Crossett City Council met in regular session March 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, Clerk/Treasurer CW Terrell

Councilmember’s: CT Foster, Cary Carter, Kerstin Mondragon, Sheila Phillips, Chris Gill, James Knight participated via conference call.

Absent: None

Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to approve the minutes of the February meetings. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Marshall introduced Mr. Rodney Govens, a representative from Swyft Communications. Mr. Govens updated the council on the progress of the fiber optic broadband instillation within the city of Crossett. He explained that all residents within the city limits will be eligible for the upgrade. Mr. Govens added that fiber optic lines have been laid and they are ready to begin installing to individual residents. Mr. Govens explained the process of getting installation and a rough estimate on the cost of the service.

Mayor Marshall presented a proposed resolution to establish and memorialize a code of conduct for the mayor and city council members for the City of Crossett. She explained the changes that were made included adding that the mayor has power of veto, however the council can override veto with 2/3 vote. Motion by Councilwoman Phillips, seconded by Councilman Foster to have City Attorney Hamilton read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and City Attorney read Proposed Resolution R-2021-4. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to adopt Resolution R-2021-4. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and resolution was adopted.

Mayor Marshall informed council that sealed bids have been taken for the 1990 Ladder Fire Truck. Bid opening is scheduled for March 25 at 2:00 at City Hall.

Mayor Marshall informed of a CDBG grant which the city is applying for the Crossett Youth Center. This grant requires a public hearing as well as resolutions to authorize Mayor to sign on behalf of the city and a resolution designating SEAEDD as grant administrator for the city.

Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilwoman Mondragon have City Attorney Hamilton read proposed resolution R-2021-5, a resolution designating non-profit agency as CDBG grant administrator. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilwoman Mondragon to approve R-2021-5. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution R-2021-5 was adopted.

Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Carter to have City Attorney Hamilton read proposed resolution R-2021-6, a resolution authorizing submittal of application for ACDP Grant funds. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to approve R-2021-6. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution R-2021-6 was adopted.

Ashley County District Judge Reid Harrod addressed the council on the distribution of probation fees for Crossett Division Court. Judge Harrod explained that previously collection of probation fees and drug testing was outsourced. He said that this in now an added responsibility for court clerks. Judge Harrod asked that monies collected for probation fees be set aside for use to compensate court clerks for the service as well as purchase of drug testing supplies and any training associated with this. He added that approval for these expenses would flow through Mayor’s office, County Clerk’s office as well as his office. Judge Harrod stated that both the City of Hamburg and Ashley County Quorum Clerk have approved like resolutions, and he is asking the council to approve a resolution for the City of Crossett.

Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Gill to have City Attorney read proposed resolution R-2021-7, a resolution authorizing the dispersal of probation fee collections. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and proposal was read. Motion by Councilman Carter, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to approve Resolution R-2021-7. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and R-2021-7 was adopted.

Mayor Marshall updated council on progress of cleaning Lucas Pond, as well as the construction of the Solar Plant which should be starting soon. Mayor Marshall added that February storm damage to the boat marina was not covered by insurance, but damage done to Wiggins Cabin pavilion, pool house and certain damages at Crossett Youth Center were covered.

Mrs. Charlotte Hollimon, member of Crossett Historical Society, stated that their group would like to assist in providing material for the Wiggins pavilion.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Clark Terrell, Clerk/Treasurer Crystal Marshall, Mayor