

CITY OF CROWLEY
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 14TH, 2020

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. Wednesday the 14th day of October 2020 at the regular meeting place of said Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the Council Chambers, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana.

Mayor Tim Monceaux presided with the following Aldermen present: Jeff Cavell, Thompson Bradford Core, Clint Cradeur, Lyle Fogleman, Jr., Vernon Martin, Samuel J. Reggie, III, Kim Stringfellow, and Byron K. Wilridge.

Alderman Byron K. Wilridge led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Alderman Lyle Fogleman gave the invocation.

APPEARANCES:

Ezora Proctor appeared to update the Mayor and Council on the 2020 Census Committee and thanked the Mayor and Council for assisting in reaching their goal.

Dr. Aertker gave an update on the COVID 19 pandemic and the updated information on the virus and what is happening in the City of Crowley.

Patricia and Andrew Gautreaux who resides at 819 W 9th Street, Crowley, Louisiana approached the council regarding an issue at 905 N. Western Avenue. A tree that was determined was partially on city property fell during the hurricane and they were requesting assistance. Mayor Monceaux recommended they follow procedures and file a liability claim and have legal review the situation.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Alderman Vernon Martin moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the August 25th, 2020 Special Council meeting, August 31st, 2020 Special Council Meeting, and the September 9th, 2020 Special Council Meeting seconded by Alderman Clint Cradeur and duly adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORTS:

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

Mayor presented the monthly budget-to-actual comparisons that report the spending of major funds.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Clint Cradeur
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Brad Core
Members – Aldermen Byron Wilridge, Lyle Fogleman, Jr., and Vernon Martin

A motion was offered by Alderman Clint Cradeur and seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin to approve Partial Payment Estimate No. 4 to Southern Constructors, Inc. for the City-Wide Drainage Improvements Project in the amount of \$149,352.60. Motion carried

UTILITY COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Vernon Martin
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Sammy Reggie
Members – Aldermen Jeff Cavell, Lyle Fogleman, Jr., and Clint Cradeur

A motion was made by Alderman Steven Premeaux and seconded by Alderman Lyle Fogleman to consider the amended sewer user fee ordinance for the upcoming public hearing proposed for next council meeting.

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Lyle Fogleman
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Vernon Martin
Members – Aldermen Sammy Reggie, Kim Stringfellow and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderman Lyle Fogleman and seconded by Alderwoman Kim Stringfellow to approve, contingent upon approval of City Attorney Tom Regan and City Engineer Tim Mader, the favorable recommendation by the City of Crowley Planning Commission the Preliminary Plat for Harvest Trace Subdivision, which Planning Commission approval includes a recommendation of a waiver of the city’s subdivision regulations calling for a dead end street to have a cul-de-sac of a minimum 47’ radius in favor of a “Hammerhead” or “T-type” turnaround upon approval of the City of Crowley Fire Department. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Brad Core.
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Byron Wilridge
Members – Aldermen Vernon Martin, Kim Stringfellow and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderman Brad Core and seconded by Alderwoman Kim Stringfellow to approve the following 2020 beer and liquor licenses:

New –

Laura Wilder on behalf of APLAW Enterprises 322 B South Eastern Ave.	2020 Class A Retail Beer Permit 2020 Class A Retail Liquor Permit
---	--

Motion carried.

The recommendation from Mayor Monceaux to appoint Mr. Louis Romero as Fire Chief. A roll call vote was held, and the vote was as follows:

Yeas:	Jeff, Cavell, Brad Core, Clint Cradeur, Lyle Fogleman, Vernon Martin, Steven Premeaux, Sammy Reggie, Kim Stringfellow and Byron Wilridge.
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

Motion carried.

PUBLIC BUILDING COMMITTEE :

Chairperson – Alderman Byron Wilridge
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Kim Stringfellow.
Members – Aldermen Brad Core, Clint Cradeur, and Steven Premeaux

A resolution was offered by Alderwoman Kim Stringfellow and seconded by Alderman Brad Core to authorize a lease to the Smile Community Action Agency for offices space in the Crowley

Enterprise Center located at 11 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley. Discussion took place regarding the damages that the building sustained during hurricane Laura and Delta and if the building was able to be occupied.

Alderwoman Kim Stringfellow made a motion to table the resolution until an inspection is completed by the insurance adjuster to assess the damage from hurricanes Laura and Delta and determine if the building is able to be occupied. Seconded by Brad Core. Motion carried.

