Crossett City Council met in regular session November 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossett Public Library.

Roll call vote was taken as follows:

Present: Mayor Crystal Marshall, City Attorney James Hamilton,

Councilmembers: Cary Carter, Kerstin Mondragon, Chris Gill, Sheila Phillips, James Knight and CT Foster

Absent: Clerk/Treasurer Clark Terrell

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

Motion by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilman Foster to approve the minutes of the October 18 financial and regular meetings. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Carter to approve the financial reports for October. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and financial reports were approved.

After being tabled at the October council meeting, discussions concerning the use of the grassy area next to the farmer’s market pavilion began. Councilman Gill stated that he would like to see the city open the area for other events. Motion by Councilman Gill, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to open the grassy area for community use and set policies to cover the usage of the area, noting that no bathroom facility or electricity service would be made available. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Marshall reminded the council of the discussion of going to an automated garbage truck for residential garbage pick-up. She added that two companies (River City and Arkansas Municipal Equipment) offer the lease program. Mayor stated that our current lease is with River City and is for two garbage trucks. At the end of the two-year program, the vender picks up the trucks and delivers two more. Mayor Marshall said that if the city goes with Arkansas Municipal Equipment, they will pay off the current equipment and take possession of the equipment and enter a lease agreement for the automated truck. She added that she and DOPW Harrison are going to Monticello to view their truck for comparison.

Mrs. Dianne Marter, Crossett Water Commission office manager, presented the 3rd quarter 2021 financial report. She stated that the rate increase that the council approved in March of this years has helped keep the financials stable. Councilwoman Mondragon inquired as to how the new system is working. Mrs. Marter stated that everything is going great. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Carter to accept the financial reports. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Marshall updated the council on the water main break at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Drive and Hwy 82 intersection. She stated that an out-of-town company was boring under the street in order to lay fiber lines and hit a water main. This caused street damage as well as a major water leak. The company doing the drilling was hired by Arkansas Electric. One-calls were properly marked. The Arkansas Highway Department as well as local water, drainage and sewer crews worked to make the necessary repairs and get the streets opened back up as safely and quickly as possible. The state highway department will be billing the company for damages, and the city will bill for labor and equipment.

Mayor Marshall presented the federal audit report to the council. She explained that any year that the city receives over $750,000 a federal audit is required. This audit report is for the year 2020 and shows no findings. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to accept the audit report. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Marshall opened the floor for comments. Mr. Mike Smith, Crossett Economic Development Foundation, invited the council to a ribbon cutting on December 7 at 1:30 p.m. at Arkansas Oregon Pneumatics. This company has added new equipment and hiring new employees.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Clark Terrell, Clerk/Treasurer Crystal Marshall, Mayor