

CITY HALL  
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CITY OF CREOLA  
Since 1978

**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 12, 2026  
Creola City Hall  
Meeting 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, Diana Lambert, Wendy Lynch, and Mayor Don Nelson. City Attorney Danny Mimms was present.

**Item #5 -Approval of the Minutes –**

The minutes of the January 22, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Mr. Parmer made a motion to accept the minutes of January 21, 2026. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Item #6- Financials/Bill List -**

Mr. Don Wallace, CPA, was present and presented the FY 2025 audit. He was pleased with the audit, and the city has no material weaknesses or deficiencies.

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. General funds are \$964,398 and the grand total for all funds is \$1,150,330.34. There are plans to remove some Gomesa money from the account. Howell made a motion to accept the financial and bank balances as presented for February 12, 2026. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

The bills were discussed. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the bill list for February 12, 2026, as presented. Mr. Parmer seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

## **Item #7 - Departmental Reports –**

**Police Dept.** – The chief is working on putting black stripes on the white truck.

- Discussion about issues with Tahoe's, considering Fords instead.
- State troopers have had similar problems with Tahoe's.
- One Tahoe's motor has been replaced twice; another is having electrical issues.
- A vehicle that was hit will be back on Monday.
- Electrical issues with a vehicle where the horn comes on and locks the truck.
- Possibly due to how lights and radio were installed, causing shorts.
- Suggestion to consider ordering vehicles already rigged out to avoid aftermarket installations. Cost of rigging out a vehicle with lights can range from \$12,000 to \$20,000.

**Fire Department** – Call volumes for January were provided. Mr. Howell questioned using a fire truck for a medical call instead of a smaller truck. Typically, smaller trucks or brush trucks are used. Equipping one of those with medical bagging.

- SCBAs (self-contained breathing apparatus) need to be replaced. A grant was received for new ones. We need a total of 23, currently we have 15. The city would have to match 5% of the grant, which is \$10,933.80 of the total \$218,676. The city would have to fund the whole thing and then get reimbursement from FEMA. FEMA is to make payments on a reimbursement basis within 30 days after receipt of payment request unless FEMA reasonably believes the request to be improper.

- EMA is calling it the "new FEMA" and is pleased with the changes since President Trump came into office. Three different company reps came to the station to demo air packs and provide quotes.

Responder Safety Learning Network is a third party that will track and document training. A one-time fee of \$495 is requested from the city to set up an admin account. Mr. Kendal Hadaway, Jacob, and other officers would have access to roll down training to current and new members. It would document CE and training records.

A motion made by Mr. Howell and seconded by Mr. Brown to pay the one-time fee of \$495 for the Responder Safety Learning Network. All in favor and the motion was carried.

**Park Dept.** – No Report given.

**SAIL Center Dept** – No report given.

**Building Inspector** – No report given.

**Zoning Board** – Meeting next Tuesday with the zone board. Mr. Hicks is considering rezoning property. Tom Ellison is going to show his 2 or 300 acres in some kind of call center or data center.

**Board of Adjustment** – No report given.

**Public Works Dept.** – The street department has done a tremendous job on the ditch.

## Item #8-New Business-

- a. **Don Wallace, 2025 Audit** - Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the FY 2025 audit as presented and seconded by Mr. Parmer. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- b. **Bid Package for Pickle Ball Court** – Mayor Nelson stated that he had sent a 90-plus page bid document was sent via email. Danny advised that everything looks kosher. The engineer will supervise the work and approve payments. Mr. Howell made a motion to approve the plans and to advertise the bidding of the project for the pickleball courts and the golf course. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- c. **ALM Voting Delegate - Voting Delegates** - Need to select a voting delegate and two alternates. Mr. Parmer nominated Mr. Howell as the primary delegate for the ALM Convention, Mr. Brown as the first alternate, and Ms. Lambert as the second alternate. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- d. **Resolution 2026-004 Retirement Resolution** - An option from the retirement system allows employees to cash in sick time towards retirement, up to 18 months early. This converts sick time to the retirement system, spreading payments over years and easing the burden on the city's general funds. A resolution was presented recommending this option, allowing those with 351 days to retire 18 months early, however, this was tabled to give council more time to review.
- e. **Shipping Cost for Storage Ladder** – The council approved \$709 for the storage ladder but it did not include shipping. Shipping will cost an additional \$300. Mr. Brown made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Howell to increase the approved amount to \$1100 to cover shipping. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- f. **Commercial/Industrial Fee Update** - The current residential rate would only generate about \$600-\$1600 in fees, while the commercial rate would generate around \$6,000. A change to the business license may be needed to reflect the commercial rate. The council will review the issue and discuss it at the next meeting.
- g. **United Bank CD** – Mayor Nelson had a financial meeting and discussed CDs and interest rates to generate income from the general fund. The idea is to start with \$50,000 on a CD, with terms of six months, a year, or three months being considered. United Bank presented CD options, with six-month terms paying 3.88%. United Bank was recommended due to higher interest rates and existing relationships. A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Parmer to put \$50,000 into a six-month CD with United Bank. The motion passed.
- h. **Trustmark & Line of Credit** – The city needs an increased line of credit of approximately \$1 million dollars for the GOMESA park grant. Trust Mark has looked at our financials and will have no problem opening it up for the city. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve letting Trust Mark Bank open a \$1 million line of credit for the construction of the pickle ball courts and disc golf course. Mr. Parmer seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- i. **Board of Adjustment – Supernumerary** – Mr. Parmer made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Howell to appoint Mr. Hudson as an alternate supernumerary on the Board of Adjustment. All in favor and the motion was carried.
- j. **Lieutenant Position** - A motion was made by Mr. Brown to promote Officer McConico to lieutenant and was seconded by Mayor Nelson. Mayor Nelson had passed the gavel to mayor pro tempore Mr. Howell to proceed with the second. Mr. Howell called for a roll

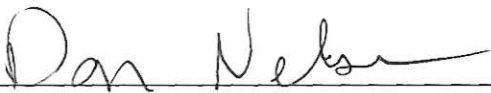
call vote: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Abstain; Council member Palmer: Abstain; Council member Howell: No; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed with majority vote – 3 YES, 1 NO

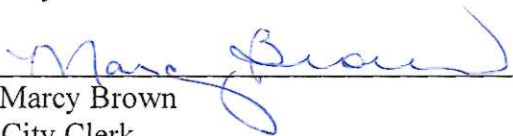
- k. **Church Request for SAIL Center Use - Crossway** Overcometh Holiness Church requested to reserve the Senior Citizen Building for May 2, 2026, for a church function (baby shower). A motion was made by Mr. Bown and seconded by Mr. Parmer to waive the fee for the baby shower. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Item #9 Mayor Comments**

The city was one of 25 cities that got an ATRIP project awarded this year. Bridge inspection is coming around the corner. They will check the two structures on Radcliff Road. The council wanted a survey of the Sutton property. Atty Danny Mims stated that the Mediacom Contract had a couple of changes to the contract. Danny reached out to the Media Con representative, but he was out of the office. Danny recommends tabling the discussion until the next meeting.

Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Howell seconded it. All in favor, and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

  
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Don Nelson  
Mayor

  
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Marcy Brown  
City Clerk