



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 Senior (S.A.I.L.) Center on
July 13, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order.

Mayor Criswell welcomed everyone to the council meeting. He stated that t5o say we have had a trying week would be an understatement. But we do have a new facility across the street from the SAIL Center and we should be in our new City Hall next week.

Councilman Walker gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Upon the call of roll, the following were found to be present.

Councilwoman Greene

Councilman Martin

Councilman Walker

Councilwoman Moss

Councilman Hadaway

Mayor Criswell

City Attorney -Mr. Danny Mims

City Clerk-Carolyn Sue Cain

Councilman Martin made a motion to accept minutes of 6/22/2017 as corrected. Correction should read Balance in bank-\$197,000. Not bills owed. Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried. The minutes of the Emergency Meeting of June 28, 2017 will be presented at the next meeting on July 27, 2017 for approval.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

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

Mayor Criswell welcomed Charlie Wycoff, a candidate for Mobile County Sheriff in the June 2018 primary, to speak. He distributed his cards so the citizens could read about him. He will answer any questions that you might have.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER BUSINESS

No resolutions or ordinances.

Other Business:

Councilwoman Greene mentioned that she has talked with representative from Servis1st Loans to see if we can have auto drafts for the two accounts. One account, will have \$799.21 drafted on the 10th of each month for police vehicles. The original balance was \$35,000. balance as of 10/11/2016 was \$24,264.02; the second account will draft \$494.96 on the 24th of each month for the fire truck. Original balance was \$26,400. Balance as of 11/11/2016 was \$22,535.33. Both will come out of the General Fund. Councilwoman Greene made a motion to have these two accounts automatically deducted each month, Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

In the absence of Mr. Chambers, Councilwoman Greene stated that the next Planning & Zoning meeting will be held July 18, 2017 at 6pm. The RV ordinance will be discussed. Also, will add ordinance for animals, horses, cows, etc. Following the regular meeting, there will be a public hearing on subdividing four lots for Grimes/ Owens on Sam Royal Rd. Although this is outside the city limits, they must come before the board for approval. There will be a Public Hearing on August 24, 2017 for re-zoning the Foster property. Attorney Mims stated that we had to delay the hearing due to information in Call News listing the address for the old city hall. We will post the correct information and hold the hearing on August 24th.

Councilwoman Greene also stated that Nicole with SARPC asked that we "Save the Date". August 29, 2017 - 9:30-1:30 \$25. Per person. Lunch will be provided. Each employee will pay the fee, bring back receipt and the City will reimburse you. This will be a very informative workshop and all that can attend are encouraged to do so.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mayor Criswell mentioned that we have had a tremendous amount of vandalism in Crenshaw Park. Someone is dumping household garbage in the dumpsters. Broken beer bottles scattered around dumpster. We are asking for everyone's help, if you see anyone (adults or kids) dumping garbage or destroying property, please contact Creola PD. Councilwoman Moss asked could they be fine. Attorney Mims stated, Yes, if we have a litter ordinance. If we have an ordinance in place, it will definitely be enforced and they will be fined. There is a \$500. Fine for litter.

UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Councilwoman Moss stated that everything was good. Nothing to report.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Greene gave the financial report, giving a copy to the Council. Also copies available to citizens attending the meeting wishing to have one. All revenues for the month totaled: \$57,044.11. Also, a Find Report for June 2017 was available.

Court Bond Account	\$	1,634.66
Court Fund		33,084.61
Special Court Fund		9,851.52
Fire Department	\$	37.06
General Fund		119,346.13
Money Market		13,325.99
Police Department		6,572.51
S.A.I.L. Center Account		427.13
7-cent Special Gas Tax Acct.		16,967.10
4-cent Gas Tax Acct. (incl 5 cent)	\$	<u>14,187.77</u>
Total: (in bank)	\$	215,434.48

Councilwoman Greene reported that the bills totaled approximately \$5,000.00. Revenues were \$116,507.22.

The expenses for the new City Hall is approximately \$6,000.00. We replaced lights, bought used furniture from McAleer's, cleaning supplies, plumbing repairs, window repairs for broken pane. Will have updated report at the next meeting in two weeks.

Mayor Criswell mentioned that Naheola left approximately \$25,000. Worth of furniture & furnishings. They donated this to City Hall. We agreed to a one-year lease, end of first year, we will purchase bldg. Naheola will pay on a sign for Creola Municipal Complex. Mayor Criswell asked them How big did they want the letters on bottom of sign, saying it was donated by Naheola Credit Union. We will have a sign out front on Old Hwy 43 and one on the back, so it can be visible from Hwy 43. We can purchase the bldg. for \$375,000. We are paying \$1,500.00. Most banks want 20% down. We will pay no down payment. Our one-year lease will go toward purchase price to include 2 acres on the North side and 1 acre on the South side. After the purchase, we will pay \$2,000. A month for twenty years. No penalty for paying off early. Everyone is working together working extremely hard hours. I invite you all to come by and visit us in our new home. Check us out. This is your building. Come by and have a cup of coffee, on us. We have a \$68,000. Security system. We have a few minor repairs to make. We have a really nice facility. We are proud of this so when folks come to visit us, we can be proud.