REVENUE & FINANCES COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Jeff Cavell
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Steven Premeaux
Members – Aldermen Sammy Reggie, Brad Core, and Kim Stringfellow

The following ordinance was offered by Alderman Jeff Cavell and seconded by Alderman Lyle Fogleman and voted down by a 5-4 vote with the vote as follows:

Yeas: Jeff Cavell, Steven Premeaux, Lyle Fogleman, Clint Cradeur
Nays: Brad Core, Kim Stringfellow, Vernon Martin, Byron Wilridge, and Sammy Reggie.

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING, FINALIZING AND IMPLEMENTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGETS OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF CROWLEY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2021; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO; AND TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT OR IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Vernon Martin and seconded by Alderman Jeff Cavell and duly resolved and adopted.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, INTRODUCING A PROPOSED ORDINANCE AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SAME.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 10-36 of Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley, an examination of the total operating expenses and expenditures and revenues generated was made by the Committee for the prior seven years together with other information including future projections for expenditures and needs of the system; and

WHEREAS, the Committee issued a certificate of completion and finding that the current rate structure was inadequate and recommending an increased rate to cover the expenses of operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, debt service and reserve requirements necessary to sustain the wastewater treatment system; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Rural Water Association (LRWA) reviewed the proposed water rates recommended by the Sewer User Fee Review Committee, the number of customers and the number of gallons of usage provided by LAWCO’s computer billing program and the 2018/2019 Audit Report of the City’s finances by the City Auditors in order to determine the debt service, operating expenses, depreciation and revenues; and

WHEREAS, the LRWA issued a report dated September 30, 2020, addressed to Tim Monceaux, Mayor of the City of Crowley, comparing the Sewer User Fee Review Committee’s recommendation with the LRWA’s review and findings; and

WHEREAS, the LRWA report provides a comparative rate for the City to generate adequate revenues "...to replace aging/outdated infrastructure, maintain compliance with state and federal regulations and provide adequate staffing to properly maintain the system."; and

WHEREAS, copies of the LRWA report and attached rate review were provided to all members of the Board of Aldermen; and

WHEREAS, an ordinance has been proposed to be adopted by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ordinance must be introduced by its title; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing must be held prior to its adoption; and

WHEREAS, the title of the proposed ordinance must be published in the official journal and the notice of public hearing shall provide the time and place where the Board will hold the public hearing and consider its adoption;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, that the following ordinance be and it is hereby introduced for consideration and to hold a public hearing at the next regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, to-wit:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 10-30, DIVISION 1.5 SEWER SERVICE USER FEE CHARGES OF ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY TO AMEND THE SEWER USER FEES AND CHARGES SET FORTH THEREIN; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES CONTRARY THERETO OR IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROVISIONS HEREOF TO BE SEVERABLE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that the City Clerk shall publish the following notice in the Crowley Post Signal:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED ADOPTION OF
ORDINANCE

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley shall meet in regular session on the 11th day of November, 2020, at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Criminal Justice Building, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana, to hold a public hearing and to consider the adoption of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 10-30, DIVISION 1.5 SEWER SERVICE USER FEE CHARGES OF ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY TO AMEND THE SEWER USER FEES AND CHARGES SET FORTH THEREIN; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES CONTRARY THERETO OR IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROVISIONS HEREOF TO BE SEVERABLE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for a nominal fee in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Crowley, Louisiana.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this the 14th day of October, 2020.

ERIN S. CRADEUR, CITY CLERK

THUS DONE, SIGNED AND ADOPTED in regular session at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, on this the 14th day of October, 2020, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

TIM MONCEAUX, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ERIN S. CRADEUR, CITY CLERK

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Jeff Cavell and seconded by Alderman Brad Core, and duly resolved and adopted.

