



**CITY OF CREOLA**  
**P O BOX 490**  
**CREOLA, AL 36525**  
**251-675-8142 Phone**  
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**William R. Criswell** **Leanne Greene** **Harold Martin** **Ralph Walker** **Tonya Moss** **Kendal Hadaway**  
**Mayor** **Place 1** **Place 2** **Place 3** **Place 4** **Place 5**

**Carolyn Sue Cain** **Linda Hoiles** **Doug Kirkland** **Jeff Reeves**  
**City Clerk** **Court Clerk** **Chief of Police** **Fire Chief**

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Minutes of the City of Creola City Council Meeting  
Thursday, December 13, 2018 5PM  
Creola City Hall  
9615 Old Hwy. 43, Creola, AL  
Workshop: 4:30PM

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order and asked everyone to please turn off all cellphones.

Brother 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

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the minutes of 11/29/2018, as written. Councilman Walker seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

## CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

(1) Dru Ryals-Creola resident – Trailer Park/ City Business  
Has questions about the trailers-manufactured homes, going in the upgraded trailer park. “Will they be paying \$850. Month. That seems like a lot to pay for a trailer”. Mayor Criswell explained they will be buying the manufactured home, renting the property + they will have a carport, this is between the homeowner and the park owner. Mayor Criswell stated that he would give the name of the owner if Ms. Ryals wanted it. She asked will this be subsidized housing in any form. Mayor Criswell stated it is a total personal investment of the two people. No Federal money or no grants involved. Ms. Ryals asked if they would pay for their garbage. Mayor Criswell asked them to come to the zoning board to let us know what their plans are with sewer and water. Not for zoning as it is R-3 already. They had a 1-hour PowerPoint presentation as to what their plans are. Councilwoman Greene stated that flyers were placed in every Creola mailbox, so anyone could attend the meeting. They will not be allowed to cut their grass. That will be taken care of by management. This will be tremendously better that what we had. The zoning is R-3.  
This is a gated community.

(2) Joan Stringfellow- Creola resident  
Ms. Stringfellow stated that she asked for an audit of bills. She asked what was the \$14,000.00 paid to Betancourt and King. Mayor Criswell stated that Betancourt has been working on an audit for 2017-2018. Received a letter from him last week giving an update on the audit. Ms. Stringfellow stated she had asked for papers for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 a month ago. Mayor Criswell asked Danny Mims to answer. Mr. Mims responded that they are under my review. She asked, “How long does that take?” Mr. Mims stated that under policy, they come to me for review. Mayor Criswell stated that when you request information, procedure is, if it done as we have time and not taking away from the daily functions of City Hall. As he was trying to explain, she stated that she just wants to know when she will get it. Mayor Criswell stated, “When he gets to it”.

(3) Kathy Camilleri – Saraland Resident - Fire Code – ADA – Ms. Camilleri asked what is the occupancy of our building? Doesn't it have to be posted somewhere when we have public hearings? Mayor Criswell stated that we are leasing this building and that Jay Brice came and inspected the entire building. He was extremely happy. Said we were in compliance with handicap accessible including the restrooms. Ms. Camilleri asked, "Don't you have to have an escape route posted? It is a requirement. She asked if the doors were handicap accessible for a wheelchair to go thru. Mayor Criswell stated, yes, but not working since lightning struck the from control system about 6 weeks ago Mayor Criswell stated that we close the front doors because of people; coming in late. Ms. Camilleri asked if there is handicap parking on the side. Is there a ramp? It must be where handicap accessible is. She asked if he knew what ADA is? That falls under Department of Justice and you are probably not going to meet up to those specifications. She stated that she had reached out to them, as well. Mayor Criswell stated he has notified the owners of the building

#### **RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER BUSINESS**

(1)Diamond Gas – Mayor Criswell asked Councilwoman Greene to explain. She stated that Diamond Gas paid RDS + City of Creola in 2016 & 2017. Their accountant caught this a few months ago and informed us. Mr. Mims is working with Ms. Cox w/ RDS to resolve this issue. We will pay back to RDA \$10,000 - \$15,000. beginning in January 2019. RDS will then hold \$2,500.00 per month of the monies owed to City of Creola for this re-payment until the balance is paid in full.

(2)City of Creola Welcome Sign – Councilwoman Greene stated that we received two quotes – (1) \$3,160.00 labor and installation - aluminum 10x5 1 sided 8' PVC posts. Brick would be a lot more. The second bid was for \$1,500.00. The Mayor stated that We will table this vote until the next meeting.

(3)Budget 2018-2019 -Mr. Betancourt w/ Betancourt & King is working on this. The Council will find it in their box within the next 10 days for their review and vote at the next meeting.

(4) Backhoe- Councilwoman Greene stated that we will pay off the backhoe that is not due to be paid off until 2021. We will use the 7-cent tax to pay off the backhoe. At present, we have \$24,671.29 in our 7-cent tax account. Using the 7-cent tax for this purpose has been approved by the Attorney General's office. Councilwoman Greene made a motion to pay Regions Bank \$16,100.47 to pay off the backhoe. Seconded by Councilman Walker.

Roll Call to pay off backhoe.

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

Approved by Roll Call

#### **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

Councilwoman Greene reported they will meet on 12/18/2018. Workshop @ 5:00pm; Meeting @ 6:00pm Nicole from SARPC and our attorney will be present. No applications to-date but will open the meeting to approve minutes from the November meeting. Notices were placed in every Creola mailbox. Anyone is welcome to bring their case, but it won't be voted on til next meeting

#### **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS**

Chairman, David Boucher, stated "Nothing to Report".

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Major Holt reported that he has aeriated the fields; doing field maintenance now and has spread 100# grass seed. Major Holt stated that he needs a shed for the pump, so it doesn't freeze in winter.

## UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Councilwoman Moss reported that the Seniors Christmas Party will be Friday, December 14, 2018. Santa will arrive at 10AM; luncheon will follow at 11AM.

## FINANCE

Councilwoman Greene gave the financial report, giving a copy to the Council. (Details of report listed below), making motion accept, seconded by Councilwoman Moss. Also copies available to citizens attending the meeting wishing to have one.

Total bills paid January thru September 2018 – \$1,430,435.47 but that included a \$25,000. 1<sup>st</sup> penalty for taxes not paid to IRS in 2016. We had an additional \$12,000. for cameras installed throughout the city.

Revenues totaled \$ 51,627.45 for 12/3/18 thru 12/13/2018.

Withdrawals totaled \$29,964.57 12/3/18 – 12/13/18

Bills totaled \$15,122.73 (including payroll) 12/3/18 – 12/13/18

Outstanding checks for November 2018 totaled \$1,482.11

Outstanding checks for December 2018 totaled \$14,822.73

General Fund	\$ 56,447.70
Court Bond Account	12,706.45
Court Fund	18,215.60
Special Court Fund	24,432.66
MIS (Municipal Intercept Services)	100.00
Fire Fund	6,525.76
Police Equipment Fund	1,026.41
S.A.I.L. Center Account	5,132.54
7-cent Special Gas Tax Acct.	24,671.29
4-cent Gas Tax Acct. (including 5 cent)	<u>52,203.50</u>
Total: (in bank)	\$ 201,461.91

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

## **POLICE**

Chief Kirkland reported that we have two new officers just out of the Academy- Chris Autry and Joshua McLendon. They are on fire, working the streets, writing tickets, handling dog complaints, etc. They have really stepped up to the plate and doing great. Mayor Criswell stated that he had to figure out a way to build a larger court building to handle all the tickets. Councilwoman Greene stated that \$11,864.90 was deposited into the General Fund from the Court Fund last month.

## **FIRE**

Councilman Hadaway reported that Engine #2 needs repair -steering problems. He made a motion to have Empire Trucks make the repairs, not to exceed \$3,000.00. Councilwoman Greene seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

## **STREETS/PUBLIC WORKS**

Wayne Miller reported that it has been chilly and wet but at least the grass cutting has slowed down. Wayne, Anthony and Austin have been cleaning out ditches, trimming trees, shrubs, etc. Mr. Miller stated that the guys are doing a great job. Mayor Criswell stated that we have gotten 2 reflective warm jackets for the guys in the department. We provide uniforms and boots for them, as well. They are identifiable while working on the streets.

## **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Don Moss did not attend meeting as he has family in for Christmas and he is cooking for them tonight.

Criswell addressed the trailer park debris and stated that Don Moss is working on them.

We have given the owners of the manufactured homes their permitting amount- approximately \$100,000.00. for 250 manufactured homes.

We are working with D.R. Horton and they are close to breaking ground-will be bringing to Planning & Zoning board, a layout of the homes.

**MAYOR'S DISCUSSION**

None

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY: Councilwoman Greene

SECONDED BY: Councilman Walker

Meeting adjourned @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Sue Cain  
City Clerk