Crossett City Council met in regular session on May 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossett Public Library.

Roll call was taken as follows:

Present: Mayor Crystal Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer Clark Terrell, City Attorney David Tyler Mills

Councilmembers: Dan Pevy, Kerstin Mondragon, Chris Gill, Sheila Phillips, James Knight, CT Foster

Absent: None

Mayor Marshall opened the meeting with prayer and pledge of allegiance led by Khamani Smith and Cassidy Brown.

Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Knight to approve the minutes of the April meetings. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Motion by Councilman Pevy, seconded by Councilman Knight to approve the April financial statements. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Marshall updated on several projects:

* EC Crossett Youth Center grant project (Phase 1) is complete. Have applied for funding for phase 2 but no word yet.
* Auditorium HVAC grant project is substantially complete. The project is under budget. Phase 2 application is pending.
* Crossett RV Park is working on updating one bathroom facility. This will bring the bath house up to ADA code and become handicap accessible. This project is being paid for by Crossett Port Authority funds.
* Director of Public Works Director Jeff Harrison updated on the East Crossett Wastewater Project. Even with the weather, the projected completion date is still November 2024. This project included 2 separate job descriptions. Project 1 is 46-47% complete. This is the business district on the far east side of the project. Project 2 will be the portion including running lines through residential areas. This is approximately 44% complete.

Mayor Marshall informed the council of an 18-wheeler accident that happened on the corner of Hwy 82 and Main Street. The driver of the truck hit the traffic light pole destroying it. This pole will have to be put back up for now, but eventually will have to be replaced. In order to replace the pole it will have to be blessed by ARDot. The other option is to take the light down and replace it with a 4-way stop. No one was interested in that option.

Mayor Marshall presented a proposed resolution adopting the Ashley County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mayor explained that this is only to help and protect people and property. In order to receive state or federal funds, we have to have a plan in place. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Foster to have City Attorney Mills read proposed Resolution 2024-2. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Mr. Mills read the resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to adopt Resolution 2024-2. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and resolution was adopted.

Mayor introduced Resolution foregoing the bid process, declaring an emergency to allow sewer to purchase a truck. DOPW Jeff Harrison explained that our sewer service truck (2-ton) was purchased in 2012 for around $57,000. The truck was totaled out in an accident and insurance has paid the city $42,000 for replacement. The truck is a vital piece of equipment for the wastewater department and utilized on a daily basis. The absence of this truck has put the department in a bind. He asked that the council consider allowing the purchase of a truck currently available at Landers in Little Rock for around $88,000. In order to do that, this resolution will be necessary. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Gill to have City Attorney Mills read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Mr. Mills read the resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Gill to adopt Resolution 2024-4. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution was adopted. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Knight to adopt the emergency clause attached to the resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and the emergency clause was adopted.

Mayor Marshall opened the floor to questions or comments from the council. Councilman Pevy stated that, to show appreciation, the Crossett Rotary Club is planning to grill hamburgers for all city employees on May 24 at the Wiggins Cabin. He asked that department heads inform all employees.

Mayor Marshall opened the floor to the audience. Mrs. Margaret Holder commended the council on an excellent job in protecting our community.

Ruby James, with Volkert, Inc. out of Monroe, LA introduced herself and asked that her company be considered for any engineering services the city may need.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Clark Terrell, Clerk/Treasurer Crystal Marshall, Mayor