

City of Creswell City Council Special Meeting

Council Members Present:

- Mayor Smith
- Councilor Costilla, Council President
- Councilor Holt
- Councilor Kent
- Councilor Kremer
- Councilor Morris
- Councilor Dukes

Audience: 4

Press: 1

Staff Present

- City Manager Vincent Martorello
- Finance Director Jim Piper
- Public Works Director Cliff Bellew
- Assistant to City Manager Angela Keppler
- City Recorder Caitlin Born
- Airport Manager Shelley Humble
- Sergeant Alex Speldrich

Opening of the Meeting

Mayor Smith thanked everyone for coming to the City Council Special Meeting on March 16, 2026, opening the meeting at 6:00 p.m. He asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Sessions Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)

Mayor Nicholas Smith explained the purpose of the executive session. The executive session was held pursuant to ORS 192.660(2) for multiple justifications. First, the Creswell City Council would hold an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. Second, the Council would hold an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent and ORS

192.660(2)(f) to discuss matters related to the consideration of information or records that are exempt from public disclosure under Oregon law.

Mayor Smith announced that representatives of the news media and designated staff would be allowed to attend the executive session. He explained that attendees of the executive session would be moving into the conference room while all other members of the audience were asked to remain in the council chambers. He specifically directed representatives of the news media not to report on any deliberations during the executive session except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced, noting that no decision may be made in executive session.

Mayor Smith addressed a specific issue regarding Oregon Aviation News, stating that the council was aware of a letter from City Manager Martorello to Oregon Aviation News dated March 13, 2026. In this letter, the city had requested information to assist in determining whether representatives of Oregon Aviation News may be admitted to an executive session. He explained that to date, the requested information had not been received nor had it been verified by the city. Until such time as the information was submitted and verified, representatives of Oregon Aviation News would not be permitted to attend the executive session.

A representative of Oregon Aviation News questioned under what statute and who was making that determination, asking whether it was Mayor Smith himself or the city attorney. Mayor Smith responded that it was city staff, city attorney, and city manager in a collaborative role making that determination. The representative attempted to continue the questioning, but Mayor Smith indicated they were moving to executive session and could move on.

The council then proceeded to executive session. At 6:10 p.m.

Possible Council action following executive sessions, including possible directions on appointments of municipal court judge and city attorney

Upon returning from executive session at 7:11 p.m. Mayor Smith announced the actions taken during the closed session. He stated that during the executive session, authorization was given for the mayor and city manager to negotiate an employment agreement with the selected candidate for city attorney. Additionally, authorization was provided for the mayor, city manager, and city attorney to negotiate an employment agreement with the selected candidate for municipal judge.

Mayor Smith announced that City Manager Vincent Martorello would contact both candidates the following day to start the negotiation process.

Adjournment

City of Creswell
City Council Special
Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2026

This document is supplemented by agenda packet materials, meeting materials distributed and electronic audio/video recordings of the meeting and may be reviewed upon request to the City Recorder.

With no further business Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

*Signature on File

Nicholas Smith, Mayor

Attest:

*Signature on File

Caitlin Born, City Recorder