Crossett City Council met in regular session March 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossett Public Library.

Roll call vote was taken as follows:

Present: Mayor Scott McCormick, City Attorney James Hamilton, Clerk/Treasurer Jesse Walthall

Councilmember’s: Valarie Martin, Eddie Rowe, James Knight, CT Foster

Tardy: Lynn Rodgers

Absent: Councilwoman Marshall

Mayor McCormick called the meeting to order with prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve the minutes of the regular 2/27/2017 meeting and special meetings of 3/13 and 3/14/2017. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed

Motion by Councilwoman Martin, seconded by Councilman Foster to approve the February 2017 financial statements. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick presented an update on the drainage projects.

Councilwoman Rodgers updated the council on the progress of the Street and Sanitation Action Plan Committee. The committee is continuing to meet to discuss different proposals. A man-power study will be conducted within the next few weeks for a more precise idea of how to manage time more adequately.

Mayor McCormick presented a proposed agreement between the City of Crossett and Ashley County Sheriff’s Department for housing city inmates. This agreement will need to be approved by both the city of Crossett and Ashley County Quorum Court. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Knight to approve the agreement as written. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick presented a proposed ordinance approving the final 2016 budget. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Knight to have City Attorney James Hamilton read the proposed ordinance for the first reading in its entirety. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read proposed Ordinance 2017-2. Motion by Councilwoman Martin, seconded by Councilman Foster to suspend the 3-day reading rule and read proposed ordinance for second ready by title only. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read by title only. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Knight 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 for 3rd time by title only. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-2 by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilwoman Martin. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Ordinance 2017-2 was adopted.

Mayor McCormick presented a proposed ordinance to amend rates for the city of Crossett ambulance service. Motion by Councilwoman Martin, seconded by Councilman Knight to have City Attorney Hamilton read the proposed ordinance for the first time in its entirety. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read proposed Ordinance 2017-3. Motion by Councilwoman Martin, seconded by Councilwoman Rodgers to suspend the 3-day reading rule and read 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 Martin, seconded by Councilman Knight to further suspend the rule and read for 3rd time by title only. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read by title only. Motion by Councilman Foster, seconded by Councilman Knight to adopt Ordinance 2017-3. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Ordinance 2017-3 is adopted. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Knight to adopt the emergency clause attached to Ordinance 2017-3. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Mayor McCormick presented resolutions honoring former councilmembers Robert Freeman and Candace Jeffress. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to have City Attorney Hamilton read Resolution 2017-2, honoring Robert Freeman. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Attorney Hamilton read the resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to adopt Resolution 2017-2. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution 2017-2 is adopted.

Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to have City Attorney Hamilton read proposed Resolution 2017-3, honoring Candace Jeffress. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Hamilton read the resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilman Foster to adopt Resolution 2017-3. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Resolution 2017-3 is adopted.

City Attorney Hamilton reminded the council that the ½% sales tax issue is up for election. He asked for guidance on when to present this to the voters. Councilwoman Rodgers stressed the importance of this issue and the need to promote this in a positive aspect. Councilmembers agree that a meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss further. Meeting set for Tuesday, March 28 at 5:00 at the Crossett Economic Development Foundation.

Mayor McCormick presented a proposed agreement for operation between District Court of Ashley County, the city of Hamburg and the city of Crossett. Motion by Councilwoman Rodgers, seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve this agreement. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned.

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