Crossett City Council met in regular session December 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossett Public Library.

Roll call vote was taken as follows:

Present: Mayor Crystal Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer Clark Terrell, City Attorney James Hamilton,

Councilmembers: Cary Carter (phone), Chris Gill, Sheila Phillips, James Knight and CT Foster

Absent: Councilwoman Kerstin Mondragon

Mayor Marshall opened the meeting with a prayer and pledge. Mayor Marshall introduced Destiny Sprouse who led in the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilman Foster to approve the minutes of the November 15 financial and regular meetings and the special meeting of December 7, 2021. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilman Gill to approve the financial reports for November. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and financial reports were approved.

Mayor Marshall introduced Mr. Ronnie Sprouse, representative from Arkansas Municipal Equipment Company. Mr. Sprouse spoke to the council concerning the automated garbage truck proposal. Mr. Sprouse presented a proposal for a Sidewinder XTR Automated Side Loader truck as well as a rear loader for commercial pick-up. Terms of this lease/buy back include maintenance schedule. Mr. Sprouse explained that the city is currently leasing 2 trucks which Arkansas Municipal Equipment will buy back from the vender. He added that his company will work closely with our crew and help determine the best route for pickup. He also recommended that the city order containers early so that residents can get used to where to place them. He said the cans will take several weeks to come in, while the truck can take several months. If the city orders now, it could possibly be ready in July, 2022. Mayor Marshall asked council to consider financing the containers also to free up COVID funds for other projects or emergencies. Motion by Councilman Gill, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to accept the proposal for both trucks and financing canisters. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Marshall presented proposed Resolution 2021-13 adopting the 2022 annual budget. Motion by Councilman Gill, seconded by Councilman Knight to have City Attorney Hamilton read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the resolution. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Knight to adopt Resolution R-2021-13. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Resolution was adopted.

Mayor Marshall presented proposed Ordinance 2021-5 to revising the purchasing procedures of the City of Crossett. Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to read the proposed ordinance in its entirety for the first official reading. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read proposed ordinance for the first reading. Councilman Carter asked for clarification on the meaning of this ordinance. The ordinance allows spending up to $35,000 without competitive bids. City Attorney Hamilton that this does not give permission for mayor to spend that much without council approval. It is in line with the state statute for purchasing. Money would still have to be appropriated by the council. Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to suspend the 3-day reading rule and read for second reading by title only. Roll call vote. Carter – no, Gill – yes, Phillips – yes, Knight – yes, Foster – yes. Motion passed 4-1 and Hamilton read by title only. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Knight to further suspend the rules and read proposal for 3rd and final reading by title only. Roll call vote. Carter – no, Gill – yes, Phillips – yes, Knight – yes, Foster – yes. Motion passed 4-1 and Hamilton read by title only for 3rd reading. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Knight to adopt Ordinance 2021-5. Roll call vote. Carter – no, Gill – yes, Phillips – yes, Knight – yes, Foster – yes. Motion passed 4-1 and Ordinance 2021-5 was adopted.

Mayor Marshall presented proposed Ordinance 2021-6 authorizing the city of Crossett to contract with Pioneer Civil Construction to conduct business with the city. Mr. Downey Robinson, a chief officer for Pioneer Civil Construction, also serves as a member of the Crossett Airport Commission for Crossett Airport. Mr. Todd Freeman, Airport Manager, informed the council that many of the jobs at the airport take specialized equipment and manpower. If the job is below bid requirements, he would like to have the option of contracting with Pioneer Civil Construction as they do have both the equipment and knowledge to do jobs. Councilman Gill asked if this was a conflict and if it was in the best interest of the city. Mr. Freeman added that he does still get price quotes from other companies Mr. Robinson always abstains from voting on any issue that could be a conflict. Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilman Foster to have City Attorney Hamilton read the proposed ordinance in its entirety. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to suspend the 3-day reading rule and read the proposal for second reading by title only. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read by title only. Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to further suspend the rules and read for third and final reading by title only. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read by title only. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-6 by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilman Foster. Roll call vote. Motion passed and Ordinance 2021-6 was adopted.

Mayor Marshall asked if council had anything else to bring forward. Hearing none, she opened the floor to the audience.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Clark Terrell, Clerk/Treasurer Crystal Marshall, Mayor