



CITY OF CREOLA
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William Criswell Lee Anne Greene Harold Martin Avis Walker Tonya Moss Kendal Hadaway
Mayor City Council

Carolyn Sue Cain
City Clerk

Linda Hoiles
Court Clerk

Doug Kirkland
Chief of Police

Jeff Reeves
Fire Chief

Minutes of the City of Creola City Council Meeting
Held at Creola City Hall on
May 25, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order.

Rev. John White gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Upon the call of roll, the following were found to be present with the exception of Councilwoman Moss, out of town.

Councilwoman Greene

Councilman Martin

Councilman Walker

Councilwoman Moss-absent

Councilman Hanaway

Mayor Criswell

City Attorney -Mr. Danny Mims

City Clerk-Carolyn Sue Cain

Motion made by Councilwoman Greene to accept minutes, from the special meeting, last night for the 310 grant for the senior van, as written. Councilman Walker seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried. Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 11, 2017 council meeting, as written. Councilman Hadaway seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Mayor Criswell asked for the list of citizens to address the Council.

No citizens signed to address the Council

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER BUSINESS

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to introduce the four (4) properties on Radcliff Rd. that touch Creola Industrial Park.

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|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1) Edward & Joann Smith | Radcliff Rd. |
| 2) William J. Forest | Radcliff Rd. |
| 3) William J. Forest | Radcliff Rd. |
| 4) Joseph Leo & Sonya Credeur | Radcliff Rd. |

All properties touch within the city lines and they have all signed to come into the City. We will post for 15 days and bring back to the council at the June 22nd meeting.

The City of Creola will be hosting the Municipality Dinner Meeting on September 21, 2017 at Creola Assembly. The Municipality Dinner Meetings are sponsored by Mobile County Municipal Association of which Councilwoman Greene serves as secretary this year. We switch every other year with the City of Mt. Vernon. Councilwoman Greene made a motion for the council to allow she and Councilwoman Moss to coordinate and plan the Dinner Meeting not to exceed \$2500. And report back to the Council with a budget. The two coordinated this two years ago and the cost was approximately \$2,000. They get lots of door prizes from the area plants(LIP), Councilman Moss did the flowers, we will get a caterer. The Municipality meeting is hosted by a different municipality each month with the exception of May and December. Each municipality has a guest speaker and ours will be Judge Edmond Naman. This is not just a dinner meeting. Mayor Criswell states this gives us an opportunity to get with Commissioner Ludgood and others that can help us with different projects such as the pay as you go, etc. We will be showcasing The City of Creola and our 20-year comprehensive Plan to improve our image in the county. Attending these meetings are school board members, Sheriff's Dept., Mobile County Personnel Board members, Judges, Call News staff, etc. This is a working type event and is time well spent. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, Roll Call for vote:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Greene | Yes |
| Councilman Martin | Yes |
| Councilman Walker | Yes |
| Councilman Hadaway | Yes |
| Mayor Criswell | Yes |

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

In Rev. Chambers' absence, Councilwoman Greene, secretary, stated that the Planning/zoning meeting will move back to city hall on Tuesday, June 20th 6pm now that the grant is complete. No applications to present yet but Nicole with SARPC will be here with the final comprehensive plan.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Councilwoman Greene announced that the parts for the swings are in and ready to be installed. We got them for less than \$500. (\$465. to be exact). Councilwoman Moss received a quote of \$550.

Councilwoman Greene stated that Soccer is finished.

Councilman Walker stated he had received a call about people filling up the dumpster. Animal carcasses are being left in the dumpster. We are not unlocking the gates unless an event is going on at the park. The bathrooms are locked unless there is an event, as well. Vandals are damaging the bathrooms, stopping up commodes, etc. Anyone needing to use the park & need bathrooms unlocked, please call Creola PD and they will unlock them anytime you need them to. We are trying to cut down on the vandalism in the park. This is very costly to the City. Councilwoman Greene commented that Josh Skidmore requested to use the ballfield for 8 weeks for kickball. There is a \$25. charge for lights if needed. If there are 4 teams, they will need the part from 6-8:30pm; If 6 teams, the time will be 5:30-9pm. We need more information from Mr. Skidmore before making a decision. She has tried to contact him but got his voicemail. She invited Mr. Skidmore to our June 8th meeting hoping to get more information from him.

UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Mayor Criswell stated that the meeting with SARPC on the grant for seniors last night went well. Several seniors attended the meeting.

The Veterans/Senior Citizen Breakfast will be Saturday, June 3, 2017 8:30am-10:30am at the Creola SAIL Center. The menu will be pancakes, biscuits, grits, eggs, bacon, etc.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Greene gave the financial report, giving a copy to the Council + a copy of all revenues that have been deposited in the bank. Also, copies available to citizens attending the meeting wishing to have one Also a Find Report for May 1st -May 24th.

| | | |
|----------------------|----|-----------------|
| Fire Department | \$ | 317.26 |
| General Fund | | 110,805.04 |
| Police Department | | 7,776.77 |
| SAIL Center | | 2197.55 |
| 7-cent Gas Tax Acct. | | 10,419.92 |
| 4-cent Gas Tax Acct. | \$ | 8,696.27 |
| Money Market | | <u>16823.78</u> |
| Total: | \$ | 157,036.59 |

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the financial report. Seconded by Councilman Walker, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to pass a Resolution for the Section 310 Federal Grant application for the senior van to be used for doctors' visits, senior events, etc. We will need to assign a number to the Resolution. Councilman Hadaway seconded. Roll call for vote:

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|---------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Greene | Yes |
| Councilman Martin | Yes |
| Councilman Walker | Yes |
| Councilman Hadaway | Yes |
| Mayor Criswell | Yes |

POLICE AND FIRE

Police-Councilman Martin stated that we have been getting some positive comments on the internet. In the past, all very negative comments. Our "Hats Off" to the Police and Firemen. Ducey Rd. has been one of our troublesome spots and we had 2 compliments on the internet about Ducey Rd. Councilman Walker has been working with Bobby Smith and Wayne Miller and they all have been working very hard. Tim Tew giving us a good price on rocks. Chief Kirkland going a great job. He hired a new police officer this week. Tripp Williams a 20 year veteran with Mobile PD and three years with Mobile County Sheriff's Office. He is very knowledge and will be a great asset to our department. Tomorrow we are interviewing another officer from Dauphin Island. We have received new applications from Mobile County Personnel Board to review and hopefully can hire more officers soon.

Mayor Criswell mentioned that is was on Channel 10 news that an escaped prisoner was loose in Creola. He was actually with the Dept. of Corrections Work Release and was working with Mr. Hicks at the Pallet Co. We did not know he had trustees working for him. Chief Kirkland assisted a State Officer & Washington County Sheriff Dept. Called in the dogs and several more officers. The escaped prisoner was captured on Fairford Rd. within an hour. The car was recovered at Exit 37 at a Marathon Gas Station. They had run out of gas.

Fire- Councilman Hadaway made a motion to amend the last motion on repairs to the ladder truck. We contracted with McGriff Tire Co. to mount and balance tires on the ladder truck. McGriff inspected the 1980 truck and found tires and the older style rims were unsafe. The old tires were basically dry rotted. Councilman Hadaway made a motion to purchase tires for ladder truck for a total of \$1,415.00. Councilman Martin seconded. Roll call for the vote.

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| Councilwoman Greene | Yes |
| Councilman Martin | Yes |
| Councilman Walker | Yes |
| Councilman Hadaway | Yes |
| Mayor Criswell | Yes |

Councilman Hadaway reported that the fire department answered 35 calls last month with 2 trucks assisting. Assisted with a house fire in Axis and assisted Mt. Vernon w/ fire at Flea Market in Bucks after the last storm we had. Mayor Criswell asked how many calls were in Axis since they are in our police jurisdiction.

STREETS

Councilman Walker stated that we will be working on the drainage ditches due to the flooding we had last week. But for now, we need more rocks on Ducey Rd. We need two more loads of rock, to be put at the park to use as needed, before they shut down the plant. Councilman Walker

made a motion to get the two loads of rock. Councilman Martin seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried. Councilman Martin commented that Tim Tew has connections with the plant and we are getting these rocks for cost + labor. We are getting it for about 50% of what we got it for last year. We need these backup loads then we can use the frontend loader to get the rocks from the park when we need it for Brown Road, Ducey Road and other roads. We will save time, save money and improve our streets.

