

CITY OF CROWLEY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 9, 2004

The Mayor Pro-Tem 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 9th day of March, 2004, 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 presided with the following Aldermen present: Tiger Istre, Woody Marceaux, Vernon Martin, Mary T. Melancon, Laurita D. Pete, Steven C. Premeaux, Ira Thomas and Kitty Valdetero.

Alderman Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and Alderman Martin gave the invocation.

Alderwoman Valdetero moved to amend the agenda to consider budget amendments for waterline and fire hydrant for fire training ground improvements. Seconded by Alderman Martin and duly adopted after a unanimous vote.

Alderwoman Valdetero moved to amend the agenda to consider budget amendments for fencing for fire training ground improvements. Seconded by Alderman Martin and duly adopted after a unanimous vote.

Alderman Martin moved to amend the agenda to consider Revitalization Plan . Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted after a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Pro-Tem Buatt opened the public hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 1283. The Ordinance on revoking the alleyway in Block 59 of CICO Addition was read by title.

Mr. Regan asked for proponents of the proposed Ordinance No. 1283. Mr. Trahan stated that he wanted the alley closed. There were no further comments after the third and final call.

Mr. Regan asked for opponents to the proposed Ordinance No. 1283. A third and final call was made with no one coming forward to speak.

Mayor Pro-Tem Buatt called the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1283 to a close.

Mayor Pro-Tem Buatt opened the public hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 1284. The Ordinance on revoking the alleyway in Block 60 of CICO Addition was read by title.

Mr. Regan asked for proponents of the proposed Ordinance No. 1284. Mr. Trahan stated that he wanted the alley closed. There were no further comments after the third and final call.

Mr. Regan asked for opponents to the proposed Ordinance No. 1284. A third and final call was made with no one coming forward to speak.

Mayor Pro-Tem Buatt called the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1284 to a close.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES / BILLS:

Alderman Istre moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the February 10, 2004 regular council meeting; and approve them as written and distributed. Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted.

Alderman Valdetero moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the March 4, 2004 special council meeting; and approve them as written and distributed. Seconded by Alderman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Melancon moved to approve all bills presented for payment. Seconded by Alderman Martin and duly adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Pro-Tem Buatt presented the Sales Tax Report and User Fee Report that compare current collections to collections from previous years. The Recap of all Funds Report compares actual revenues and expenditures for the six months of the fiscal year to the budgeted revenues and expenditures of the same period.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS:

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Melancon, duly seconded by Alderman Thomas, and duly resolved and adopted.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY CONCERNING A REQUEST TO THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR NEEDED DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON EASTERN AVENUE (U.S. HIGHWAY 90) NEAR SECOND STREET (ALSO U.S. HIGHWAY 90).

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley is experiencing frequent and severe drainage problems on the east side of Eastern Avenue (U.S. Highway 90) near Second Street (also U.S. Highway 90).

WHEREAS, the City Engineer has investigated this situation and determined that this problem could be resolved by the installation of a new drop inlet in the area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley in regular session duly convened, that the Mayor and Council of said City hereby request and urge the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to proceed immediately to investigate the drainage problem on the east side of Eastern Avenue (U.S. Highway 90) near Second Street (also U.S. Highway 90), to install drop inlets where required to alleviate the severe ponding in the area, and to perform any additional improvements that they may deem appropriate and necessary to improve the drainage system along Eastern Avenue (U.S. Highway 90) near Second Street (also U.S. Highway 90).

ADOPTED: on March 9, 2004

* Dr. James M. Buatt, Mayor Pro-Tem, Presided in the Absence of the Mayor

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

JUDY ISTRE, CITY CLERK

Alderman Melancon offered a motion to authorize Mader Engineering, Inc. to proceed with preparation of the plans and specifications for a city-wide Street Repair contract. Seconded by Alderman Martin and duly adopted.

