



CITY OF CREOLA
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William 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**

MINUTES FOR THE CITY OF CREOLA COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2018 AT 6:00PM
CREOLA CITY HALL
9615 OLD HWY 43, CREOLA, AL

Mayor Criswell called the meeting to order
Pastor John White gave invocation.
Pledge of Allegiance
Upon the call of roll, the following were found to be present with the exception of Councilman Hadaway.

Councilwoman Greene
Councilman Martin
Councilman Walker
Councilwoman Moss
Councilman Hadaway absent
Mayor Criswell
City attorney- Mr. Danny Mims
City Clerk and were present- Carolyn Sue Cain

Councilwoman Moss made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting 1/11/18.
Councilman Walker seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

No Business

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OTHER BUSINESS

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to introduce Ordinance #2018-009 to increase the Business License issuance fee from \$10.00-\$12.00 to retro back to January 1, 2018. Attorney Mims states that if passed it would become effective upon passage and publication as required. Councilwoman Greene and Attorney Mims state that this Ordinance has to be posted and advertised in paper. Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Councilman Walker made a motion to table Ordinance #2018-009 until next month so it can be advertised in the Call News for 15 days. Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Councilwoman Greene read the Proclamation that recognizes January 21-27, 2018 as the City of Creola School Choice Week. Councilwoman Greene made a motion to approve Proclamation for School Choice week being January 21-27, 2018. Councilman Walker seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Councilwoman Greene presented the Ordinance #2018-010 of the City of Creola authorized by Code of Alabama 40-23-233 referred to as the State Severe Weather preparedness sales tax holiday to be February 23-25, 2018. Councilwoman Green made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of approval for the State Severe Weather week Ordinance to be February 23-25, 2018. Councilman Walker seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Roll Call to suspend the rules for the State Severe Weather Week Ordinance

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

Motion approved by majority vote.

Councilwoman Greene asked permission from council, to make a motion to have Attorney Mims research to see if the gas funds (4-5-cent and/or 7-cent) can be used to pay for the repairs of the old city hall building/ public works building. Councilwoman Greene states that the 4 cent and 7 cent funds can be used for bridge repair. Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Attorney Mims states that he would like to give an update about using the 4-cent and/or 7-cent gas tax funds to use for reimbursing ALDOT for certain street light repairs. Attorney Mims states that he had sent a letter requesting the attorney general opinion on this issue a while back and he is just receiving a letter from the attorney general acknowledging that they received his letter. So as of now there is no answer, still pending until further notice.

Mayor Criswell stated that three companies in Creola have stepped up to pay for the bridge repairs.

Councilwoman Moss and Ms. Linda Hoiles, Court Clerk attend the Municipal Intercept services conference in Montgomery Wednesday, 1/24/18. A copy of the details for this service is available for all to take home and read. Councilwoman Moss states that the next meeting Attorney Mims will create a resolution for MIS to pass through the council. This service is a program for delinquent accounts through the Court system or the city

where MIS will collect at no cost to the city. The debtor will have to be an Alabama resident, and if they receive any Alabama state income tax refund, the state will take the balance owed and pay the debt that has been turned into them. Their Alabama state Refund will be applied to their delinquent accounts. A separate account will be set up for the monies from MIS to the city of Creola. Attorney Mims asked if this money was earmarked. Councilwoman Moss states this money can be used for bonuses or whatever the city deems needed. Attorney Mims asked if this money come back to the court. Councilwoman Moss states it will go to the city. It will go in an escrow account for 30-45 days. Then it will go out of the escrow account into the general fund. Councilwoman Moss gave an overview of the service and how it worked. Mayor states this service was highly recommended by our CPA, Mr. Robert Betancourt and our Court judge, Mr. Jay Ross.

Councilwoman Greene presented the new quote for the black and blue signs from Explosive Signs with the changes, each to cost \$1225.00.

Councilwoman Greene made a motion to purchase 2 signs installed at \$1225.00 each.

Councilwoman Moss second, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Criswell asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call to purchase signs

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

Motion approved by majority vote.

PLANNING and ZONING COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Greene stated that they did not meet January 16, 2018 due to the bad weather. The meeting has been re-scheduled for February 20, 2018.

On the agenda are Mr. Billy Bunch and The Delta Estate.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Councilwoman Moss reported that the benches and tables have been installed at the park. The dumpster at the park has a lock on it.

UTILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZEN

Councilwoman Moss reported that the senior building is being refurbished a little. Mayor states that there were some things that needed to be brought up to standard for the Mobile County Health department.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

Attorney Mims stated that they needed one more member. Mayor states that the new member to be added is Ms. Gloria Myers. The board will meet soon.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Greene gave the financial report.
Revenues totaled \$111,898.37 for 1/2/18 thru 1/24/18.

General Fund	\$167,947.98
Money Market	13,529.64
4-cent Gas Tax Account (include 5 cent)	30,817.30
7-cent Special Gas Tax Account	21,200.14
Special Court Fund	27,637.19
General Court Fund	33,147.25
Court Bond Account	3,760.16
S.A.I.L. Center Account	404.75
Police Department	12,237.14
Fire Department	<u>2,982.24</u>
Total: (in bank)	\$313,663.79

Councilwoman Greene states that she has the budget listed and asked council to look over. Mayor recommends that the council look over the budget and discuss at the next meeting.