Mayor Criswell stated that we need a Health & Safety initiative. Councilman Martin and Chief Kirkland will be heading this up. We have captured 31 dogs with no leash and no tag. Some of these dogs were in poor health. Some of these are very aggressive animals and not one citizen called to say we picked up their dog. Councilman Martin and myself were on the video that Ms. Ludgood presented at the Arthur Outlaw Center that we saw last week.

Mayor commented that the City has a couple of houses in bad shape. We will get the City attorney to send out a letter that we are starting this. We will use these houses as a training exercise for our fire department and burn the houses. We also have lots of RV's parked in yards with no wheels. We need to improve our image but not create a real hardship on anyone. We also need to control open burning of garbage. We need a Burn Ordinance in place. We will get Councilman Hadaway and the City attorney to work on a Burn Ordinance. We need to see who gets garbage service and who does not. Need garbage picked up and not burned or left for rodents. Mayor Criswell asked Councilman Hadaway to head this up and move forward.

Mayor Criswell also stated that we need a Hurricane Preparedness Plan in place. Rev. John White, Chief Kirkland and Chief Reeves will be working on this plan. He stated "When you don't plan-you plan to fail". So we need a plan. We have so many trailer parks in poor condition and we need to get them safer in case of a hurricane. This protects the employee and the City and protects you to be sure things are done. Mr. Mims, our attorney, will send a letter to residents to clean up and get their trailers safer. If we have a bad wind, in order to prepare for their safety, we need a plan. Hurricane season starts next week.

Councilwoman Greene thanked Bobby Smith for putting up the flags in our City for Memorial Day. Wayne Miller & police officers helped him. They look really nice. She has 8 more for next time. We will store them here at the City so they will stay looking nice.

Councilman Walker commented that we have two people working part-time helping Bobby Smith—Wayne Miller and John Files. They are good help and getting things done. They work really good together and are getting things done. Councilman Walker said he is here for the people and he enjoys working with these guys. Councilman Martin said that Councilman Walker won't brag on himself but he is working great with these guys and getting things done. We appreciate him for that.

Mayor Criswell commented that he has been communicating with Mobile County concerning County signs in Creola. They put up 22 signs within 150 yards. We took some down and they put back 5 or 6.

Mayor Criswell announced that he had received bridge inspections back from Safe Span LLC. He has spoken with the Bridge Superintendent and found the bridge on Hwy 43 at Gunnison Creek is in poor repair. It is so bad that it has been removed from our responsibility and they are asking for Federal funding to replace both bridges and add a 3rd bridge on the North side. They will put a red light at Jackson Rd. There will also be a red light at SSAB next week. ALDOT will be offering assistance with the epoxy concrete repair which needs to be done on Radcliff Rd. Will review the repair requirements for culverts and bridges.

COMMUNITY GROUP

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Pam Broadhead w/ Mobile EMA contacted Ms. Cain and thanked her for the payments that we had been sending and stated that anything we could pay would be much appreciated.

Councilwoman Greene stated that we have a \$3,000. Bill going back to 2011. Ms. Broadhead said don't worry about the balance, just pay what we can and they will work with us. We agreed to pay \$461.22 each month.

MAYOR'S DISCUSSION

Mayor announced that Carolyn Sue Cain is officially our new City Clerk. She scored very high on her tests and requirements for City Clerk. She is registered for City Clerk School to work on her CEUs. She has signed up for more classes and New Employee Orientation with MCPB. She completed the Alabama Ethics Commission online training and received a certificate.

MCPB staff came out and is working with us on some payroll issues. For 3 years, at least, a falsified payroll was sent in to MCPB. Then a 3rd payroll was created for contract employees that didn't meet the standards of the personnel board. A per diem was in place and wasn't taxed but now it is. They are working on a workable plan for us to do the payroll and do it correctly. The MCPB protects the employee, the City and You to make sure things are done right.

Mayor Criswell stated there are several families wanting to come into the City South of the Refinery approximately 200-300 acres. We are continuing to work with the people in Axis.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Councilman Martin

SECONDED BY: Councilman Walker

Meeting adjourned @ 6:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Sue Cain

City Clerk

c.m. 5.25.2017