

CITY OF CREOLA P O BOX 490 CREOLA, AL 36525 251-675-8142

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**Donald Nelson** Mayor

Lee Anne Greene Curtis Heathcoe James Ivy

Councilmembers

Mark Howell

Kim W. Pettway

City Clerk

Linda Hoiles Court Clerk

Jerry Taylor Chief of Police

Kenneth Moss

# AGENDA FOR THE CITY OF CREOLA COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT CREOLA CITY HALL ON June 13, 2013 @ 6:00PM

Mayor called the meeting to order. Rev. Chambers gave invocation Upon the call of roll, the following were found to be present:

Mayor Nelson Councilwoman Greene Councilman Heathcoe Councilman Ivy Councilman Howell

City Clerk was present

Minutes from the council meeting held on, May 23, 2013 were presented. Councilman made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. Councilwoman Greene seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

## CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Mayor states that the council will allow citizens to address the council after all regular business is taken care of.

## RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor states that someone needs to be put in place to complete Councilman Kenneth Moss'

Councilman Ivy made a motion to open the floor for nominations to fill the position.

Councilman Howell seconded.

Councilwoman Greene nominated Mrs. Tonya Moss

Councilman Howell seconded.

Mayor asked 3 times were there any other nominations and waited for a response, there were no other nominations. Mr. Loden asked were nominations being accepted from the public.

Councilman Ivy made a motion to close the floor for nominations.

Councilman Heathcoe seconded,

Roll Call Vote: Appointing Tonya Moss

Councilman Howell Yes
Councilman Ivy Yes
Councilman Heathcoe Yes
Councilwoman Greene Yes
Mayor Nelson Yes

Motion Carried

Councilman Howell made a motion to accept the economic agreement with Creola Holdings, LLC

Councilman Ivy seconded,

Mayor explained that the new agreement does not require that the city pay impact fees for developments on exit 19 as the other one did with CIMA. The new agreement also is a 20 year agreement, mayor stated that the first project is planned to be a hotel.

Roll Call Vote: **TIF Agreement**Councilman Howell Yes
Councilman Ivy Yes
Councilman Heathcoe Yes
Councilwoman Greene Yes
Mayor Nelson Yes

**Motion Carried** 

Virginia Station is requesting to annex another 3.7 acres into the city on Radcliff road. Mayor introduced the resolution and petition from Virginia Station to annex the property.

Councilman Ivy made motion to accept resolution and petition.

Councilman Howell seconded,

Roll Call Vote: Annexation of 3.7 acres

Councilman Howell Yes
Councilman Ivy Yes
Councilman Heathcoe Yes
Councilwoman Greene Yes
Mayor Nelson Yes

Motion Carried

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, June 18. There are just a few items on the agenda, a zoning request from GA West and Virginia Station and an ABC application from Billy Bunch for a new business. Mr. Chambers stated that the committee is working with SARPC changing the wording on some items in the zoning book and adding items to cover home based businesses.

Mayor stated that Virginia Station will be coming back to the board to have the property annexed at a previous meeting rezoned.

#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

No business

#### PARKS AND RECREATION

Councilman Howell had quotes for fencing at the park, Hagan \$ 1,180.90 partial 4,862.00 all

Will give \$250 discount if city decides to fence all at once.

Councilman Howell made motion to fence soccer field right now for \$1,180 Councilman Ivy seconded, all favored, motion carried.

## UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZEN

No business

#### **FINANCE**

**CCDG** made \$210 on yard sale to go towards city sign Next meeting

# POLICE AND FIRE

Councilman Ivy reminded that the council approved \$375 to upgrade pistols at last meeting, Chief explained that the company will allow the city to upgrade and trade all of the pistols at no cost to the city.

Councilman Howell made motion to upgrade and trade the pistols.

Councilman Ivy seconded, all favored, motion carried

Councilman ivy made motion for Chief Taylor, Linda Hoiles, & Judge Ross to attend school in Hoover at a cost of \$900 paid by court.

Councilwoman Greene seconded, all favored, motion carried.

Creola Volunteer Fire Department will be doing the boot drop on June 29, 2013.

# **STREETS**

Council stated that Bobby has kept the street up well, working the trustees as well. Councilman Howell made the motion to hire Jessie Pike for the street department. Councilwoman Greene seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

Mayor gave update on striping project and stated that the paving is moving forward.

