

CITY HALL
9615 Old Hwy. 43
P.O. Box 490
Creola, AL 36525-0490



CITY OF CREOLA
Since 1978

MAYOR'S OFFICE
Phone 251-675-8142
Fax 251-930-1877

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, August 28, 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, James Brown, and Mayor Don Nelson. Items that were discussed were:

- a.** Lacey Bahus from Retail Strategies introduced her services that could help the city grow strategically.

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. Carl Walker. Mayor Don Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Marcy Brown, City Clerk. Present at the meeting were Mark Howell, Harold Parmer, James Brown, Wendy Lynch, and Mayor Nelson. Kendal Hadaway was absent. City Attorney Teresa Williams was present, filling in for Danny Mims.

Item #5 -Approval of the Minutes –

The minutes of the August 14, 2025, meeting were reviewed. Mr. Parmer made a motion to accept the minutes of August 14, 2025. Mr. Brown 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 August 28, 2025, as presented, with the exception of checking on the Sun Auto Tire account making sure it isn't over billed. Mrs. Lynch 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 August 28, 2025. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Item #7 - Departmental Reports –

Police Dept. -

Chief Stringer states that:

- Mattresses and sheets have arrived for the jail and will be utilized.
- Metro jail will still be used in extreme cases involving severe medical issues or mental illness.
- One of the newer Tahoe's had its motor go out and is being replaced under warranty by Chatom Motors.
- Other vehicle issues included AC, brakes, and a service job.
- Processing people arrested with warrants will resume, which should increase court funds.
- Discussion was made about who waxed the floors in the police station and senior center previously.
- The police department floors look rough, possibly due to construction.
- There is a plan to strip, seal, and wax the floors, and fix missing tiles.

Fire Dept. –

- Mr. Parmer wants a detailed report showing the number of runs, their locations (city limits, jurisdiction, mutual aid), and other relevant information. The fire department has been keeping up with training hours, runs, procedure limits, jurisdiction, mutual aid, and runs per person, this is due to a limit placed on manpower. Reports have already eliminated two people because they haven't been active in over a year.

Park Dept. – No report given

SAIL Center Dept – Discussion was made on the awnings to be cleaned or replaced. Further discussion at the next meeting will be held.

Building Inspector – No report given.

Zoning Board –

- Discussion about floodplain requirements.
- A man wants to use a septic tank because it is far from the road to run sewer.
- There is a need to revisit the rules regarding septic tanks in certain circumstances.
- Concerns about the reliability of pumps used for long distances.
- Concerns about Integra requiring the purchase of their pumps.

Board of Adjustment –

- A lady requested to place a manufactured home in an area with new homes, raising a compatibility issue.
- The board of adjustments will likely need to address footage on property lines. There is currently no limit, but the board may need to consider this, especially concerning field lines.

Public Works Dept. -

- Smith Forrest Road was dragged, and there are plans to build up a crown and restore ditches.
- A second bear sign will be placed in Jackson after a bear knocked over a garbage can. Bears have been seen crossing Halls Branch road at all hours.
- The new lawnmower broke down and is under warranty.
- A new employee with experience in lawn maintenance was hired.
- Discussions were held with the crew about their performance cutting around Mr. Threadgill's house.
- A spray tank was acquired for weed control after weed eating.
- The department is addressing issues like limbs hitting campers.

Item #8-New Business-

- Fire Reimbursement** - Mayor Nelson wants to get firefighters paid a little money to come to meetings and respond to calls. Other cities like Citronelle and Mount Vernon offer some form of compensation to their firefighters. Mayor Nelson suggests \$10 per run, \$10 per meeting night, and \$10 per training day as a small way of saying thank you and encouraging involvement. A worksheet could be developed for firefighters to document their runs and events, validated by the captain or fire chief. Mr. Purl stated that the department has software to track medical runs, MVAs, and other data which could be used to generate reports for reimbursement purposes.
- Tree Trimming** - Tree trimming was done in Sheffield Circle. The county's side cutter was used on Ellison Avenue. Work is planned for Long Road, South Bentley, and Radcliff.
- County Equipment** - County equipment will be present for about six more weeks.
- Mulching** - Request for mulching was made. Coastal mulching and cleaning quoted \$16,550 for mulching everything on 2.5 acres (less than 4 inches). Another individual quoted \$175/hour, estimated at \$12,000 for 10 days. Considering using a bulldozer to push over trees larger than 4 inches, pile them, and burn them.
- ALM Training** - ALM training is available in Daphne, Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, and Montgomery in October/November. It is recommended to get 10 hours of credit, but it is not mandatory at this time.
- Budget 2025-2026** - Working on the 2025-2026 budget.
 - a. Two capital items: lawnmower and a car.
 - b. Suggestion to consider a new truck for the street department.

Item #9 Mayor Comments

The mayor states that:

- Lance and his team did an excellent job at Sheffield Circle, removing a tree that had fallen. A request has been submitted for phase three money at the park, and engineering work is underway. The mayor sent an email with the schedule and timeline.
- Phase three is about \$100,000, which is the engineering part.
- 29 bricks are coming, and Mike will install them next week.
- Elevations were checked, and it appears 20,000-60,000 gallons of water per day will need to be discharged. Gravity feed with a pump is planned, using a 3-inch line (possibly needing a 2-inch line). A three-foot fall is needed, which is available near the pump house. Considering a retention pond in the northwest corner of the new land. Satsuma and Saraland's recirculate water, but it's expensive to purify. Gravity feeding into the ditch was considered but there are a lot of lines out there. Bidding should start in the next couple of weeks.
- Meeting with John Cooper to ask for more money through A-Trip (Alabama Department of Transportation). Requesting one million dollars. Surveying is being done in the morning. Discussion on ending the crossover and creating a U-turn is being done. There is only one way in and out of the neighborhood, with approximately 100 houses. A second exit would require acquiring land from property owners next to the railroad track. There is a ditch and possibly a creek in the area.
- A gentleman with 150 acres off Creac Road is likely to bring his property into Creola. He has three large parcels of land. The aim is to have his signature at the next council meeting.
- Meeting scheduled with Mr. Kamal, possibly a store manager or owner from Mount Vernon, to show him around Creola.

Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Lynch seconded it. All in favor, and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.



Don Nelson
Mayor



Marcy Brown
City Clerk