



**CITY OF CREOLA**  
**PO BOX 490**  
**CREOLA, AL 36525-0490**  
**Phone: 251-675-8142**  
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William Criswell Lee Anne Greene Harold Martin Avis 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, October 26, 2017**  
**Creola City Hall 6 PM**  
**9615 Old Hwy. 43, Creola, AL**

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order and asked everyone to turn off all cell phones.

Rev. 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. Mims  
City Clerk – Carolyn Sue Cain

Councilman Martin made a motion to accept the minutes of October 12, 2017, seconded by Councilwoman Moss, Roll call for vote. Approved by roll call vote.

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

**CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL**

None

## RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER BUSINESS

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to purchase a flag pole. She found one on-line for \$370.00. Seconded by Councilman Walker, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Councilwoman Greene told the council about the City of Creola flag to be placed under the US Flag on the new flag pole, which will hold two flags. It will be under \$150.00. There will not be a charge for the artwork as they have it on file. Councilman Walker wants to put it on the next agenda.

Councilwoman Greene would like for the City to purchase Santa's Throws for \$250.00 to purchase from Chickasaw Cash and Carry. Councilwoman Moss made a motion to purchase the Santa throws, seconded by Councilman Hadaway. Motion carried. Councilwoman Greene will purchase the candy for Santa, Gavin Middleton. He has been with us for several years. The Creola Christmas Parade is sponsored by the City of Creola.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to make a \$250.00 donation to the band participating in our Christmas parade on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Citronelle High School has been with us in the past but due to a previous engagement, they cannot participate this year. We have asked Satsuma High School and waiting for a reply. If Satsuma HS Band can participate, the donation will go to Satsuma High School Band for expenses. Seconded by Councilman Walker, all favored, none opposed, motion carried. Councilwoman Greene stated that Advance Disposal has confirmed that they will furnish 20 garbage cans for LIP Day. They will deliver the cans on Thursday. Kelly's Exterminating will spray the grounds Wednesday or Thursday before the event.

Councilwoman Greene commented that she purchased promotional/educational items for LIP Day. The total cost was \$832.11 for these items. We were able to get City of Creola printed on the books. Chief Reeves stated these would last a long time.

Councilwoman Greene stated that Councilman Hadaway turned in an invoice and we paid \$1,188.00 for the annual fire program. Chief states that this is software that the department uses to keep up with the fire reports, inventory, testing, etc. and it has to be renewed annually. Chief states that they have used this software for over 10 years.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to rent 3 golf carts for LIP Day on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Councilwoman Moss, all favored, none opposed, motion carried. Don Moss commented that Mr. Skidmore will donate golf carts. Councilwoman Greene will check on getting the golf carts donated.

Councilwoman Greene stated that we submitted the reports and receipts to Mike Evans with EMA, to be reimbursed for our expenses during Hurricane Nate. If we spent \$3,100.00 or more, we would get a 75% reimbursement. Our expenses were \$3,142.00. This was for overtime, groceries, port generator for fire department, etc. Mr. Mike Evans will inform us if and when we will be reimbursed. Bro. John White will deliver our EMA Plan to EMA tomorrow.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to purchase a \$139.99 Double Storage Pantry cabinet from Staples, for the storage room to organize supplies. Seconded by Councilwoman Moss, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Micaiah Masterson with Gulf Coast Parkour, came before the Council to present his interest in holding exercise classes for adults and children in the park. He likes using the area parks. Attorney Mims asked if it was for profit. Mr. Masterson stated that it is but he can do FREE classes for folks that might have a tendency to fall. He teaches balance, and coordination to prevent falls. Also, running, jumping, climbing over obstacles, etc. Attorney Mims praised him for his efforts and wished him well. However, Attorney Mims would like for Mr. Masterson to provide an indemnity agreement so that the City does not get sued. Mr. Masterson gave a detailed description of his program and will provide an indemnity agreement, as requested by Attorney Mims. Mr. Masterson stated that he has an agreement that is signed by all parents. Mr. Masterson stated that his program is under his supervision and is safer than Team Sports. This will be tabled until the next meeting.

