



CITY OF CREOLA
P. O. BOX490
CREOLA, AL 36525-0490
Phone: 251-675-8142
FAX: 251-679-8203

William Criswell Mayor	Lee Anne Greene	Harold Martin	Avis Walker City Council	Tonya Moss	Kendal Hadaway
Carolyn Sue Cain City Clerk	Linda Hoiles Court Clerk	Doug Kirkland Police Chief	Jeff Reeves Fire Chief		

**Minutes of the City of Creola City Council Meeting
Thursday, July 27, 2017
Held at new City Hall
9615 Old Hwy. 43, Creola, AL**

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order, asking everyone to turn off all cellphones and remove all headgear.

Bro. John White 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

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

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

-None-

Mayor Criswell thanked everyone for attending the meeting and participating in your City government. This is our first meeting in our new facility. It is nice and so much better. The roof is not leaking.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the minutes of 7/13/17 as revised on line 1 reading T50 should read 250. { Revision should read that t50 is a typo and the correct word is "to" not 250}

Councilwoman Moss seconded, Roll call to approve.

Councilwoman Greene	YES
Councilman Martin	YES
Councilman Walker	YES
Councilwoman Moss	YES
Councilman Hadaway	YES
Mayor Criswell	YES

The minutes of the Emergency Meeting of June 28, 2017 will be presented to the Council at the next meeting for approval.

Councilwoman Moss presented a proposal to get someone to clean the new City Hall. Mayor Criswell stated that this would be good to clean the bldg. on a regular basis. Since this is a leased building and we plan to buy it, we need to keep it in good shape. Councilwoman Greene stated that we could advertise it in the Call News and get sealed bids. Bro John white suggested that we add a statement of work (monthly/quarterly) before putting it out for bid. Would have to be cleaned during office hours due to the court being off limits after hours Do we want to state how long for contract or no contract at all. Chief Kirkland said he could provide Trustees to clean the building or whatever we need them to do, at no cost to the City. Mayor Criswell stated that we had Frazier Payne pay us a visit this week and it was so nice to have him visit in this new bldg. Mr. Payne was very congratulatory of the City and it was nice to have him in a nice environment.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER BUSINESS

Councilwoman Greene stated that we needed to implement a time clock policy. There has never been a time clock policy in place; only a drug free workplace policy. Councilwoman Greene read the Time Clock Policy that she was presenting to the Council. Councilman Walker seconded; Roll call for approval.

Councilwoman Greene	YES
Councilman Martin	ABSTAINED
Councilman Walker	YES
Councilwoman Moss	YES
Councilman Hadaway	YES
Mayor Criswell	YES

Attorney Mims stated that we need a motion to approve the policy and authorize the Mayor to enforce it. Councilwoman Greene made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Moss; all favored, none opposed, motion carried

Councilwoman Greene presented some research she had completed on insurance for employees. She is bringing it to the Council for discussion. The employee pays -0- for single coverage and approximately \$50. per month for family coverage. Councilwoman Greene compared this cost to Chickasaw and Satsuma.

Chickasaw- pays 80-81% of the premium.
The employee pays \$40.99 for single coverage & \$112.35 for family per pay period.

Satsuma- pays 85% of the premium
The employee pays \$72. Per month for single coverage & \$185. month for family.

Right now, The City of Creola pays 90% of the premium.

Councilwoman Greene is proposing that the employee pay \$50. Month for single coverage; & \$100. Month for family beginning with new fiscal year, October 2017.

Chief Kirkland stated that our health benefits are the only thing we have going for us to recruit new police officers and dispatchers. If we don't have these benefits to offer. We are going to have problems. Councilmen Hadaway and Martin agreed. Councilman Hadaway stated that we are not in a financial crisis right now and getting the new 15% across the board raise for employees will be taken away with insurance premium increase.

Councilwoman Greene stated that she received a call from Citronelle High School Band wanting to hold their "Bucket Drop" again this year at the red light of Hwy. 43 and Dead Lake Rd. Parents would wear vests and officers would have to be in place for the safety of these students. Chief Kirkland reminded the Council how folks like to run that red light and how dangerous that intersection really is. Chief Kirkland stated that it would be safer to hold the "Bucket Drop" in the parking lots at Platts, Mac's, Chevron, Shell, etc. Attorney Mims stated that no motion was needed as this would be up to the stores involved, so, therefore, no council action would be needed.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

In Mr. Chambers' absence, Councilwoman Greene stated the zoning board met, reviewed and approved the Grimes-Owens subdivision and reviewed the RV Ordinances. Nicole will bring corrections to the next meeting in August.

Councilwoman Greene also stated that Nicole with SARPC asked that we "Save the Date". August 29, 2017 - 9:30a-1:30p - \$25. Per person. Lunch will be provided. Each employee will pay the fee to register, 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

Councilwoman Greene stated that we received the \$5,000. Donation for the park from L.I.P. Councilman Hadaway stated that we will get bids on the different projects for the park. He will work with Councilwoman Moss on this project. L.I.P. uses the park the first Saturday in November each year.

Councilwoman Moss stated she was contacted by Gregory Lee, a resident of Creola, to host ball tournaments at the park. She will check on the costs for the events and also will check with Ms. Ludgood about a grant for the events. She will get more information from Mr. Lee.

UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Councilwoman Moss stated that everything was good. No 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: \$70,624.45. Also, a Find Report for July 2017 with bills including payrolls totaling \$36,253.00 was available.

