certify that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of the City Council were provided with advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed.

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City Clerk-Treasurer

(S E A L)



ISIS  
THEATRE

WHY  
#RESURRECTTHEGODDESS

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISIS  
THEATRE TO THE BLUE RIVER  
VALLEY

LOCAL PEOPLE – People prefer to LIVE AND WORK in communities with arts and entertainment opportunities. 72% of Americans believe “the arts UNIFY our communities regardless of age, race, and ethnicity.”

LOCAL BUSINESS – 2/3 of rural business leaders say arts and entertainment are VITAL to attracting and retaining workers.

LOCAL ECONOMY – The Isis Theatre can *conservatively* pump \$2400 into the economy every week (\$8 a ticket, 75 people a show, 4 shows a week).



In 2020, Saline County had 14.2k people with a median age of 37.5 and no concert venue, no dance venue, and no movie theatre. Our businesses speak 2 or 3 languages, but we have no bi-lingual entertainment.

MOST businesses and industries in Saline County are currently trying to hire and retain employees.

\$124,800 / year before we host special events, birthday parties, corporate meetings or theatrical events.



# BlueRiver ARTS COUNCIL



<b>Isis Closed</b>	<b>City Bought Theatre CCCFF Grant Isis Work Day First Theatre Design</b>	<b>Seats Removed New Isis Logo Projector Moved Grants Received - Aksarben - Sunderland - COVID Grant</b>	<b>LB 566 Testimony Local \$ Campaign Obtained 1<sup>st</sup> Bids Demolition Began Grants Received - Kiewit, Daugherty - Abbott, AmFam</b>	<b>Demo Completed Isis Plans Revealed LB 566 Awarded New Bids Obtained Construction Begins Isis Website Built</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>

<b>80's Prom \$ Christmas Movie BRAC Incorporated 1<sup>st</sup> Board Elected</b>	<b>501(c)(3) Birds of a Feather \$ - 23 Art Sculptures - County Fair - Donor Dinner - Auburn Visit - Artist Database Wing Ding \$ Online Giving \$ - Facebook - AmazonSmile - Guidestar - Website</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Tourism Grant 1<sup>st</sup> Art Gallery Wall 29 Wine &amp; Dine \$ COVID-19 April Cruise Nights Pop-Up Cinemas Drive-Thru Popcorn #CreteStrong Quilt CHS Game Santa in the Park</b>	<b>Sweetheart Event 1<sup>st</sup> Lions Club Gift Crete: In Harmony - Movie @ Park - Live Music July - Movie @ Doane - Live Music Sept - Live Music Oct - Movie @ CMS - Live Music Nov Business After Hours Serve Nebraska First Biannual Rep</b>	<b>M-AAA Grant Sherwood Grant Community Events - Dueling Pianos - Fletcher Event - Cinco de Mayo - Live Music July - Movie @ Doane - 150Fest ! - Documentary - Movie @ CYC - Baile Hispana - Veteran's Event</b>
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# 1926 HISTORICAL BUILDING ON MAIN HIGHWAY



“The closure of the Isis Theatre in 2018 meant the only family-friendly source of entertainment in Crete was gone. Built in 1926 and a mainstay in our downtown, the Isis had been the only movie theatre in Saline County for decades. Those interested in bringing this goddess back to life see even greater potential for this building and for Crete – a community badly in need of the cultural and economic benefits a strong arts presence can provide.” CCCFF Grant Application 2019

“While BRAC is currently meeting its mission without a location, the Isis Theatre is fundamental to BRAC’s intended future programming – which will include live performances, classes, camps, fine art display, and cinema -- and it will be one of the few sources of multi-generational, multi-cultural entertainment in the area. The resurrection of the Isis Theatre is essential to our goals. With a completed building that will accommodate persons of all ages and ability levels, we can truly serve all of Saline County’s residents and work to bring people into town to support our local businesses.” Kiewit Application 2020

THE LONGER WE WAIT – THE HIGHER THE COST  
THE ISIS CAN OPEN IN 2023 WITH YOUR HELP



We are specifically requesting that the money set aside from the sale of armory, which was designated for purposes of a community center, be allocated to the Isis renovation. Per the minutes and Crete News reports from 2010, the armory was purchased for \$82,500. The school and BVCA each put up money for "rent" advance of the purchase to assist so that was a multi-agency attempt to establish a community-use space. To the extent City funds were used to acquire the property, the minutes confirm that those funds came from the utility fund and not from tax rolls or general fund.

The City then subdivided the property in 2013, maintaining the fields that now serve as a soccer park and the area to the east of the building. Any City money used to purchase the land was recouped by maintaining ownership of portions of the property.

In 2014, the primary building was sold to the Maranatha Church for \$400,000. At that time, the net gain was held for a community center in the future. I understand that \$385,000 is still available and that there hasn't been any movement to create a "new" community center in the 8+ years since that time. Fortunately, community spaces were created when the new library was built so I will ask the Committee and Council to acknowledge that there isn't any additional plan to create a "new" community center and that the Blue River Arts Council has demonstrated by word and deed that we are rebuilding the Isis Theatre for broad public use so that it should be considered a community center for purposes of that fund. This allows the City to make a substantial contribution now to assure that the building can be completed and reopened NOW without using tax dollars and it allows them to use the funds for the benefit of all of the community as always intended.

I do have a brief presentation ready to demonstrate the "community" functions of the renovated Theatre and will be there for the meeting at 5:00. I will get you and Jerry the slides in advance. Shaylene

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