UTILITY:

Alderman Martin moved to approve Partial Payment No. 12 to Stelly Construction for the "West Crowley Sewerage Improvements (LCDBG FY 2001 Program)" in the amount of \$48,012.95. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to authorize Partial Payment No. 3 in the amount of \$10,160.67 for the Release of Retainage to E. B. Feucht for the "Sewerage Extension for T-Stop and Joe Baronet Property" contingent upon satisfactory completion of the Punch List work. Seconded by Alderman Premeaux and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to authorize Mader Engineering, Inc. to prepare plans and specifications for Sewerage Improvements in the Magnolia Pump Station Basin, and refer the matter of funding this project to the Revenue and Finance Committee. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to accept the recommendation of Mader Engineering and award the "Sanitary Sewer Force Main Replacement for Hockaday and Avenue I Pump Station Project" to the low bidder, Stelly Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$248,087.50 contingent upon approval of the bids by DEQ. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Melancon moved to accept the recommendation of Mader Engineering and award the "Sewer Relocation for the LaPac Site Project" to the low bidder, Wastewater Services, Inc., in the amount of \$34,982.50. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

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

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF
ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA
PARISH, LOUISIANA, ORDERING AND ISSUING A
RULE TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CONDEMNATION OF
PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City Inspector has notified the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of a violation of the Building and Safety Codes of the City of Crowley; and

WHEREAS, notice has been issued to the property owners, Stephen and Melinda Lantier, Sr., by the City Inspector's office for repairs and/or demolition to be made of the improvements on Lot 4 of Block 27 of South Crowley Addition to the City of Crowley, having a municipal address of 602 East Oak Street, Crowley, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, no action has been taken and that the City Inspector has requested a public hearing on the condemnation of the said property;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, in regular session duly convened, that notice of rule to show cause should be issued to Stephen and Melinda Lantier for a public hearing to be held by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on the 13th day of April, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. and that said notice be properly recorded and served upon the property owner pursuant to law.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, on this the 9th day of March, 2004, in regular session duly convened, at Crowley, Acadia Parish, LA.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

JUDY ISTRE, CITY CLERK

Alderman Martin moved to purchase a vehicle from Shetler Corley in the amount of \$18,000 plus \$1,000 to Rice City Electronics for vehicle equipment for the City Marshall and refer to Revenue and Finance Committee. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to approve a 2004 application from Samuel Phillips d/b/a Sam's Place for their initial 2004 Class A Retail Outlet Beer Permit and 2004 Class A Retail Outlet Liquor Permit located at 103 North Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to approve a 2004 application from Donald R. Hill d/b/a Bootsie's Carry Out for their initial 2004 Class B Package Beer Permit and 2004 Class B Package Liquor Permit located at 805 West Second Street, Crowley, LA. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to amend the budget and authorize the Mayor to negotiate for the purchase of 40.23 acres west of Crowley, the Mariast property for the use of a police firing range and police training center. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

ZONING & ANNEXATION:

Alderman Marceaux offered a motion to instruct Mr. Regan to mail the annexation package for the North of I-10 annexation to the Justice Department by the end of the week. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

Alderman Marceaux offered a motion to approve a trailer petition for Sandra Davis located at 908 West 10th Street described as 60' x 220' NBY Foreman, SBY 10th Street, less 10' x 120', Original Crowley. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

Alderman Marceaux offered a motion to approve a variance from the required 107 parking spaces according to code and allow 31 parking spaces for Bordelon Home Furnishings located on Hwy 1111. Seconded by Alderwoman Valdetero and duly adopted.