Mayor asked Mr. Lister if he knew how wide Lister lane was, there is an issue over there with a citizen and right of ways.

Councilman Howell made a motion to have surveyor come out and check for right of way measurements on Lister Lane

Councilman Ivy seconded, all favored, motion carried.

Inspector stated Buddy Hastings wants to pave entrance at wood yard. Councilman Howell spoke about culvert on Highway 43, RSI gave a price of \$3,140 to dig out and replace pipe. Councilman Howell made motion for RSI to fix culvert. Councilman Ivy seconded, all favored, motion carried.

Councilwoman Greene announced the meeting with MCPSS at NM School for Thursday, June 20, 2013 at 6:00 and requested that the city clerk send out fliers. Council stated that it is ok for fliers to go out.

Mr. Randy Campbell, Principal at NM School addressed council and citizens about school situations, what MC schools has to offer, and stated that MCPSS will be announcing more ways to relieve the school issues at the meeting on June 20, 2013. He asked that the citizens keep an open mind about educating their children in Mobile County.

Mrs. Tonya Moss was sworn in by Judge Jay Ross, citizens applauded.

Mr. Chambers stated that he appreciated the history that the mayor had with the turmoil of the school situations, but he reminded the mayor that at a meeting with MCPSS before Satsuma officially started their system, the previous superintendent tried speaking with the mayor about coming to a solution to bring the new Citronelle school down closer or placing portable units at North Mobile School to help when Satsuma did start in an effort to accommodate our own children. Mr. Chambers stated at that at that time the mayor did not want to talk about it because he was sure that Satsuma was going to accommodate our children. Mr. Chambers stated that all of the current situations could have been in the process of being fixed if he had been willing to talk. Mayor stated that he did recall that meeting.

Cassie Bennett addressed council, questioned Mayor as to why he wrote and supported petition to pursue going into Saraland Schools. Stated that she felt it was not fair to give up the city or show that he is biased in any action by supporting a petition. Mayor stated that he did type the petition and he would have typed any petition if asked. Joan Stringfellow asked the mayor why he was pushing for an annexation into Saraland. Mayor stated that he is in favor of whatever the citizens wanted.

John Loden spoke and stated that neither his grandchildren nor any of the citizens in Creola should have to travel the distance to Citronelle High School, he stated that Saraland Schools were better than most schools in the area. Sybil Chambers stated that according to statistics, Mobile County Schools overall are excelling better than Saraland Schools, offer website information to confirm her findings.

A citizen asked Becky Smith the title of her petition, Becky Smith read the title, the citizen stated that the petition did not say anything about annexation therefore it is not a legal petition it was a statement.

Cathy Reed spoke and said that some should be more considerate about the schools; they should consider annexation for those that cannot afford tuition to another system.

Several citizens spoke against any consideration about annexation, some had questions about the details. Mayor stated that there had been no official talk on annexation, the council would have to agree to go into negotiations, a vote would have to take place and Saraland would have to vote and even acknowledge that they even want to go into negotiations. David Boucher stated the city should focus on growth and not giving up its independence. He stated that he and several of his neighbors and friends that moved to Creola to live in Creola, not Saraland or any other city he stated that although he does not like government, he was disappointed for the council to even consider giving up its independence for the school situation, without even seeking out other options. He stated that citizens should be responsible for their children's education because annexing is a permanent process that will cost all citizens not just the ones with children.

A citizen asked if Satsuma can be addressed again for consideration to allow our kids into the school. Mary Dingman stated that the city is in turmoil, and annexing should not be the only option, stated that she and a lot of citizens are disappointed in the mayor for supporting or pushing for annexation. Mayor Nelson had no comment.

Councilwoman Greene stated that before any petitions were done the council should have been involved with decisions and should be in the future. She stated that she was upset because the council bod was not aware that Mayor Nelson provided a petition of any sort and that it shows division of the council. She stated if ever it was going to come to a vote or any talk of annexation, the entire council should be afforded the opportunity to go and meet with Saraland or any other city, not just the mayor. She also stated that the council should be involved in any decisions or negotiations involving city business especially growth.

Becky Krueger spoke and said that as a citizen and mother, she has been responsible for her own children and transportation to and from school, she stated the citizens of Creola should be doing the same and not depending on the entire community to sacrifice.

Mayor stated that he and some of the council will be around for comment after the meeting.

# Adjournment

Councilman Ivy made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Councilman Heathcoe seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.