

CITY OF CROWLEY
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 11TH, 2017

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Louisiana, the governing authority of the City of Crowley, met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday the 11th day of April, 2017 at the regular meeting place of said Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the Council Chambers, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana.

Mayor Greg A. Jones presided with the following Aldermen present: Bryan Borill, Jeff Doré, Lyle Fogleman, Jr., Vernon Martin, Steven Premeaux, Ezora J. Proctor and Kitty Valdetero. Alderman J. Elliot Doré and Tim Monceaux were absent.

Alderman Vernon Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Alderman Bryan Borill gave the invocation.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES / BILLS:

Alderman Lyle Fogleman moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the March 14th, 2017 regular council meeting and approve them as written and distributed. Seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin and duly adopted.

Alderman Vernon Martin moved to approve all bills presented for payment. Seconded by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and duly adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Jones presented the Sales Tax chart and User Fee chart that track the collection trend.

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Vernon Martin
Members – Aldermen Bryan Borill, J. Elliot Doré and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderman Bryan Borill to approve a mobile home to be placed at 1021 West 8th Street for Yvonne Mouton described at Lot 1, Block 28, Duson 3rd Addition. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderman Jeff Doré to approve the Planning Commission favorable recommendation for a Preliminary and Final Plat Approval to re-subdivide Lots 14-15-16 Blk 60, Crowley Original. Motion carried with Alderman Lyle Fogleman recusing himself due to his involvement in the property.

PUBLIC BUILDING COMMITTEE :

Chairperson – Alderman Bryan Borill
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Lyle Fogleman, Jr.
Members – Aldermen J. Elliot Doré, Tim Monceaux, and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderman Jeff Doré and seconded by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero to refer to the Public Building Committee Meeting in May to allow Rosa Clement to review and resubmit the application according to required guidelines to annually co-sponsoring the Orlando Thomas Picnic & Parade to be held yearly at the MLK facility during the 4th of July holiday and for the Police department to provide escort service for the parade. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Jeff Doré
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Tim Monceaux
Members – Aldermen Bryan Borill, Ezora Proctor and Kitty Valdetero

A motion was offered by Alderman Jeff Doré and seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month. Motion carried.

Proclamation

Whereas, the 46th of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans – individually and collectively – to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists; and

Whereas, this law guarantees each citizen the critical, personal element of the freely choosing a home; and

Whereas, a fair housing law has been passed by the state of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

Whereas, the department and agencies of the state of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

Whereas, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all.

Now, Therefore, I, Greg A. Jones, Mayor of the City of Crowley, do hereby proclaim April 2017 as

Fair Housing Month

in the City of Crowley. I urge all citizens to celebrate the diversity and value the harmonious communities of neighbors to support the goal of equal housing opportunities for all people.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana this the 11th day of April 2017.

Greg A. Jones, Mayor
CITY OF CROWLEY, LOUISIANA

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Lyle Fogleman and seconded by Vernon Martin, and adopted.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, ADOPTING THE ACADIA PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR 2016.

WHEREAS, the Acadia Parish Government has prepared a multi-parish hazard mitigation plan hereby known as the Acadia Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley has participated in the process to prepare a DMA compliant Hazard Mitigation Plan based in the FEMA guidance available in the How to Guides;

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley is participating in the Hazard Mitigation Plan prepared by the Acadia Parish Government under the oversight of a Steering Committee comprised of Parish-Wide representatives;

WHEREAS Acadia Parish and local city representatives and governments have participated in the mitigation planning process;

WHEREAS appropriate opportunity for input by public and community officials has been provided through meeting notices, open meetings and availability of draft documents;

WHEREAS the plan has been recommended for adoption by the steering committee;

WHEREAS adoption of the plan is required prior to further consideration for FEMA funding under the following programs:

- 1) Pre - Disaster Mitigation
- 2) Hazard Mitigation Grant
- 3) Flood Mitigation Assistance Program

THEREFORE the City of Crowley does hereby adopt the Acadia Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2016.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on the 11th day of April, 2017, in Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ERIN S. CRADEUR, CLERK

