



**CITY OF CREOLA**  
**9615 Old Hwy. 43**  
**P.O. Box 490**  
**Creola, AL 36525-0490**  
**(Phone) 251-675-8142**  
**(Fax) 251-930-1877**

<b>William R. Criswell</b> Mayor	<b>Leanne Greene</b> Place 1	<b>Harold Martin</b> Place 2	<b>Ralph Walker</b> Place 3	<b>Tonya Moss</b> Place 4	<b>Kendal Hadaway</b> Place 5
<b>Carolyn Sue Cain</b> City Clerk	<b>Linda Hoiles</b> Court Clerk	<b>Doug Kirkland</b> Chief of Police	<b>Jeff Reeves</b> Fire Chief		

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**Minutes of the City of Creola City Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 11, 2019**  
**Creola City Hall**  
**9615 Old Hwy. 43, Creola, AL**  
**Meeting 6 P.M. Workshop 5:30 P.M.**

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order.  
Jeffrey Reeves 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 Walker made a motion to accept the minutes of 3/14/2019, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the no quorum; no meeting minutes of 3/28/2019, only Mayor, Councilwoman Moss and city attorney were present, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

**CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL**

None

**RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER BUSINESS**

- (1) Resolution No. 2019-023 to oppose SB23 by Chris Elliott from Baldwin County. Alabama League has put forth an opposition, as well. This would remove all police jurisdictions, fire districts & inspections from all municipalities in the state. All are opposed except for a very select group in Mr. Elliott’s county. This would affect our tax and ad valorem tax, as well.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Greene, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

- (2) COLA for employees – Mayor Criswell reported that he and Councilwoman Moss met with MCPB on 3/19/2019. Mayor stated that our employees are currently at 70% & MCPB wants them @ high 80s. There has been no COLA for the city employees for the past 20 years, since the Ken Moss administration.

Mayor Criswell reported that we are requesting a 15% raise to offset where we were. The Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance program that we had for employees was not municipal insurance which had a \$4200.00 deductible. The employees were having to pay premiums to AFLAC to cover deductibles. 18 months ago, we got under a municipal insurance group and paid 98% of the premium. This saved the employee money. After some research, we found that all other municipalities are paying 85% of the premium. Under this new plan, the insurance premium would be \$97.57 for family coverage and \$38.70 for single coverage per pay period. The pay increase for employees will go in effect with the 4/27/2019 thru 5/10/2019. This raise will show on the check the employees receive on May 17, 2019. Mayor Criswell recommended that we approve the COLA and Insurance premium increase. Motion was made by Councilman Walker to approve both, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, Roll call for vote:

Councilwoman Greene	YES
Councilman Martin	NO
Councilman Walker	YES
Councilwoman Moss	YES
Councilman Hadaway	YES
Mayor Criswell	YES

Approved by roll call vote.

- (3) Flood Plane-FEMA & Corp of Engineers  
Mayor Criswell & Building Inspector Don Moss met with FEMA. Mayor stated that we need to send out a flyer with the current update information. He reported that we cannot file an adjustment to an individual landowner’s plan. The individual landowners will have 90 days to do this. FEMA recommended that we can get some grants to help with costs with Frenchman ‘s Bend. We have a short time to get grant to do these projects in a timely manner. This would help to drain water out of Frenchmen’s Bend. Mayor Criswell stated that the drawings will be in the conference room. Don Moss can take the

calls and handle these calls to set up a meeting to explain the drawings. The 100- year flood plane floods all Creola to NS RR. The 30-year flood plane would include Frenchmen's Bend, Dead Lake Rd, the airport area, Ellison Ave., Gunnison Creek area, etc.

- (4) Bridge Repair-Mayor Criswell reported that it is time to inspect all bridges and must be submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Safe-Span gave us a quote-same as last year. The price of the quote is \$8,000.00 and is valid for 90 days. It will be paid for with the 4-cent tax fund and can be paid in payments. We had 6 bridges last year & have inherited 1 more bridge from the county at Halls Branch Rd. It needs some repair. Councilwoman Greene made a motion for Safe-Span to complete these repairs, seconded by Councilwoman Moss. Roll call for vote:

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

Approved by roll call vote.

Councilwoman Greene reported that the City will send back in writing our approval to Safe-Span.