Mayor Criswell mentioned that we have Health & Safety Plan in place. Therefore, we are putting a Nuisance/Trash Ordinance in place. This will help with the cleanup of our City. Some of the residents won't get garbage service so they pile the garbage up out by the road. This is not acceptable for health or safety reasons. Our objective is to see a much nicer, cleaner and safer city. We have been rounding up dogs and slowing people down coming thru our City. Councilman Hadaway made a motion to suspend the rules and asked for immediate consideration for our Nuisance/Trash Ordinance. He stated that this will be a good thing, as the firemen have been in houses and yards on fire calls or health issues and there was only a path to walk in the houses and yards. This will prevent fire hazards. Seconded by Councilwoman Moss. Vote by roll call.

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

Councilwoman Moss made a motion to put on floor for vote on the Nuisance/trash ordinance. Councilman Hadaway seconded. Roll call for vote

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

The Nuisance/Trash Ordinance will be posted in Call News and three places in City for 15 days. The council will vote at the November 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Attorney Mims drafted a mail-out on card stock with all the information for the Axis residents. There is a deadline to return the mail-out. There will be a stamped self-addressed card they can return. They can let us know what their interests are concerning the annexation. Attorney Mims asked the Mayor and Council to look at the mailer and give him some input, if none; we will decide how many we need. Also, if there are any changes, please let the attorney know. Councilman Martin stated that this is a step moving forward.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

Councilwoman Greene states that the next meeting will be Tuesday, November 21st at 6pm. There is one applicant, Kenny Walker, on the agenda.

Councilwoman Greene stated that the Ordinance Book will be revamped by Nicole of SARPC with workshops. There will not be any extra charges just up-to-date with workshops.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Councilwoman Moss reported that L.I.P Day is Saturday, November 4, 2017 in the park. The new soccer sign "North Mobile County Soccer Team" has been placed in the center of the fence, at Major Holt's request. We are waiting on the canopy. We will measure and maybe get more picnic tables and possibly another canopy. All these items were purchased with the L.I.P. donation.

## **UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS**

Councilwoman Moss made a motion that she be allowed to re-apply for the 5310 Grant from SARPC for a van for seniors. Councilman Martin seconded. Roll call for Vote.

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

It will be posted in the Call News and 3 places in the City for seven days. We will vote at the next meeting, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Moss reported that the grinder pump had to be replaced at the SAIL Center. The cost to replace it is: \$2,450.00. The tanks inside commodes were replaced, as well.

The S.A.I.L. Center will serve Thanksgiving Dinner to the seniors on Friday, November 17, 2017 at 11am. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish.

## **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS**

Mayor Criswell stated that the Board of Adjustments has been formed. The chairman is David Boucher. Mr. Boucher will get with us to post 15 days prior to their first meeting. He will get names and contact information and provide to Attorney Mims. Mr. Boucher will handle the terms at the first meeting.

## **FINANCE**

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to accept the finance report. 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

General Fund	\$110,135.32
Money Market	13,524.44
4-cent {5-cent} Gas Tax Account	19,993.23
7-cent Special Gas Tax Account	8,424.46
Special Court Fund	14,259.08
Court Fund	49,672.69
Court Bond Account	3,359.66
S.A.I.L. Center Account	736.31
Police Department	8,406.35
Fire Department	<u>5,477.89</u>
Total:	\$233,989.43

**NOTE:** A deposit was made today by the City Clerk, making the following updates to the General Fund, 4-5cent and 7-cent accounts:

10/26/2017	Deposit - General Fund	\$9,852.19
	Deposit- 4-5- cent fund	\$2,760.19
	Deposit – 7- cent fund	\$3,190.86

Tomorrow, Friday, October 27, 2017, Linda Hoiles, Court Magistrate, will be giving a check in the amount of \$10,716.69 to the City Clerk to add to the General Fund, making the General Fund's new Balance \$120,852.01.