Alderman Marceaux offered a motion to table the agenda item of "Planning Commission's recommendation to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Regulations of the City of Crowley to exempt Lot 4, the south 23 feet of Lot 5 and the south 73 feet of Lot 7 of Block 43 of the Original Crowley from the minimum rear yard requirements and the maximum square footage limitations for accessory buildings situated in the "R-1 Residential" district to permit the building erected by the property owner to remain on the above property as constructed and in the present location on the property". Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Valdetero offered a motion to authorize the Mayor to execute a "tasking order" with Patrick Moore to develop a revitalization plan for Louisiana Housing at a cost of \$15,000 to \$18,000. Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted with Alderman Martin and Alderwoman Pete abstaining.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

Alderman Thomas offered a motion to authorize the advertisement for bids for Phase II construction of the Rice Interpretive Center and Museum with Administrative offices. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas offered a motion to approve the proposal from E. L. Habetz Builders, Inc. for installation of gutters at the Enterprise Center in the amount of \$4,640.00. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas offered a motion to approve Partial Payment No. 4 to E. L. Habetz Builders, Inc. for the Restoration to Rice Interpretive Center and Museum with Administrative Offices in the amount of \$50,580.00. Seconded by Alderwoman Valdetero and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Melancon offered a motion for the city to co-sponsor with Assist Agency the "Gospel Fest" to celebrate community action month. This will be held at the Rice Theater on May 16, 2004 and is open to the public at no cost. Seconded by Alderwoman Valdetero and duly adopted with Alderman Martin and Alderwoman Pete abstaining.

INSURANCE & PERSONNEL:

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Pete and seconded by Alderwoman Melancon to accept the recommendation of Chief Schmaltz to confirm the following:

1. John Beniot from Probational Captain to Permanent Captain effective February 28, 2004
2. Robert Cramer from Probational Captain to Permanent Captain effective February 28, 2004
3. Chad Monceaux from Probational Driver to Permanent Driver effective February 28, 2004
4. Craig Walker from Probational Driver to Permanent Driver effective February 28, 2004
5. Michael Sonnier from Probational District Chief to Permanent District Chief effective February 28, 2004
6. Elizabeth Beniot from Probational District Chief to Permanent District Chief effective February 28, 2004
7. Jody Viator from Probational District Chief to Permanent District Chief effective February 28, 2004. Motion carried.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Schmaltz to confirm Wendall Schexnayder from Probational Firefighter to Permanent Firefighter effective March 29, 2004. Seconded by Alderwoman Valdetero and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Gibson to confirm Berton Gauthreaux from Probational Lieutenant to Permanent Lieutenant effective January 14, 2004. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Gibson to confirm Michael Foreman from Probational Sergeant to Permanent Sergeant effective January 14, 2004. Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Gibson to confirm Sharon Mott from Probational Corporal to Permanent Corporal effective January 14, 2004. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Gibson to confirm Luke LeBlanc from Probational Police Officer to Permanent Police Officer effective January 14, 2004. Seconded by Alderwoman Valdetero and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Gibson to confirm Marcus Deville from Probational Police Officer to Permanent Police Officer effective January 16, 2004. Seconded by Alderman Premeaux and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Gibson to confirm Sarah Breaux from Probational Police Officer to Permanent Police Officer effective January 30, 2004. Seconded by Alderman Premeaux and duly adopted.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Alderman Istre offered a motion to allow Crowley Middle School the use of the Rice Theatre on April 1, 2004, contingent upon availability. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon

and duly adopted.

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Istre, duly seconded by Alderwoman Valdetero, and duly resolved and adopted.

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA AUTHORIZING A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE ACADIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 – 2005.

WHEREAS, the Acadia Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit corporation which fosters economic development, provides strategic planning, assistance in obtaining grants, and improves cooperation between governing bodies and private entities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley has participated in efforts of economic development and community enhancement with the Acadia Economic Development Corporation for the past several years; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen believe that it is the best interest of the City of Crowley to continue participating in the cooperative agreement to improve the economic prosperity of the community:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, in regular session duly convened, that Isabella L. de la Houssaye, Mayor, be and she is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute a Cooperative Agreement between the City of Crowley and Acadia Economic Development Corporation to assist in planning, promoting and encouraging economic development and growth in the City of Crowley and the Parish of Acadia and to provide assistance to existing businesses located in the City of Crowley; assisting in diversifying and bringing additional jobs to the area; promoting education and training for the labor pool; handling referrals and inquiries from new businesses; provide a report identifying and targeting new industrial and commercial markets for location in the Parish; and to create an overall economic development plan coordinated with other municipalities and organizations in Acadia Parish with annual updates to be provided for the development plan and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Crowley shall contribute for the fiscal year 2004 – 2005 the sum of twenty-one thousand three hundred thirty-seven & 50/100 (\$21,337.50) dollars as it pro rata share for the performance of the above services by the Acadia Economic Development Corporation.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this the 9th date of March, 2004 in regular session duly convened by voice vote of the Board of Aldermen at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana.

