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
Diana Lambet
James Brown
Wendy Lynch
Harold Parmer
Mark Howell

MAGISTRATES
Linda Hoiles
Christie Bryant

Minutes of the City of Creola Council Meeting
Thursday, April 23 2026
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 Harold Parmer, James Brown, Diana Lambert, Wendy Lynch, and Mayor Don Nelson. Items that were discussed were:

a. 4th of July celebration update
b. Park Equipment Repair
d. Disabled Vets
e. Gateway Grant
f. GOMESA Submission
g. Police Building Plat Review
h. SCBAs
i. Field Reservations – Kendall Hadaway
j. Ordinance 2026-001
k. Certificate Request Form
l. Rezoning request of William Howard Hill
m. 2026 Pay As You Go
n. Executive Session
o. Fire Chief contract

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 Harold Parmer, Wendy Lynch, James Brown, Diana Lambert, and Mayor Don Nelson. Council Member Mark Howell was absent. City Attorney Danny Mimms was present.

Item #5 -Approval of the Minutes –

The minutes of the April 9, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Mr. Parmer made a motion to accept the minutes of April 9, 2026. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Item #6- Financials/Bill List –

The financials were discussed. If anyone would like to view the reports, they are welcome to visit City Hall.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to approve the bank balances dated April 9, 2026. All in favor and the motion was carried.

The bills were discussed. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the bill list for April 23, 2026, as presented. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Item #7 - Departmental Reports –

Police Dept. –Chief Stringer stated that two officers were involved in wrecks. The interim chief at Jackson has vehicles they are getting rid of. Chief Taylor is still struggling and needs another surgery and testing for a liver transplant.

Fire Department – The ladder truck broke down in Ashton, Alabama. The mayor stated that they turned in paperwork to the county commission and are expecting $12,500. The repair on the truck was $9,800, transport was around $2,000, and inspection was $750.

The total cost for the SCBAs is $218,676, and the city is responsible for 5% of that.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to approve the 5% for the SCBAs for the volunteer fire department to secure the quote. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Proposal to purchase a Panasonic Toughbook laptop for the fire chief's vehicle. The total cost: $548.99 for the laptop, $345.99 for the mount, making the total cost: $895.

Mr. Brown made a motion, and Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion to purchase the tough book computer and mount for the fire department for $895.00. All in favor and the motion was carried.

Upcoming rope training scheduled for Tuesday. Previous training involved rappelling off a bridge. New ropes have been purchased, with plans for a second set for another truck. A log is maintained for the ropes.

Park Dept. – Mr. Kendal Hadaway requested to reserve fields for 10U, 12U, and 15U teams. Aim to create a schedule for park league teams, not travel ball teams. Anticipated number of teams: approximately ten teams. Current usage by younger teams has been noted, with a significant increase in participation. While the council did not object, they wanted to consult with Mr. Howell to see if he agreed as well.

SAIL Center Dept - No report given.

Building Inspector – No report given.

Zoning Board – Zoning board finished upgrading their books. People need to be aware of data centers coming in. Mr. Chambers thanked the council for allowing them to go to the zoning conference.

Board of Adjustment – No report given.

Public Works Dept. – Mayor Nelson stated that the bumper guard was repaired at Kenny Kennedy's house with added visibility striping. Discussion on street resurfacing projects: Three projects proposed, each costing about $300,000. Projects include resurfacing Marina Road, Jackson and Lister Dairy intersection, and a section in front of city hall.

Mr. Brown made a motion, and Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion to send projects for county approval for inclusion in the pay-as-you-go plan for 2026. All in favor and the motion was carried.

Item #8-New Business-

a. **ORDINANCE 2026-001 -** The 2026 COUNTY OF MOBILE TRANSPORTATION PAY-AS-YOU-GO PROGRAM. Commissioner Ludgood requested the City of Criola to provide a selection of roads for the 2026 program. The city council is requesting the county commission to consider certain roads for the 2026 program. The roads to be considered: Marina Road (2600ft), Lister Dairy -I65 Service Rd and Jackson Road intersection (2600ft), and Old Highway 43 at City Hall (2600ft) from daylight Road.
   Mr. Brown made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2026-001, and Mr. Parmer seconded the motion.
   Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Absent; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.

   Mr. Brown made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of Ordinance 2026-001 Pay As You Go and seconded by Mr. Parmer.
   Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Absent; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.

Mr. Brown made a motion to pass Ordinance 2026-001 Pay As You Go and seconded by Mr. Parmer.
Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Absent; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.

b. **4th of July Food Truck –** Mrs. Lambert made a motion to allow Smackin Food Truck to sell food on the 4th of July event. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.
c. **Flags and Frames for the 4th of July –** Mr. Brown made a motion and seconded by Mr. Parmer to purchase picture frames for copies of the Constitution and to purchase one hundred flags to line the road into the park. The flags would cost approximately $100 plus shipping. All in favor and the motion was carried.
d. **Playground Equipment** – A motion was made by Mr. Parmer and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to order the playground equipment parts and replace and repair as needed for $5605.10. All in favor, and the motion was carried.
e. **Police Department Plans** – A schematic package was handed out by the firm overseeing the design of the police department building. The project is in the 15-20% completion phase of contract documents and has completed the schematic design phase. The chief has approved the floor plan after several revisions, with the dispatch area as the last to be modified for flexibility.
A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Parmer to approve the schematic plans presented by Adam Stewart Architects, subject to further recommendations and changes. All in favor and the motion was carried.
f. Zoning Board Ruling – After a discussion on the request made by Howard Hill regarding his request to change the zoning of his property, a motion was made by Mr. Parmer and seconded by Mrs. Lambert to affirm the Zoning Board's decision to not change the current zoning.
Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Abstain; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Absent; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.
g. Executive Session - Attorney Danny Mims read the following excerpt from Alabama Code §36-25A-7(a)(1) regarding Executive sessions, stating that they may be held by a governmental body only for the following purposes:
(1) To discuss the general reputation and character, physical condition, professional competence, or mental health of individuals, or, subject to the limitations set out herein, to discuss the job performance of certain public employees. However, except as provided elsewhere in this section, discussions of the job performance of specific public officials or specific public employees may not be discussed in executive session if the person is an elected or appointed public official, an appointed member of a state or local board or commission, or a public employee who is one of the classification of public employees required to file a statement of economic interests with the Alabama Ethics Commission pursuant to Section §36-25-14 . Except as provided elsewhere in this section, the salary, compensation, and job benefits of specific public officials or specific public employees may not be discussed in executive session.

Mr. Brown made a motion to leave the regular session and enter Executive session for purpose of discussion of items falling under §36-25A-7 (a)(1) and then to return to the regular session after the executive session is over, approximately 20 minutes. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Yes; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.

h. **Fire Chief Position –** After returning from executive session, A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Parmer to approve Jacob Pearl as the fire chief for the volunteer fire department.
Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Absent; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.

i. **Fire Chief Contract -** Motion made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Lambert to hire Jacob Purl per the contract with a starting salary of $57,000 with step increases in six months ($61,000), and $65,000 at one year, subject to Attorney Mim's changes. The mayor would have the authority to execute the contract.
Roll Call: Council member Lambert: Yes; Council member Brown: Yes; Council member Lynch: Yes; Council member Palmer: Yes; Council member Howell: Yes; Mayor Nelson: Yes; Motion was passed.

j. Item #9 Mayor Comments

Mr. Parmer made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Mr. Brown at 7:59 p.m. All in favor, and the meeting was adjourned.

Don Nelson
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Don Nelson
Mayor

Marcy Brown
____
Marcy Brown
City Clerk