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, APPROVING, CONFIRMING AND RATIFYING THE RESOLUTION OF OCTOBER 7, 2020, DECLARING A STATE OF EXTRAORDINARY EMERGENCY DUE TO THE IMMINENT THREAT OF HURRICANE DELTA MAKING LANDFALL IN SOUTHERN LOUISIANA CREATING EMERGENCY CONDITIONS INCLUDING HEAVY AMOUNTS OF RAINFALL, THE LIKELIHOOD OF FLOODING AND HIGH WINDS, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO UNDERTAKE ANY ACTION AUTHORIZED BY LAW AND TO EMPLOY ALL MEASURES TO PROTECT AND ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE, TO PROTECT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY AND TO PRESERVE THE PEACE AND ORDER; TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF EMERGENCY FUNDS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service issued a Hurricane Warning for the Southern Louisiana Coast extending from High Island, Texas, to Marsh Island, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, predicting the threat posed by Hurricane Delta and expected to cause heavy rains, possible flooding and hurricane force winds; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable John Bell Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority of the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance Disaster Act La. R.S. 29:721 et seq, declared a state of emergency existed throughout the state of Louisiana due to the imminent threat of damage from high winds and possible flooding due to heavy rainfall by virtue of EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION NUMBER 133 JBE 2020 and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley met in Special Extraordinary Emergency Session, pursuant to written Notice of Special Extraordinary Emergency Meeting, duly posted in accordance with law and notification via telephone, facsimile, email and/or other means, to consider an Emergency Declaration due to the anticipated effects of heavy and continuous rain and flooding caused therefrom, the effects of high winds potential of hurricane strength and the imminent threat to public safety, health and welfare of the citizens of the City of Crowley and public and private property in the City of Crowley; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen approve, confirm and ratify the Resolution adopted on October 7, 2020, by the Board of Aldermen pursuant to LA R.S. 42:17(A)(5); and

WHEREAS the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley authorized and declared the use of all necessary resources and appropriate funds for emergency operations and expenditures to mitigate the damage and flooding anticipated to be caused by said storm and declared an emergency existed within the City of Crowley in anticipation thereof;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Parish of Acadia, State of Louisiana, in regular session duly convened, with a quorum present and acting throughout, that they do hereby approve, confirm and ratify the declaration of an extraordinary emergency to exists within the City of Crowley as a result of the effects of the extremely heavy and continuous rainfall and high winds, the threat of extreme flooding and damage from wind and flooding affecting the citizens of the City of Crowley and the damage to public and private property as a result of Hurricane Delta, they do hereby authorize and invoke all emergency powers and necessary authorizations under the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana as may be required to ensure public safety, health and welfare, to provide communication, emergency public facilities, assist and facilitate federal and state emergency services, authorize the request for emergency assistance, maintain public order and safety and maintain essential public services as may be necessary, meet and proper under this emergency and to authorize all Departments of the City of Crowley to cooperate in actions that may be required in response to the effects of the severe weather event anticipated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honorable Tim Monceaux, Mayor of the City of Crowley, or his designated representative, be and he is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take all necessary and appropriate action in his sole and complete discretion and direct all department heads, employees and agents of the City of Crowley and requests assistance from other public bodies and to assist other public bodies to provide personnel, buildings, facilities, equipment, care, rendering aid and other services, to protect human life and 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 the sales tax fund balance sufficient to pay all necessary expenditure for the costs thereof, including employee wages and overtime, fuel, food, transportation, building and equipment operations and all other needs as may be necessary, meet and proper during this emergency in the sole discretion of the Mayor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Honorable Tim Monceaux, Mayor, be and he is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute and file any and all necessary applications and requests for assistance, submit necessary documents, contracts and information necessary to recover the expenditures of funds for the emergency from the appropriate federal and state agencies including FEMA and GOHSEP and that said application(s) 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, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Acadia Parish Emergency Management Office and the Honorable K.P. Gibson, Acadia Parish Sheriff, and that they be furnished with all necessary documents as may be meet and proper in the circumstances, and:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective upon adoption and remain in effect for a period of thirty (30) days from October 7, 2020, unless extended.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on the 14th day of October 2020, in Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, after a roll call vote as follows:

YEAS: Jeff Cavell, Brad Core, Clint Cradeur, Lyle Fogleman, Vernon Martin, Steven Premeaux, Sammy Reggie, Kim Stringfellow, and Byron Wilridge.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

TIM MONCEAUX, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ERIN S. CRADEUR, CLERK

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made by Alderman Brad Core and seconded by Alderman Lyle Fogleman the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

TIM MONCEAUX, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ERIN S. CRADEUR, CITY CLERK

Presented rough draft to Mayor on October 21, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
Presented for Mayor signature on October 21, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
Mayor signed & returned to City Clerk on October 21, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.
Publish in newspaper on November 3rd, 2020