Court Bond Account	-465.34 (negative balance)
Court Fund	46,318.29
Special Court Fund	10,386.52
Fire Department	\$ 14,152.20(Received \$14,190. Grant deposited7/19)
General Fund	141,343.62
Money Market	13,518.84
Police Department	7,202.51
S.A.I.L. Center Account	612.85
7-cent Special Gas Tax Acct.	16,967.10
4-cent Gas Tax Acct. (incl 5 cent)	\$ 14 187.77
Total: (in bank)	\$ 264,224.38

A motion was made by Councilwoman Greene to approve the financial report; seconded by Councilwoman Moss. The bills totaled \$36,253.00. a motion was made by Councilwoman Greene to pay our bills; seconded by Councilwoman Moss. Roll call for approval:

Councilwoman Greene	YES
Councilman Martin	YES
Councilman Walker	YES
Councilwoman Moss	YES
Councilman Hadaway	YES

Councilwoman Greene stated that we have 2 loans with Servis 1st that will be auto drafts beginning next month. One loan is for the fire truck with a balance of \$18,367.00; the second loan is on 2- 2010 Tahoe's with a balance of 16,963.00. Will get the pay -out date and bring back to council.

Councilwoman Greene also mentioned that we have a fuel card through McPherson Oil that is auto-drafted weekly out of the general fund account. This is a gas card that is used by police officers, and street department. Chief Kirkland stated that we buy all the gas for our vehicles from the City of Creola. No gas is bought outside our City.

POLICE AND FIRE

POLICE

Councilman Martin stated that the police account has a balance of approximately \$7,000. The bank statement has not come in yet, but he will give an itemized breakdown of the account at the net Council meeting.

Chief Kirkland gave an update on the Ballistic Vests being ordered from a company in Georgia. The vests are being paid for with grant money from Commissioner Ludgood. The vests are good quality material, they protect the body but are comfortable, as well. We told the vendor what our budget was and they are staying within our budget. We are getting more for our money. There is a place on the vests for handcuffs, flashlight, radio, etc. This gets those items off their hip. The vests can have Velcro adjustments made to fit the officer if he gains weight. Councilman Martin stated that the shelf life for these vests, made of ballistic fabric, is six years. The Chief has worked really hard on this project with the vests.

Councilman Martin stated that Chief Kirkland has stayed way under budget on the security system. This is the liability protection and safety for our inmates and our staff, as well. Councilman Martin stated that we have an ongoing investigation for the attempted abduction of the young lady here in Creola. Chief Kirkland stated that he released a sketch to the news media today of the suspect. He has worked closely with the family. Councilman Martin stated that Chief Kirkland has been working hard on this case. Working with other agencies, as well.

Councilwoman Greene asked Chief Kirkland if the tasers that were purchased during the last Administration could be accounted for. Chief Kirkland stated he was working to resolve that issue.

Councilman Walker stated that we all appreciate Chief Kirkland and the Police Department. Councilman Hadaway stated that he has contacted Google Maps to have all trucks re-routed to Exit 19.

Chief Kirkland thanked Steve Bell, Kent Sellers, Don Turberville, John White and to all that helped him save a man's life behind Ellen's church. They received a 911 call about someone trying to end his life. They found the gentleman in a wooded area behind the r, talked with him, and got him help and saved his life. Thanks to all who helped.

FIRE:

Councilman Hadaway stated that the balance in the fire account was \$14,152.20. He is working on some fraudulent charges that appeared on the account. PayPal charges in California and Domino's Pizza charges in Illinois. Approximately \$300.

Councilman Hadaway presented an invoice for an equipment purchase from NAFECO for \$7,173.35 and made a motion to pay out of the fire dept. account using the grant money; seconded by Councilman Martin, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

STREETS

Councilman Walker stated that we have put rocks at the railroad crossing at Platts and at the red light at Hwy 43 and Dead Lake Rd. We have put asphalt in some of the holes. When the road dries out, we will get the motor grader and operator to do more work on Ducey Rd. This Saturday we will get 2 loads of rock.

Mayor Criswell stated that the holes on Dead Lake Rd. at the RR crossing is RR property and we can't fix those holes. Just like the holes at Mr. Platt's is ALDOT property. We call those guys. We are working to make corrections to get something done. The State tells us when they will cut the

grass on Hwy. 43 and if they don't cut it, then we have to cut it. There are approximately 55,000 cars that travel Hwy 43 and that is a dangerous area for our street crew to work in.

Mayor Criswell stated that we had the inspection on all the city bridges. 2 bridges need repair. Radcliff Rd and the culvert on the lower side toward the Marina and the Beaver Dam on Marina Drive. Tim Tew was the low bidder and remove the beaver's home. After the removal of the beaver's home, the water dropped at least 5 feet.

COMMUNITY GROUP

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES

None

MAYOR'S DISCUSSION

Mayor Criswell stated that we are getting settled in our new home. Getting phones and computers up and running. Everyone has been pitching in from the City Clerk to the Court Clerks and even our Student Intern has been a big help. A great job by all. This building will carry our City into the future and is something to be proud of. We are proud of our new facility.

Tonya stated that we need a video presentation for businesses to come into our City. We can present this video to businesses like Wal Mart, Burger King, etc. Councilwoman Moss stated that Councilman Hadaway would be an excellent person to do the video. Everyone agreed.

Mayor Criswell stated that he is getting bids on a sign for out front of our new bldg. and one behind the bldg. That will be lighted at night and can be seen from Hwy. 43.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Councilwoman Martin

SECONDED BY: Councilman Walker

Meeting adjourned @ 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Sue Cain
City Clerk

c.m. 7.27.2017