Councilwoman Greene stated that the current balance for ALDOT is: \$9,018.72. We are paying on the past due balances dating from June 2011 thru June 2016 that had not been paid by the past administration, plus paying all current bills as they come in. The balance from ALDOT was \$15,623.30. We have paid \$6,604.48. We plan to pay \$4,920.80 in November, \$2,484.54 in Dec. and pay the remaining balance of \$1,613.38 in January, wiping out the entire past due balance.

A Find Report for October 1-31, 2017, will be printed after all checks are cut on October 31, 2017 and placed in the Mayor and Council's box.

Chief Kirkland's expense for attending the workshop was paid with the PD credit card. The \$124.70 was transferred from the General Fund to the PD Fund to cover this expense.

## **POLICE AND FIRE**

### **POLICE**

Mayor Criswell stated that Chief Kirkland has completed his class this week. Chief Kirkland did a program on "Safety" for the LCAP meeting at the Turnerville VFD. Councilwoman Greene stated that Kevin Allen was pleased with the program.

Mayor Criswell stated that the Police Department will hold an Open House on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. The PD has been re-painted, new furniture, new water heater, new stove and new LED lighting.

Mayor Criswell reported that May Brooks is the new supervisor for the dispatchers. Chief Kirkland stated that we now have 8 officers and looking to hire 2 more within the next 2 weeks thru the Mobile County Personnel Board. We will put 1 thru the academy and the other one is A-Post Certified. They will sign to work 2 years with the City. A grant can be obtained for the class and we can get some of our money back.

## **FIRE**

Chief Reeves reported that during the past month, we had:

- 40 calls
- 2 structure fires
- 2 gas leaks
- 6 wrecks

Chief also reported that Engine # 2 alternator is back in service with no charge to the City. The alternator was still under warranty.

Engine #1 alternator locked up but back in service tonight.

Chief Reeves stated that the DuPont funding is up for approval.

Chief Reeves and Mayor Criswell asked that no one park between the old city hall and the Police department as this hinders the fire engines from getting out in a timely manner. He again stressed, "DO NOT BLOCK" this area. This prevents Engine # 3 from getting out.

Chief Reeves reported that the Creola VFD missed getting a 4 by one point on the ISO report. We will work to get that next time. We can re-apply June 2018.

Chief Reeves reported that we have three young guys catching calls when they are not in school and this cuts down on our response time.

## **STREETS**

Councilman Martin stated that we have an agreement with the county to use the county equipment to grade the roads. We pay the operator when he grades the roads Last Saturday the operator graded 5 of our unpaved streets. Councilman Martin made a motion to approve the check that was cut to pay the grader operator. Seconded by Councilman Hadaway, all favored, none opposed, motion carried. Councilman Walker received 10 loads of dirt from Mr. and Mrs. Lowe free of charge. We paid Tim Tew \$75. per load to haul it for us. We will get 4 loads of slag today. Councilman Martin thanked Councilman Walker and Wayne Miller for spreading the dirt and getting it ready for the grader.

## **PUBLIC WORK DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Criswell stated that we were the only municipality in the county without a Public Works Department. We now have a Public Works Department. Councilman Martin reported that we have Laura Love, one of our dispatchers, now with the Public Works Dept. as Office Assistant I. Mayor Criswell stated that Laura will be recording all serial numbers and doing an inventory for the PW Dept. We will need this information for our CPA when he does the audit. Ms. Love will serve as Manager for the department and she will be going thru Mobile County Personnel Board. Mayor Criswell stated that we will be hiring a working manager. Mayor Criswell and Councilman Walker saw a piece of equipment at the county barn but it was not for sale. Last week the Mayor received a

call about this piece of equipment. Councilman Walker was not available so Mayor Criswell and Don Moss went to look at the piece of equipment. Mr. Moss said this was a good deal. The price tag was \$26,000.00 but County Commissioner Ludgood cut the price in half for us. Councilman Walker made a motion to purchase this piece of equipment, seconded by Councilwoman Moss. Roll call vote for approval.