Councilwoman Greene mentioned that she and Councilwoman Moss will be attended a CMO class this Saturday for CEU's. The cost of the workshop is \$125. Per person. They will be riding w/ council members from Citronelle and Satsuma.

POLICE AND FIRE

POLICE:

Councilman Martin stated that the past administration spent \$30,000. On vehicles. This administration spent \$2,000. on a used Ford . We have received Crown Victoria's from City of Mobile. We are making these vehicles safe with lots of service left in them. We spent \$376.04 for tires, \$100.00 on a radio for one of the police cars, \$324.36 to TRAX Tires for repairs on vehicles.

Councilman Martin stated that the Police Dept. received a check for \$7,678.00 for 10 Bullet proof vests. These vests have a six-year shelf life. Chief Kirkland has ordered the vests. In 4-6 weeks we should be good to go.

The Police Dept. was approved by the Council for a \$1200. Security system. It is in the process of being installed. Thanks to Chief Kirkland for shopping around for the best prices on the security system. The last system was zapped by lightning. We are filing a claim with AMIC to re-coup some of the funds. This is for our protection as well as liability.

FIRE:

Fire Chief Jeff Reeves gave a report on the ISO inspection. They spent four hours with meeting and paperwork. It will take three months to get the report back.

Mayor Criswell stated that we have a real respect for these guys when you see a freight train tear up a wrecker and these guys get the body out of the wreckage and place in a body bag. It was storming when they brought the body out for the body bag. There are no crossing arms at the RR crossing at Platt's Grocery. Truck was using his GPS, came across that crossing, truck got hung up on the track. We had to contact the RR to advise of the truck being stuck on the track. We have signs up but the drivers to not pay any attention to these signs.

Mayor Criswell spoke with the Track Master and the Train Master about the RR crossing at Dead Lake Rd. They will re-pave that crossing on the West side of the track. They will rebuild all five crossings after January 2018.

Councilman Walker stated that there was a truck stuck on the track the next day after the wreck. We contacted the Train to slow down or stop until they could get the truck off the track at that crossing.

Mayor Criswell mentioned that we have talked about closing that crossing. The Chief has written several tickets for trucks coming across that crossing.

STREETS

Councilman Walker stated we have installed two signs at Exit 22. The trucks are still speeding thru there. We spent \$220. For 2 signs- "NO TRUCKS". When the trucks are going North, they tear down the STOP sign and going South they have to get off the road then they fall in the ditch. Councilman Walker made a motion to get Tim Tew to get the backhoe and operator to remove the Beaver Dam in one of the drains. We can't do anything until it dries up. This will cost \$900. Roll call authorizing the signs and expenses with Tim Tew.

- Councilwoman Green YES
- Councilman Martin YES
- Councilman Walker YES
- Councilwoman Moss YES
- Councilman Hadaway YES
- Mayor Criswell YES

Mayor Criswell stated that we have not had rain but we have had scattered floods for several months. We are looking to purchase a trac/hoe or backhoe. We have a difficult task to get these streets where they need to be. We have 3 people cutting grass, cutting limbs. The storms are hindering us, especially when the thunderstorms come up all of a sudden with no warning. Councilman Walker said "Just bear with us, we will get there."

Mayor Criswell answered questions from Creola resident, Diane Myers concerning mosquitoes. The Mayor stated that they have tablets they can put in the ditches.. They will come out and spray. You can call Mobile County Health Dept. and they will come out and spray and put tablets in ditches, or ponds.

COMMUNITY GROUP

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES

None

MAYOR'S DISCUSSION

Mayor Criswell reported that he and the City Clerk, Carolyn Sue Cain had been to the Mobile County Personnel Board on two different occasions trying to straighten out the payroll, because of how it was handled in the past. Mayor Criswell said they put him at a table up front of about 6-8 people to chew on him. But we are moving forward. We have made some changes and are paying the MCPB the monies we owe them. That was not being done. We are moving ahead, paying the MCPB on a regular basis and after our last meeting with them tomorrow, we can move forward with a correct payroll.

Attorney Mims asked for a roll call to hold an executive session after this meeting, not to be reconvened.

Councilwoman Green	YES
Councilman Martin	YES
Councilman Walker	YES
Councilwoman Moss	YES
Councilman Hadaway	YES
Mayor Criswell	YES
Approved by\Roll Call.	

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Councilwoman Moss
SECONDED BY: Councilman Walker seconded.
Meeting adjourned @ 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Sue Cain
City Clerk

c.m. 7.13.2017