

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 Lambert
James Brown
Wendy Lynch
Harold Parmer
Mark Howell

MAGISTRATES
Linda Hoiles
Christie Bryant

Minutes of the City of Creola Council Meeting
Thursday, July 23, 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 Mayor Don Nelson. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Don Nelson. Roll call was taken by City Clerk Marcy Brown. Present at the meeting was Mark Howell, Harold Parmer, Wendy Lynch, James Brown, Diana Lambert, and Mayor Nelson. City Attorney Danny Mims was also present.

Item #5 - Approval of the Minutes – The minutes of the July 9, 2026, regular meeting was reviewed. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Item #6- Financials/Bill List-

Mayor Nelson gave an update on the finances and bank balances. The current balance is \$634,000. Mr. Parmer made a motion to approve the bank balances as of 7/23/2026 as presented. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the bill list as of 7/23/2026 as presented. Mr. Howell seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Item #7 - Departmental Reports –

Police Dept. – A lot of money is being spent on thumb drives. No clear decision to implement a charge for thumb drives for criminal discovery, with strong pushback on constitutional grounds. The suggestion to request lawyers/defendants to provide their own sealed thumb drives was discussed.

Vehicle Maintenance: A 2018 Tahoe is undergoing transmission service in Citronelle due to running warm (no codes). Mr. Parmer was thanked for his personal time spent on vehicle maintenance, saving the city money. Contingency plan: two officers can ride in one vehicle if short on automobiles.

Online Class Credits: Difficulty with online classes and credits not showing up (typically takes six weeks).

Upcoming Courses: A "loss control course" is being held in Saraland at the municipal center (\$30-\$35, provides CEU credit). Information sought on classes at Beville State Community College for all of their credits.

Fire Department - Fire Safety Week: Fire department usually hosts an event and goes to schools. Reminder given.

Sail Center – Civic Center Rental and Sales Center Printer/

Civic Center Rental Fee:

- Current senior citizen rental fee: \$550 (\$300 due 48 hours before event).
- Proposed fee increase: \$100, raising the total to \$650 (actual cost to renter after deposit return would be \$400).
- Creola is the lowest in Mobile County for civic center rentals; a \$100 increase would likely keep it below most others.
- Usage: Many non-Creola residents rent due to low rates. Renters have the facility all day until 10 PM.
- City Costs: Dana is paid to unlock/lock and clean the facility if renters do not.

Mrs. Lynch made a motion and seconded by Mr. Brown to increase the rental fee for the sales center to \$650. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Rental Agreement:

- Mr. Mims stated that the current agreement needs "more teeth," upgrading, and rewriting. No enforcement beyond deposit.
- There is concern that renters forfeit cleanup fees, leading to unknown conditions.
- Mr. Mims asked Gena Daniels to draft a new rental agreement, separating the park/pavilion from the sales center. The revised agreement will be sent to him for approval.

Sail Center Printer: The old printer is "dead." Used by Dana and Freida for reports (approx. once a week).

- Recommendation: Purchase a simple printer (\$100-\$115 model).

Mrs. Lynch made a motion and seconded by Mr. Bron to purchase a printer for the sales center, up to \$150, from the SAIL center fund. All in favor and the motion was carried.

Park Dept. –Playground Equipment Installation: APSO is scheduled to install playground equipment tomorrow at 6:30 AM. Johnny needs to transport the equipment using a front loader. Invitation to attend at 7:00 AM

Public Works Department – Staff is working diligently, with Harold assisting and Johnny working on equipment this weekend.

opening, waiting until the next meeting when Chief Purl is present. Mr. Howell seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

Bid Details:

- o **Bid 1:** (Sunbelt Firebase Cost: \$218,676. Optional 3-year service contract: \$2,530 per year (includes fit test and flow test).
- o **Bid 2 (Nafco):** Base Cost: \$225,377. Optional Services: \$11,600 (includes straps, kits, escape belt, other options).
- o **Bid 3 (EEP):** Base Cost: \$228,448.19. Optional Items: \$2,570.06.

Discussion on Bids:

- o Need to study bid criteria and optional items.
- o Optional items are not required.
- o Initial cost covers "the whole airbag and cylinder and mask. That just gets everything working."
- o Typical life of SCBA equipment is 15 years.

FEMA Grant Requirements:

- o The bid is regulated by a FEMA grant. Equipment must meet FEMA requirements.

b. Building Roof Repair:

- a. Two bids received: Mr. Eubanks (\$6,500) and Mr. Morris (\$7,850).
- b. Plan is to patch the roof, not replace all trusses.

Mr. Parmer made a motion and seconded by Mr. Howell to approve Mr. Eubanks to repair the roof for \$6,500. All in favor and the motion was carried.

This will be paid from "our funds," insurance is expected to cover the cost. Reimbursed funds may go back into the general fund or a building fund. Potential to use any surplus towards air conditioning.

- c. **Chief Conference in Orange Beach** – Mr. Parmer made a motion to send Mr. Shane Stringer to the Chief Conference in Orange Beach. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was carried.

Item #9 - Citizens to Address Council –

Item #10 - Mayor's Comments – Mayor Nelson stated that we need ideas for the budget. Possibility of a budget class with the auditor.

Tim Foster Land: Landowner willing to sell two tracts: 4 acres next to the senior center and 2 acres next to the church (total 6 acres).

Mayor Nelson will talk to Mr. Foster to determine the price and bring information to the next meeting.

31-Acre Land Purchase (Gunnison Creek):

The city applied for and received a Gomesa grant to purchase 31 acres by the Chevron station on Gunnison Creek.

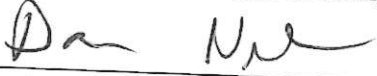
Property appraised at \$184,000. The city is paying \$184,000, with all costs being refunded by Gomesa. Due diligence (survey, environmental impact) is complete, except for mobile title

processing. Permanent fixtures quote: \$1,800 from the survey company, approved by Jeremiah, covered by the grant.

Mr. Howell made a motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Parmer, to approve Mayor Nelson executing the amended purchase agreement and proceed with closing. All in favor, and the motion was carried.

Land North of 0.43: A piece of land north of 0.43, past a storage shed, is for sale and handled by a realtor. Previous estimated price range: \$100,000-\$155,000. Mayor will talk to the owner again.

Mr. Parmer made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion. All in favor, and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Don Nelson
Mayor



Marcy Brown
City Clerk