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

Mayor Criswell stated that we can use this tractor with side arm cutter in the winter months for ditches. We will be hiring a full-time operator for the equipment. Then next year it will be easier to handle. Tim Tew has agreed to move this piece of equipment for us at a reasonable price. Councilwoman Greene stated that we may can use the 7 -cent tax to purchase this equipment. She will check on it.

### **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Mayor Criswell stated that Don Moss, the Building Inspector, makes sure all permits and inspections are complete on all jobs in the City. He is our revenue producer. SSAB is using us as their inspection arm. Mr. Moss stated that with the additional office they built 6 months ago has produced about \$1,800.00 in permits. This is for SSAB alone. All subs have to obtain their own permits. We collect money for permits, inspections and building licenses. We are getting lots of new households in the City, as well. There are 4 commercial buildings under construction in the City, at this time, totaling approximately \$3,800.00 in permits. The subs are required to get their own. We have 7 new houses, and 3 re-models. There are 7 trailer parks in the City. We have torn down 12 now. There are 7 houses/trailers to be condemned. We will send a certified letter to the owner and if owner doesn't comply, we will destroy and bill the owner. If they don't pay, we can put a lien against the property. Mr. Moss has created ab out \$10,000.00 in revenues for the City this month.

### **MAYOR'S DISCUSSION**

Mayor Criswell announced that the City of Creola has been in the new building three months and will host an Open House/Ribbon Cutting on Thursday, November 9, 2017 5PM. Several dignitaries have been invited to join us. The Mayor's Address and the Council Meeting will follow. Mayor Criswell stated that the Municipal League requires the Mayor and Council to address the citizens at least once a year and inform them of anything that has taken place within the past year, where we came from, where we are going and what is taking place. After the ribbon cutting at City Hall, we will move across the road to the S.A.I.L. Center for the Mayor's Address, then back to City Hall for the Public Hearing on the 5310 grant from SARPC for the senior van and the regular City Council Meeting.

Mayor Criswell reported that for safety reasons, we are in the process of upgrading the City website and computers, as well. Our computers are out-of-date and we have loaner computers from Data Byte. Some of our computers were damaged when the ceiling leaked at the old City Hall.

Mayor Criswell stated that the old city hall building has been removed from our insurance. We will need to do some renovation in the near future to save it.

Mayor Criswell spoke with Naheola Credit Union about the adjacent property on the North side of the new City Hall. Naheola gave us permission to clear the property. We received two bids: (1) Gulf Coast Clearing for \$475.00 and (2) Tim Tew for \$600.00 This bid is to cut, mulch & brush, and clear around trees. Councilwoman Greene made a motion to award the job to the lowest bidder - Gulf Coast Clearing. Seconded by Councilman Walker, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Criswell asked Chief Kirkland and Mr. Fisher to talk about the problem they are having on the water near Mr. Fisher's house. Chief Kirkland stated they are working to slow the boats down as they are reckless. Chief Kirkland stated that they submitted an application to the Marine Division in Montgomery. He received a call back from Superintendent. A man from Orange Beach will come and we will show him what is happening. We have submitted an application for 2 idle wake buoys. Councilwoman Moss stated that she needed one on her property back there, as well. Mr. Fisher commended Chief Kirkland on a job well done with this project. Mr. Fisher commented that there is a bigger problem that the speeders and that is the Kayakers. They speed and are reckless and somebody is going to get killed, if something is not done soon. Mayor Criswell will discuss this issue with Mayor Tom Williams from the City of Satsuma and see if they can work out a plan for the joining cities.

Mayor Criswell reported that the Court Magistrate will turn money over to the City's General Fund from the Court General Fund. There were several administrative errors and money was mis-transferred in the past administration. The Court General Fund account will cut a check to the City General Fund tomorrow for \$10,716.69. We will be receiving funds each month to the General Fund from the Court General Fund.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Moss made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Greene second, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Sue Cain

City Clerk

c.m. 10.26.17