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Jeff Doré, duly seconded by Alderwoman Ezora Proctor, and adopted.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE LOUISIANA FEDERAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM FOR LOUISIANA (FRTPL) RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE DESIGN, ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NATURE TRAIL AND BIKE PATH; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley does not have an existing nature trail or recreational bike path for the enjoyment of outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the master plan for the City of Crowley Recreation Department Hensgens Park and facilities includes the addition of bike paths and walking paths within the recreational complex and along Bayou Blanc; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley has determined that it is reasonable and necessary to submit an application to the Louisiana Federal Recreational Trail Program (FRTPL) Recreational Trails Program (RTP) requesting assistance and a grant to provide funding for the design, engineering and construction of a nature trail and bike path to be known as the “Bayou Blanc Trail”; and

WHEREAS, the application process requires a commitment of local matching dollars for the project; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Federal Recreational Trail Program for Louisiana (FRTPL) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the Program for the State of Louisiana and has published the necessary rules governing the application process for the program which requires applicants to certify by resolution the approval of the application therefor; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, in regular session duly convened that they do hereby authorize an application to the Louisiana Federal Recreational Trails Program for Louisiana (RTPL) as established by the CFDA 20:219 for the design, engineering and construction of a natural trail and bike path for the City of Crowley’s Recreation Department to be known as the “Bayou Blanc Trail” at an estimated amount of One Hundred Thousand & No/100 (\$100,000.00) Dollars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that they do hereby authorize the commitment to provide local matching funds of Twenty (20%) Percent of the grant amount which commitment shall be included in the said grant application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Crowley has or will have available prior to the commencement of any work on the project included in the application, sufficient funds to build (including 20% local match), operate and maintain the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Honorable Greg A. Jones, Mayor, is hereby designated as the Agent of the City of Crowley and as same is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute any and all documents, applications, commitments, amendments, etc. and to provide any and all information as may necessary for completion of the application process for the aforementioned Program..

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on the 11th day of April, 2017, in Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ERIN S. CRADEUR, CLERK

The following resolution was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero, duly seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin, and adopted.

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WILL ENABLE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO COLLECT REVENUES ALREADY DUE THAT RE ESSENTIAL TO THE MAINTENANCE AND EXPANSION OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIES, THE CREATION OF THOUSANDS OF NEW JOBS, THE

ENHANCEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE, AND
THE PRESERVATION OF LIMITED LOCAL
REVENUE SOURCES.

WHEREAS, many local governments rely on the collection of sales and use taxes to support funding to improve needed infrastructure improvements, strengthen local small businesses, create jobs for their citizens, and fund essential services; and

WHEREAS, local brick-and-mortar merchants are important parts of our communities, providing employment to residents, contributing to charities, and keeping communities vibrant; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has previously ruled that state and local governments do not have the authority to require the collection of sales tax by retailers that have no physical presence or nexus in the state (Bellas Hess 1967; Quill 1992); and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court's precedent puts local merchants at an automatic five to ten percent competitive disadvantage by following the law and collecting sales tax at the time of purchase, while remote online retailers are not required to do so; and

WHEREAS, national studies reveal that state and local governments lose up to \$30 billion each year from uncollected sales taxes from transactions involving remote internet retailers; and

WHEREAS, internet sales tax revenue could be utilized to better provide basic services, improve infrastructure, and bolster public safety, all without any additional funding from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has historically been reluctant to interfere with the ability of local governments to raise and regulate their own revenues, and should not undermine municipal autonomy with respect to remote sales tax collection; and

WHEREAS, technology has evolved to the point that moving the Marketplace Fairness Act or other legislation forward to allow the collection and remittance of destination rate-based sales taxes on internet transactions is not only practical but warranted,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Crowley commends Congress on recognizing the importance of resolving the issue to put remote retailers and traditional ones on a level playing field; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Crowley urges Congress to pass destination rate-based legislation that would give states the option to collect from remote online retailers the same tax that local brick-and-mortar merchants currently collect; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, as well as Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Honorable Bob Goodlatte, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Majority Leader.

GREG A. JONES, Mayor

ATTEST:

ERIN S. CRADEUR, City Clerk

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderwoman Ezora Proctor the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Presented rough draft to Mayor on April 12th, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Presented for Mayor's signature on April 12th, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Mayor signed & returned to City Clerk on April 12th, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

Publish in newspaper on April 20th, 2017