A citizen asked if they could get a list of the expenditures of the month. Councilwoman Greene states that she could get a find report at the end of the month with all listed, all personal names and account numbers would be marked out.

A citizen asked what is the maximum that could be spent before having to put a bid out? Councilwoman Greene states \$15,000.00, Attorney Mims states that a contract is \$15,000.00. A citizen asked when the W-2s are coming out. Councilwoman Greene states they were mailed today. Mayor Criswell stated that this is the first time in 12 years that the city has not had to borrow money. We will be receiving a check from Alabama Power Co on January 31st This check will cover AMIC and workman’s comp, our check last year was \$108,000.00.

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

Mayor Criswell asked for a Roll call vote for the finance report.

Roll Call for the finance report

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

Motion approved by majority vote.

POLICE

Chief Kirkland reported that we have hired a female police officer. She will start training Monday, January 29th. We are conducting more interviews for dispatchers. We have one officer in the police academy in Anniston now and 2 will be headed there when officer Wentzell returns.

The PD had a drug bust within the community last night on a speeding violation.

Mayor Criswell reported that no vehicles were purchased by the city within the last few years. The vehicles they had been purchased as scrap metal from the city or county of Mobile. They purchased 2 Tahoe's that Chief Jerry Taylor brought before the past administration; these were vehicles that Mt. Vernon was not able to acquire through a grant request. . We are looking at 2 police vehicles thru the county bid law.

FIRE

Fire Chief Jeff Reeves presented a budget he had prepared for the fire department.

Chief reeves reported that the fire department has 41 runs in January so far. The icy conditions on the river bridge were included in this report. Chief Reeves reported that are working on training. January 1st the ISO rating went into effect. This will help with the residents insurance premiums. Chief Reeves' thanked Mark Kent with the Call News for the nice article on the "frat boys". That was great. Mr. Kent did a great job on the article.

STREETS

Mayor Criswell reported that Wayne Miller and his crew have been busy cleaning out ditches and putting up tables. The trash is horrible. We are having a problem with people stealing street signs. These signs cost \$150.00 per sign plus \$25.00 per post. Mayor Criswell also reported that we ordered 2 "NO DUMPING" signs.

Mayor states that Mr. Betancourt requires in our audit to have a list of all our equipment, Mr. Miller is helping with this.

Mayor Criswell stated that the city of Citronelle wanted to rent our ditch cutter but they were turned down.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Building Inspector, Don Moss was out but Mayor reported that Mr. Moss has got a commitment from 3 companies on Radcliff Rd for \$15,000.00(\$5,000.00 each company) to help pay for the bridge repairs. Mr. Horton, who purchased the mobile home park on Dead Lake Road, will also be purchasing the park on Ellison Avenue. He will be adding 21 new trailers in the park on Ellison and 221 trailers for the parks on Dead Lake Rd and Bentley Road. Mayor states he will be bringing in the drawings to the planning and zoning board for review. He is working really well with us.

Mayor reported that we have new homes under construction in the city. We have issued 43 permits pulled in addition to the mobile home parks.

MAYOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Criswell reported that he has been talking with Mr. John McDonald of Integra Water/Sewer and Lemoyne Water. It is important that we do the best we can to unite these two in some way.

Mayor Criswell reported that he has been in contact with Mr. Corey Hudson with HPD Industrial services next door. He does all the building repairs for the plants.

Mayor has asked Mr. Hudson to help write specifications for the old fire building.

There is a hole in the roof in the back, the soffit boards are falling off and the porches are rotten off. Mayor and Mr. Hudson inspected the roof and to replace what decking that is damaged on it, stripping it with 2x4s, treated lumbar, a metal roof and metal soffit, metal gamble end, we will get an estimate including metal roof, gable ends and include this estimate in the budget. We will put out for bids.

The 26-guage roof, the 26-gauge soffit boards, including labor will be \$17,000.00 is the estimate that he come up with for budget.

We will have an insurance inspection in March or April by AMIC.

Mayor Criswell stated that we will run numbers out for Sally Port. When an Officer brings in someone they will be contained in that area. A 24x24 will be approximately \$16,000.00 for budget. That will be going out for bids to 3 companies.

Mr. Hudson will look at Old city hall. He stated that one of his employees specializes in mold eradication. He will write up specs in 3-6 months.

Mayor Criswell also stated that the insurance was cancelled on the old city hall due to the mold and it still leaks.

We are doing some clean up on Saturday morning. We will be headed up to the old Acordis dumping site for the operation clean sweep for North Mobile County, 7am-1:30pm.

Mayor asked about the BP grant. Councilwoman Green stated that it will be a couple of more months before they make a decision on what projects will be funded.

Mayor states that repairs to the 2 bridges on Radcliff will bring back to the next meeting. Councilman Martin reminded everyone to use the clean up day this Saturday from 7am-1:30pm.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adjournment

Councilman Walker made a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Moss seconded, all favored, none opposed, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned @6:50pm