Crossett City Council met in regular session on April 20, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossett Public Library.

Roll call was taken as follows:

Present:	Pro-Tempore CT Foster, Clerk/Treasurer Clark Terrell, City Attorney Tyler Mills
Councilmembers:	Dan Pevy, Kerstin Mondragon, Chris Gill, Sheila Phillips
Absent:	Mayor Crystal Marshall, Councilman James Knight

Pro-Tempore CT Foster opened the meeting with prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Pevy to approve the minutes of the financial review and the regular council meeting of March 16 and the town hall meeting of April 2. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to approve the March, 2026 financial reports. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passes.

Pro-Tempore Foster asked council for decision on where to hold council meetings in the future. The Crossett Public Library is limited with space and has to be set-up and taken down before and after each meeting. The Courtroom at Crossett Police Department is set up to hold around 50 people. Councilwoman Mondragon stated that she is fine with whichever, both have advantages and disadvantages. Councilman Pevy expressed concern over the audience being able to hear. Those present that were at the town hall meeting held in the courtroom stated that there was no problem hearing. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilwoman Phillips to begin holding the monthly meetings in the courtroom of Crossett Police Department. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed.

Pro-Tempore Foster presented a resolution authorizing the City of Crossett to enter into an agreement with Ashley County regarding the disbursement of uniform filing fees. This change is due to changes in the state law for filing fees. Motion by Councilman Gill, seconded by Councilwoman Mondragon to have Clerk-Treasurer Clark Terrell read proposed Resolution 2026-2. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Mr. Terrell read the proposal. Motion by Councilman Gill, seconded by Councilwoman Mondragon to adopt Resolution 2026-2. Roll call vote. All vote yes and motion passed.

Pro-Tempore Foster presented Resolution 2026-3, a resolution closing out and adopting the final budget for 2025. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Gill to have Clerk/Treasurer Terrell read the proposed resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and Mr. Terrell read the proposal. Motion by Councilwoman Mondragon, seconded by Councilman Pevy to adopt resolution. Roll call vote. All vote yes. Motion passed and resolution was adopted.

Pro-Tempore Foster asked for department updates:

Director of Public Works – Bo Higginbotham

City crews are starting to mow allies and both cemeteries have been mowed. Each department is addressing the complaints filed on the website. He encouraged the public to use the website to address those concerns in order for them to be sent to the proper department to be addressed.

Police Chief Clint Bradberry

Officer Cameron Franks graduated the Police Academy on April 10. KJ Scott is scheduled to leave Monday, April 20 to attend the next session at the academy. Drug Takeback is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. The police department received a grant for a canine officer. Raven is now with the force. Her handler is Officer Zach Childress. Chief reported vehicle break-ins. He encouraged residents if they see something to report it – no matter how small it may seem. More grant applications have been submitted for E-site and E-Crash cameras.

Fire Chief Michael Willhite

Chief Willhite reminded everyone that there is still a burn ban as the region is in a moderate drought. The department has provided mutual aid for 2 county fires-one in West Crossett and one in Frost Prairie.

Park and Recreation Director – Val Gaught

The company contracted by ENTERGY for parking lot repair at Sports Complex is pouring asphalt. They have projected having the lot complete by middle of next week. Boys and Girls Club baseball and softball as well as VIP League is in full swing. Hope at Home is scheduled at the complex on May 8. Regional High School Baseball and Softball tournaments will be hosted in Crossett May 7-9. Crossett Parks and Recreation has partnered with Crossett Chamber of Commerce and Crossett A&P Commission to provide backpacks for members of participating teams. These backpacks will have various items to promote our town and the businesses that chose to participate. Hopefully, these incentives will peak interest in shopping at our local merchants and bring a great experience to the visiting families. Parks and Recreation along with Crossett Economic Development is in beginning stages of a fall concert. AR Game and Fish Commission has stocked Lucas Pond with 25,000 blue gill catfish.

Pro-Tempore Foster introduced Doug Webb, local retail merchant and owner of Ideal Ace Hardware. Mr. Webb asked to speak to the council on the present and future state of Crossett Retail. He added that yearbook ads from 1969-1970 had at least 70 local businesses that supported the area. He stated that many of those businesses have closed down and moved on. Internet sells companies and food trailers have hurt our local retail merchants. He added that this is not just a city of Crossett problem. Mr. Webb suggested that the City of Crossett work closely with Crossett Economic Development Foundation, city of Hamburg and all of Ashley County to make this area more attractive to retail merchants. He challenged the next mayor and council to make good decisions in helping with the local businesses. Mr. Webb also stated that it is essential to our economy to support our local businesses as much as possible. Councilwoman Mondragon agreed that local retail is important and reinvest in our city.

Mike Smith, director of Crossett Economic Development Foundation, added that they have hired a consultant for retail business. He reiterated that when events are held locally it is vital

for the community to support them. Last year Crossett Parks and Recreation hosted a concert at the Auditorium with little support. He urged citizens to support the events.

Pro-Tempore Foster asked council if they had anything else to bring forth. Councilman Dan Pevy reminded everyone that the city's website is a great place to search for city ordinances and to file complaints or concerns.

Pro-Tempore Foster opened the floor to the audience.

Mrs. Charlotte Hollimon asked the status of the duck houses at Lucas Pond. This project was started with students from Crossett High School East Lab. Materials were slow in coming in and the students that were involved originally graduated and the teacher resigned, causing delays. The houses are complete and we are working along with new administration to have them installed on the island.

Mrs. Hollimon stated concerns with a stop sign behind the apartment complex on 6th Avenue.

Ms. Debra Barnes asked the council to encourage all city employees to be kinder to the public. She had recently had an encounter with Crossett Water Commission that was uncomfortable.

Ms. Takisha Ford stated that she is a community advocate. She stated that Crossett is a blessing and has so much to offer. She asked how city officials would invest in youth? She encouraged youth involvement in the city.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned.