Crossett City Council met in regular session October 21, 2019 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: Cary Carter, Crystal Marshall, Dale Martinie, CT Foster, Crystal Marshall and Sheila Phillips

Absent: Clerk/Treasurer Jesse Walthall, Councilman James Knight

Mayor McCormick called the meeting to order with prayer and pledge allegiance to the flag.

Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Marshall to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2019 regular meeting and the October 1, 2019 special meeting. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Foster to approve the September financial report. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick presented the lease agreement between the city and Crossett American Legion for the rental of property located at 807 Main. The council agreed to a 99-year lease last year, but no written contract was made. This will allow the mayor to sign a lease agreement of $1.00/year for a 99-year term. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have Mayor McCormick sign this extended lease agreement. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Foster asked that the financial meeting, normally scheduled for the second Monday of each month, be moved to one hour before the regular meeting. After little discussion, motion was made by Foster, seconded by Martinie. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Mike Smith, Crossett Economic Development Director, asked council to consider resolution and grant application for $50,000 for repair and maintenance of Crossett Community Center. Motion by Councilman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Carter to move forward with the grant application. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have City Attorney read proposed resolution R-2019-19. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Mr. Hamilton read the proposed resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Foster to adopt the resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Smith asked council to schedule a special meeting with parties interested in the Solar Farm project so that questions can be answered. Mr. Smith also asked the council to authorize Mayor McCormick to sign a letter showing intent to negotiate a PILOT agreement. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have Mayor McCormick sign the letter of intent. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

In other old business, Mr. Howard Beatty Chairman of the Crossett Economic Development Foundation reminded the council that the contract between the city and the foundation is due for renewal in November. He added that signs coming into the city are in need of repairs.

Mrs. Mary Jo Jones, Crossett Water Commission member, presented 3rd Quarter water reports. She asked the council to approve the appointment of Mike Chisholm to the Crossett Water Commission to fill the term of Dr. Alan Wilson. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Carter to approve the appointment. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

An ordinance to define permissible sales at the Crossett Farmer’s Market was presented. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have City Attorney read the proposed ordinance in its entirety for the first reading. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilwoman Marshall to suspend the 3-day reading rule and read the proposed ordinance for second reading by title only. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read by title only. Motion by Councilwoman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Martinie to further suspend the rule and read for 3rd and final reading by title only. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read by title only. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-5 by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Carter. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Ordinance 2019-5 was adopted.

Mayor McCormick asked council to approve the appointment of Mr. Johnny Dupree to finish the term of Dr. Alan Wilson on the Crossett Airport Commission. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilman Foster to approve the appointment. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Several resolutions requesting property liens were presented to council for discussion.

Mayor McCormick presented Proposed Resolution R-2019-11. To set a lien on property owned by Jessie Jenkins, located at 900 West 8th Avenue was presented. Mayor opened the floor to a public hearing on this matter. Mr. Jason Jenkins was present to speak on behalf of his father. Mr. Jenkins explained that this property changed ownership due to a death in the family. He requested that a payment arrangement be set up in order for him to pay this. Mayor McCormick declared the floor closed. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilman Foster to table Resolution R-2019-11. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and resolution was tabled. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to allow Mr. Jenkins to pay $300/month until paid in full. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Resolution R-2019-12, to set lien on property owned by Ray Washington, located at 302 West 8th was presented to council. Mayor McCormick opened the floor for public hearing. Hearing no comments, the floor was closed. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have City Attorney Hamilton read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the resolution. Motion to adopt resolution by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilman Carter. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution R-2019-12 was adopted.

Resolution R-2019-13, to set lien on property owned by Sheila Scarlett (now Sheila Herron) located at 801 Beech Street was presented. Mayor McCormick opened floor for discussion. Mrs. Herron was present to address the issue. She stated that her husband has passed away and she ha no ties to the property. She asked that the property be deeded over to the city of Crossett. Mr. Jeff Harrison, City of Crossett Director of Public Works, stated that the city is not in the business to own personal property such as this, but has inherited one lot on Pine Street due to similar circumstances. Mayor McCormick declared the floor closed. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilman Martinie to prepare deed to transfer property to the City of Crossett. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Resolution R-2019-14, to set lien on property owned by Gregory Watson, located at 508 North Arkansas was presented. Mayor McCormick opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Harrison stated that the owner of this property had began making payments, but has defaulted. No other comments were made. The public meeting was closed. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have City Attorney read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the resolution. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilman Carter to adopt Resolution R-2019-14. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution R-2019-14 was adopted.

Resolution R-2019-15, to set lien on property owned by Christopher Daniels, located at 609 West 10th Avenue was presented. Mayor McCormick opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Harrison explained that this property was sold to Mr. Daniels by Mr. Malcolm Tullos for a minimal fee. Mr. Daniels mother was present on his behalf. It was determined that the property was purchased in July 2016 and lien notifications were being sent to the proper address. Mayor McCormick closed the floor. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilman Martinie to have City Attorney read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed. Hamilton read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Martine, seconded by Councilman Carter to adopt Resolution R-2019-15. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Mrs. Daniels stated that she was hoping to be able to set up payment arrangements. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to rescind the motion to approve the resolution and allow Mr. Daniels to pay $50.00 per month until paid in full. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Resolution R-2019-16, to set lien on property owned by Jeremy Weaver, located at 602 West 8th Avenue was presented. Mayor McCormick opened the floor for discussion. No comments were made. Mayor closed the floor. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilman Carter to have city attorney read proposed resolution. City Attorney Hamilton read. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilman Carter to adopt Resolution R-2019-16. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution was adopted.

Resolution R-2019-17, to set lien on property owned by Patricia Garcia, located at 505 West 8th Avenue was presented. Mayor McCormick opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Harrison explained that the letter for this lien had been sent to Mr. Raymond Dawson, former owner of the property. Ms. Garcia was present to ask for payment arrangements of $200/month until paid in full. Floor was closed. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilman Foster to table Resolution R-2019-17 and allow payment arrangements. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

City Attorney James Hamilton presented a resolution enabling reimbursements from bond revenue for sewer expansion expenses. Motion by Councilman Martinie, seconded by Councilman Carter to have City Attorney Hamilton read the proposed resolution. Hamilton read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Foster to adopt Resolution R-2017-18. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and resolution is adopted.

Mr. Claude Spainhour, Crossett Sewer Committee Chairman, expressed concern over the grant application for sewer expansion project.

Councilman Carter commended Ms. Sarah Hollimon, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, on an outstanding job.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned.

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