

CITY HALL
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CITY OF CREOLA
Since 1978

MAYOR'S OFFICE
Phone 251-675-8142
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MAYOR
Donald Nelson

CITY CLERK
Marcy Brown

CITY COUNCIL
Kendal Hadaway
James Brown
Wendy Lynch
Harold Parmer
Mark Howell

MAGISTRATES
Linda Hoiles
Christie Bryant

Minutes of the City of Creola Council Meeting
Thursday, February 27, 2025
Creola City Hall
Meeting 6:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Creola, Alabama, met in the Creola City Hall at 5:30 p.m. A workshop was held before the Council Meeting, at 5:30 p.m. Present at the meeting were Mark Howell, Harold Parmer, Kendal Hadaway, James Brown, and Mayor Don Nelson. Items that were discussed were:

- a. GoMesa Resolution 2025-001
- b. Retiree Insurance
- c. Muni Code \$1,000

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The regular council meeting was called to order by Mayor Don Nelson at 6:00 p.m. We were led in prayer by Mr. Bill Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nelson. Rollcall was taken by City Clerk Marcy Brown. Present at the meeting were Mark Howell, Harold Parmer, James Brown, Kendal Hadaway, Wendy Lynch, and Mayor Nelson. City Attorney Danny Mims was present.

Item #5 -Approval of the Minutes –

The minutes of the February 13, 2025, meeting was reviewed. Mr. Parmer made a motion to accept the minutes of February 13, 2025. Mr. Howell seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.

Item #6- Financials/Bill List-

The bills were discussed. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the bill list for February 27, 2025, as presented. Mr. Hadaway seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.

The financials were discussed. If anyone would like to see the reports, they are welcome to stop by the city hall. Bank balances were presented. Mr. Howell made a motion to accept the financials as presented for February 27, 2025. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.

Item #7 - Departmental Reports –

Police Dept.- Chief Stringer stated that all is going well, and the contractors were almost finished with the station.

Fire Dept. – Engine 1 is still in the repair shop as well as the ladder truck.

Park Dept. – The Veterans Memorial is in Georgia being engraved, along with the benches.

SAIL Center Dept – Countertops have been ordered.

Building Inspector – No report given.

Zoning Board – Mr. Chambers stated that they are still working on the plans and drawings for the manufactured homes.

John Loden Sr. is resigning from the Zoning and Planning Board due to failing health and a replacement is being sought.

Board of Adjustment – No report given.

Public Works Department –. Cutting limbs on the road and getting ready for grass cutting season.

Item #8-New Business-

- a. **GOMESA Grant Resolution 2025-001** –The City of Creola has been awarded a one-million-dollar recreational grant. Mr. Howell made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-001 for the GOMESA Grant. Mr. Parmer seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- b. **Municode** – Municode hosts our ordinances and resolution online but due to the excessive cost to the city, we have stopped using their services. However, in order to regain our business, they are offering it to Creola at a yearly cost of \$1000.

Mr. Parmer made a motion to approve the new yearly cost of \$1,000 to Municode/CivicPlus. Mr. Hadaway seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.

- c. **Retiree Insurance** – LGHIP insurance has a new plan for cities that do not offer health insurance after an employee retires. This cost would be paid completely by the employee and not the city. After a discussion, Mrs. Lynch wanted to table the item until she could review it further.

d. Item #9 Mayor Comments

David Boucher addressed the mayor and council about getting boons for the spill that occurred when a houseboat sank. The boons would keep the spill from going into the water. Mr. Boucher also asked for help in keeping the oil and gas from seeping into the creek at Crenshaw Park. After a discussion and ideas being shared, Mayor Nelson said that he would call different agencies the next morning.

Mayor Nelson opened the floor for public discussion from the citizens who showed up trying to stop the manufactured home project.

Loraine Broadway stated that she was against the manufactured home project stating she did not want a repeat of the former park that was located there.

Quinton Richardson stated that he was against the park for fear of it being the same as it was many years ago.

David Boucher inquired as to if LeMoyne Water had enough water, could Alabama Power provide electricity, could Integra manage the addition add ons to the system? Mr. Moss responded by saying that they had received letters from all of the utility companies stating that they could manage the additional homes. Mr. Moss also stated that a traffic study was being done and that there would be sixty-seven homes being installed on Bentley Road, fifty-two of which were double-wide and five were single wide.

Dora Montgomery did not want the park, neither did Council woman Wendy Lynch and Brooklyn Hamm.

Mayor Nelson and David Moss stated that the manufactured home park rules would be enforced and monitored very carefully. Mrs. Lynch stated that we did not have enough officers to police the park, but Chief Stringer assured her that we would be able to patrol and enforce the law. We currently have nine full-time and two part-time workers as well as reserve officers. Mrs. Lynch also was concerned that the fire department wouldn't be able handle the additional population.

Mr. Howell stated that they were right in their comments on how it used to be, but the new owner is a completely different owner with higher expectations. Mrs. Lynch stated that there were only four mortgage companies that created mortgages and that if they did not get approved, their owners would be given a chance to lease to own a home.

Brooklyn Hamm stated that she was against the manufactured home park and wanted to know what she could do to stop this project. She also stated that the meetings were not posted on social media or other places, and the city clerk pointed out that she might have to scroll, but all public hearings have been posted on social media and in four other places.

Mayor Nelson stated that if there were questions that had not been discussed, please give the question to clerk Marcy Brown and answers would be gathered. He also shared that in 2000 Judge Pittman summoned him to Federal Court and informed him that he could not refuse a manufactured home park from being built in zone R3. This is federal law. Mayor Nelson also stated that we are looking at hiring a full-time fire chief that could manage the increased population.


One citizen stated that he did not have a problem with it because if they were compliant and stayed compliant then there was nothing he could do.

Owen Gates spoke to the crowd and assured them that he would not be like the former parks and that his company did not allow their residents to be unruly, bring rough crowds, or promote drugs, and that he would have security on all of his properties 24/7 and if rules were broken they would be fined. . He also stated that he would stay after the meeting to answer any and all questions.

Mr. Howell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Parmer seconded it. All in favor and the motion was carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.



Don Nelson
Mayor



Marcy Brown
City Clerk