

**CITY OF CROWLEY
EXTRA-ORDINARY
EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2005**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Louisiana, the governing authority of the City of Crowley, met in an extraordinary emergency session at 8:00 a.m. Thursday the 1st day of September, 2005 at the regular meeting place of said Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the City Hall, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana.

Mayor Pro-Tem Buatt assumed the chair and presided with the following Aldermen present: Tiger Istre, Woody Marceaux, Vernon Martin, Mary T. Melancon, Laurita D. Pete, Steven C. Premeaux, and Kitty Valdetero. Alderman Ira Thomas was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited and Deacon Rodless LeLeux gave the invocations.

The clerk read the following call:

September 1, 2005

**CITY OF CROWLEY
EXTRA-ORDINARY
EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING:**

You are hereby notified that a EXTRA-ORDINARY EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley will be held on Thursday September 1, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The purpose of said meeting will be:

- 1) To discuss the disaster of Hurricane Katrina.
- 2) Any Other Legal Items to Come before the Committee.

S/ James M. Buatt
James M. Buatt, Mayor Pro-Tem

This meeting was called pursuant to the statutory provisions for extraordinary public safety emergency meeting. The purpose was to discuss the effect on the City of Crowley of the influx of evacuees resulting from the disaster of Hurricane Katrina.

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Marceaux, seconded by Alderman Martin, and duly resolved and adopted.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, DECLARING AN EXTRA-ORDINARY EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF CROWLEY DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING NUMBERS OF REFUGEES FLEEING THE EFFECTS OF HURRICANE KATRINA AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO TAKE IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY ACTION TO PROTECT AND ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH, TO PROTECT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY AND TO PRESERVE PEACE AND ORDER; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the cities of New Orleans, Kenner, Metairie, Slidell and the towns and villages in the Southeast Louisiana, the cities of Biloxi, Pass-Christian, and Gulfport, Mississippi and the Greater Mobile, Alabama area ; and

WHEREAS, the massive storm surge overwhelmed the coastal parishes of Louisiana and counties of Mississippi bringing death and destruction on a vast scale which seldom seen; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, and the Honorable Kathleen Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, have declared parts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama disaster areas; and

WHEREAS, there exists an immediate need to house, feed and clothe thousands of persons who have been evacuated and will be evacuated as conditions further deteriorate in the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemine; and

WHEREAS, the extreme damage due to the storm force winds and the massive flooding will prevent the restoration of normal services and will hamper the ability of those areas to provide shelter and other public needs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley in special, extra-ordinary emergency session pursuant to written notice duly posted and notification via telephone and other communication methods to consider the vast devastation, the effects thereof on the health, safety and wellbeing of those citizens who have become refugees and are seeking shelter and have no place to turn and to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of all persons in this area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana in special, extra-ordinary emergency session, do hereby declare an extra-ordinary, public emergency within the City of Crowley due to the effects of Hurricane Katrina which has caused an influx of large numbers of refugees seeking food, shelter and clothing who are without money, means or otherwise and are unable to obtain same; and they do hereby authorize and invoke all emergency powers and necessary authorizations as may be required to ensure public safety and health; to provide communication; emergency public facilities; to shelter, feed and clothe all refugees required assistance; to assist and facilitate federal and state emergency services; to maintain public order; and to maintain essential public services as may be necessary, meet and proper under this emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honorable Isabella L. delaHoussaye, Mayor of the City of Crowley, or her designated representative, be and she is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take all necessary action, in her sole and complete discretion, and direct all department heads, employees and agents of the City of Crowley and to enlist the efforts of the community, service organizations, clubs, churches and other public bodies to provide buildings, facilities, equipment, food, shelter, clothing, care and other services, to protect public and private property and to expend the necessary funds to accomplish same as may be necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is hereby authorized an emergency appropriation of funds from the general fund balance and from sales tax fund balance sufficient to pay necessary expenditures for employee wages and overtime, building and equipment operations, food, transportation and all other needs as may be necessary, meet and proper during this emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Honorable Isabella L. de la Houssaye, Mayor, be and she is hereby authorized, empower and directed to file necessary applications and requests for assistance, submit necessary documents, contracts, and information necessary to recover the expenditures from the appropriate federal and state agencies and that said applications and requests be and they are hereby fully authorized, ratified and approved by this Board of Aldermen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this emergency declaration be forwarded to the Governor of the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness, the Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency and that they be furnished with all necessary documents as may be meet and proper in the circumstances.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in special, extra-ordinary, emergency session duly convened on the 1st day of September, 2005, in Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana after a roll call vote as follows:

YEAS: Tiger Istre, Vernon Martin, Woody Marceaux, Mary T. Melancon, Laurita D. Pete, Steven C. Premeaux, and Kitty Valdetero

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ira Thomas

JAMES M. BUATT, Mayor-Pro-Tem Presiding

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, City Clerk

Alderman Marceaux offered a motion to use the Rice Festival Building to shelter the refugees from Hurricane Katrina. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made by Alderman Istre and seconded by Alderwoman Melancon the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES M. BUATT, Mayor-Pro-Tem Presiding

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

Presented rough draft to Mayor Pro-Tem on September 1, 2005 at 11:30 a.m.

Presented for Mayor Pro-Tem signature on September 7, 2005 at .m.

Mayor Pro-Tem signed & returned to City Clerk on September , 2005 at .m.