- (5) MCHD- Mayor Criswell reported that we received a registered letter from Dr. Eichold from MCHD asking the city to designate an Animal Control Investigator due to humans and animals being bitten by the rabid foxes in the area now. We have named Wayne Miller, Public Works Supervisor as the designated Investigating Officer. Wayne will complete forms and submit to MCHD on each incident.
- (6) Lister Dairy Road Bridge- Mayor Criswell reported that work will begin July 2019 and will take approximately 2-3 months to complete. They will be adding 6" asphalt on I-65 making it necessary to raise the bridge. They will be painting the bridge, the bridges at Gulf Coast RR, Exit 19, and the Dolly Parton bridge . Also, included in this project, they will install cameras + smog systems on the bridge. They will repair the fencing and do some re-fencing on I-65. All this at no cost to the city.
- (7) Registrations to Administrative Office of the Courts for Linda Hoiles and Christie Bryant for Court Conference on May 2-3, 2019 in Mobile. These classes will allow the court magistrate and court clerk to keep up CEUs. The total cost for both is \$390.00. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Martin. Seconded by Councilman Walker, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.
- (8) City Flags. Councilwoman Greene stated that our city flag is worn, and we need to replace it. We need a city flag for city hall, one by the new Welcome sign and one for Police Dept. These flags are 3 X 5 @ \$135.00 ea. Dixie Decorations has

the artwork so there will be no charge for that. Councilman Walker made a motion to purchase 3 city flags, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

- (9) Beer Tax Ordinance 2019-020- Mayor Criswell asked city attorney, Danny Mims, to explain this ordinance. He stated that this will amend the existing ordinance. We are only collecting 2 cents now. There is no provision for wine on the existing ordinance. The new ordinance would make it possible for the city to receive 10 cents for city; 5 cents for police jurisdiction; the wine tax would be 7 cents for city and 3.5 cents for police that was adopted in the late 70s. for police jurisdiction. This would be consistent with other municipalities. We will repeal the existing ordinance. At present, there is no provision for wine in the old ordinance. Attorney Mims recommended tabling until the next meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Greene to table until the next meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Moss. Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Greene	YES
Councilman Martin	YES
Councilman Walker	NO
Councilwoman Moss	YES
Councilman Hadaway	YES
Mayor Criswell	YES

Approved with roll call vote.

(10)New Welcome Sign. Councilwoman Greene stated that they made the wrong welcome sign, but we can purchase it for \$500. To place somewhere else in the city. Councilwoman Moss stated to "Take it back". They will pick=up when they deliver the new Welcome sign tomorrow 4/12/2019. It will be \$1800.00.

(11)Municipal Clerk's Conference- Mayor Criswell stated that Marcy Brown will be attending 2 conferences to keep up her CEUs. 8/28/19-8/30/2019 in Tuscaloosa -Registration is \$265.00; Winter Conference in Gulf Shores 12/4/2019-12/6/2019-Registration \$285.00. A motion was made by Councilman Martin to approve the conferences for Ms. Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, Roll call vote:

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

Approved by roll call vote.

(12)Bills to be paid. Mayor Criswell reported that Marcy Brown has been working with our CPA, Robert Betancourt on the audit. Several recommendations have been made:

Deposits must be made daily  
Daily Report from courts  
Copies of deposits to Marcy  
All bills given to Marcy  
Cut checks twice a month

A motion was made by Councilwoman Greene, seconded by Councilwoman Moss,  
roll call vote:

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

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Mr. Chambers was absent. Councilwoman Greene reported that the Dollar General will be sub-dividing @ Radcliff Rd and Hwy 43. Dollar General will bring their site plans for public hearing and paid the \$100. + \$88.00 postage to cover mailing the letters to property owners. A letter to all owners with touching properties informing them about the meeting, Tuesday, April 23, 2019. The public hearing will be at 5:30 and meeting at 6pm.

Mayor Criswell stated that a public hearing will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> for R4 and R5 and to approve the updating of the zoning book.

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

David Boucher had nothing to report.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Councilwoman Moss reported that the 2 new tables have been installed. 36 trees were planted in Crenshaw Park. Wayne Miller installed 2 baby swings in the park.

Mayor Criswell reported that the lighting has been repaired in the park by H & H Electric. Howard Hill's son, Jamie, did the repairs.

Mayor Criswell reported that we are bringing the loss control up to code. We have small children's playground equipment broken and we will be repairing bleachers in the park and will need bench boards. We will vote on getting equipment at next meeting. We have 2 tables that need to be re-topped in Crenshaw Park. We will need to purchase a welding machine for \$3500.00 from Northern Tool. We will use tax exempt certificate and they provide free shipping.

**UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS**

Councilwoman Moss reported that the Senior Center will be closed for Good Friday, 4/19 and Monday, 4/22 for Confederate Memorial Day. She stated that the seniors will have a colored egg contest Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> for prettiest & ugliest egg. Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> They will play "Wheel of Fortune".

**FINANCE**

Councilwoman Greene gave the financial report, giving a copy to the Council. (see details of report listed below), making motion to accept, seconded by Councilman Walker, Roll call vote:

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

Approved by roll call vote.

Copies available to citizens attending the meeting wishing to have one

Revenues totaled: \$ 6,117.27 (includes AlaTax + deposits) – 4/2/2019-4/10/2019

Withdrawals- \$ 18,533.52(includes online payments) 4/4/19-4/11/19

Total Bills to be paid 3/28/2019: \$39,074.32 & bills for 4/11/2019: \$19,515.06

General Fund	\$ 70,031.67
Court Bond Account	18,798.36
Court Fund	45,483.96
Special Court Fund	28,772.77
MIS (Municipal Intercept Services	100.00
Fire Fund	3567.79
Police Equipment Fund	5370.89
S.A.I.L. Center Account	5214.60
7-cent Special Gas Tax Acct.	21,910.38
4-cent Gas Tax Acct. (including 5 cent)	<u>43,548.56</u>
Total: (in bank)	242,798.98

Councilwoman Greene reported that the city has re-opened the Warrant Fund A/C \$100.00 will be transferred to that account tomorrow to make it active. This account was closed in 2011. This account is for a check that we receive in April of each year for Capital Improvements. The check this year will be approximately \$18,000.00 and will coming this month.

The court owes the city \$12,372.50 for March 2019.

## **POLICE**

Chief Kirkland is out today at a one-day mandatory training in Anniston. This is to maintain his APOST certification. Mayor Criswell reported that we are holding 2 courts a month now. Councilman Walker reported that Chief Kirkland made a score of 100 on his test.

## **FIRE**

Chief Jeff Reeves reported there is a problem with Engine #3 air system. We will have it towed Monday and will get estimates. Engine #3 is not drivable.

## **STREETS/PUBLIC WORKS**

Mayor Criswell reported Wayne Miller is cutting grass again. We will need to add one more man thru MCPB as an unskilled laborer. Wayne is stretched with the two guys and himself now. All equipment is working good except for the Mahindra 2013 Unit. Wayne reported that Anthony is being trained on the tractor and doing good.

Mayor Criswell stated that Trey Thompson w/ Sun South is working on a price for a tractor. If it has 70-200 hours, it is sold as used equipment. We can trade the 2013 Mahindra for \$8,000.00 and purchase the tractor (75hp w. cab) for \$34,500.00 out of the 7-cent tax money. That would leave a balance of \$26,500.00. Later we will purchase a side cutter from the state bid list. We will vote on this at the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Don Moss reported there are 5 new homes coming along. He received a quote to re-pave the parking lot. Exit 22 being cleaned up. Don Moss reported that he has 16 containers for the man w/ Graceland Buildings. Mayor Criswell reported they had a good meeting with the man about the litter on his property. The property owner cannot burn but must dispose of it properly. Graceland has 500,000 buildings for hurricane houses. These are used for temporary housing. They deliver about 10 a day.

## **MAYOR'S DISCUSSION**

Mayor Criswell reported that he will have the quote for the striping parking lot to meet fire codes. We have a \$5,000.00 quote. We have one more quote, as well. We will present quotes at the next meeting. Don Moss is working on abandoned houses & trailers. Mayor Criswell announced that we will be doing a Clean Sweep in the City 7a-3p on May 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be two dumpsters placed by the pavilion. We will put a flyer in each mailbox for Creola residents both post office and rural box. This will be at No Charge to the citizens of Creola. The city is paying for the dumpsters. We will need 2 employees to monitor this clean-up, as certain items are NOT acceptable in the dumpsters. Advanced Disposal will not charge the city to transport the dumpsters. Mayor Criswell stated that we will do this again in the Fall and possible will need more dumpsters.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilwoman Greene reported that according to Darneisha, Mt. Vernon will host "Thunder on the River" on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY: Councilman Walker  
SECONDED BY: Councilwoman Moss  
Meeting adjourned @ 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Sue Cain  
City Clerk



William R. Criswell  
Mayor

c.m.04.11.2019