Crossett City Council met in regular session April 16, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossett Library.

Roll call vote was taken as follows:

Present: Mayor Scott McCormick, City Attorney James Hamilton

Councilmember’s: Valerie Martin, Crystal Marshall, Eddie Rowe, CT Foster, Lynn Rodgers

Tardy: James Knight

Absent: Clerk/Treasurer Jesse Walthall

Mayor McCormick called the meeting to order with prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Minutes of the regular March 19 meeting as well as special meetings of April 3 and April 9 were presented. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Marshall to approve all minutes. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve financial reports as reviewed at April 9 meeting. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick presented proposed Resolution honoring Mr. Jerry Brantley for service on the Crossett Library Board. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilwoman Rodgers to have City Attorney read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read resolution. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Marshall to adopt as Resolution R-2018-3. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution R-2018-3 was adopted. Councilmembers expressed gratitude to Mr. Brantley. Mr. Brantley stated that he was truly honored and appreciated the city officials.

A resolution memorializing intent to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for equipment for Crossett Recreation was presented by Mayor McCormick. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to have city attorney read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and CA Hamilton read the resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to adopt the resolution as R-2018-4. Roll call vote. All vote yes and Resolution R-2018-4 was adopted.

Mayor McCormick stated that Shelley Carter, chairman of the Crossett Recreation Commission has asked that the council consider adding two members to the current board. Mrs. Carter asked council to approve appointment of Marcelino Reed and Josh Hartley to the commission. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Foster to approve the appointments. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick asked council for any other old business.

Councilwoman Rodgers stated that she has been in touch with employees at Austin and Son’s Pest Control concerning mosquito spraying for the city. She was told that spraying was scheduled to begin tonight (April 16). She requested that a contract be prepared for the service and include a stipulation for reporting to the council on a regular basis.

Councilwoman Rodgers asked for updates on grants for sewer project. Mike Smith, director of Crossett Economic Development Foundation, stated that two grant applications have been submitted – Delta Regional Authority and Economic Development Authority.

Councilwoman Rodgers asked if any progress has been made in regards to city planner. Mayor McCormick stated that he has a few names but hasn’t made contact.

Councilwoman Rodgers apologized for no updates on street and sanitation committee.

In new business, Mayor McCormick introduced Mr. David Anderson, Crossett Library Director. Mr. Anderson updated the council on the annual projects for the library. He added that the library currently holds around $4.8 million in assets. Council appreciated Mr. Anderson and the Library Board for a job well done.

On behalf of District Judge, Reid Harrod, Mayor McCormick presented an agreement between the City of Crossett and The Justice Network. This agreement allows for the Crossett District Court to utilize the services of The Justice Network in collecting probation fees or public service work as the judge sentences. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Foster to have Mayor McCormick execute the agreement. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick presented the 2016 Legislative Audit to the council. Mayor McCormick stated that the only finding for the city is concerning internet security and password protection criteria for Crossett Library. Mr. Anderson explained that the Library uses Quickbooks and the criteria for security is not as strenuous as Legislative Audit requires. He added that they are making changes to meet the requirements. All other comments were supplemental findings and all comments were answered with letters.

Councilwoman Martin asked about status of 3rd party billing contract. City Attorney Hamilton explained that the letter issued just reminds the council that it cannot appropriated funds for but one year. The council can however sign the agreement and show intent to appropriate the money for the endurance of the contract

Councilwoman Rodgers asked if any of the council members have been able to look over the drug free workplace ordinance presented. She has concerns and would like for this to be discussed in more details at the regular May meeting.

Councilwoman Marshall updated the council on park project. She stated that the biggest issue at the park is the broken concrete debris and stumps, which tear up city equipment. She would for the city to consider having someone clear up to 8” on each side of the sidewalk. She expressed interest in asking the forestry commission to consider a controlled burn in the area. Councilwoman Marshall also would like for the city to consider an Adopt a Park program.

Councilwoman Martin asked Mayor McCormick about Tree City USA. With renewed interest in the city, she asked that a committee be formed to look into this. Mayor McCormick asked Councilwoman Martin to pursue this matter.

Councilwoman Rodgers asked the status of the 2020 census. Director of Public Works, Jeff Harrison, stated that he and Kesha Campbell recently attended a meeting in Monticello concerning the census. The city of Crossett is on schedule and verifying addresses. Mr. Harrison added that James Hartshorn’s company does these censuses at no charge to the city. He has spoken with Mr. Hartshorn about working with the city.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned.

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Jesse Walthall, Clerk/Treasurer Marshall S. McCormick, Mayor