Alderman Istre offered a motion to approve a resolution in opposition of the Police Jury use of Fruit of the Loom for the Acadia Parish Prison Facility. Seconded by Alderman Marceaux and duly adopted with Alderman Martin abstaining.

REVENUE & FINANCE:

Alderwoman Valdetero offered a motion to amend the Utility Fund's budget and appropriate funds as per Auditor, Steve Lambousy for \$150,000 to prepare specifications and plans and to construct Sewerage Improvements in the Magnolia Pump Station Basin. Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Valdetero offered a motion to amend the budget and appropriate funds from General Fund – Fund Balance to Fire Department's Capital Outlay account to extend waterline and install fire hydrant for the Firemen Training site in the amount of \$7,500.

Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Valdetero offered a motion to amend the budget and appropriate funds from General Fund – Fund Balance to Fire Department’s Capital Outlay account to fencing for the Firemen Training site in the amount of \$2,600. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

ORDINANCES:

The following Ordinance was offered by Alderwoman Melancon, duly seconded by Alderman Marceaux, and duly ordained and adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 1283

AN ORDINANCE TO REVOKE THE DEDICATION OF THE ALLEYWAY SITUATED IN BLOCK FIFTY-NINE (59) OF THE CICO ADDITION TO THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT OF THE CICO ADDITION, NO. 1 AND TO REVOKE ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT TO OR IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley have received a petition prepared by the Assessor Acadia Parish, Louisiana, Russell Benoit, comprising all of the property owners owning property in Block Fifty-nine (59), adjacent to the alleyway of the CICO Addition No. 1, City of Crowley, requesting permission to close the alleyway in said Block Fifty-nine of the CICO Addition No. 1; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen find that said alleyway is no longer needed for any public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley desires to abandon said alleyway and allow property to revert to the adjacent property owners reserving unto the City of Crowley all utility servitudes and the ownership of all oil, gas, and mineral rights:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, IN REGULAR SESSION, DULY CONVENED THAT:

Section 1: The alleyway of Block Fifty-nine (59) of the CICO Addition No. 1 of the City of Crowley is no longer needed for any public purpose or as a public thoroughfare.

Section 2: The dedication and donation of the alleyway situated in and on Block Fifty-nine (59) of the CICO Addition No. 1 to the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, as per plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Acadia Parish, Louisiana, be and the same is hereby revoked, set aside and all right, title and interest to the City of Crowley, in and to the said alleyway and the property thereunder is hereby abandoned and relinquished, reserving all utility servitudes and all oil., gas and mineral rights belonging to said property,

Section 3: All the area covered by and embraced by the said property to the center line thereof shall revert to the present owner or owners of the said lands contiguous thereto on each side of the said alleyway of Block Fifty-nine (59) of the CICO Addition No. 1 to the City of Crowley.

Section 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with or in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED ON THIS THE 9th day of March, 2004, at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, after a roll call vote as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

* Dr. James M. Buatt, Mayor Pro-Tem, Presided in the Absence of the Mayor.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

The following Ordinance was offered by Alderman Martin, duly seconded by Alderwoman Melancon, and duly ordained and adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 1284

AN ORDINANCE TO REVOKE THE DEDICATION OF THE ALLEYWAY SITUATED IN BLOCK SIXTY (60) OF THE CICO ADDITION TO THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT OF THE CICO ADDITION, NO. 1 AND TO REVOKE ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT TO OR IN CONFLICT THEREWITH,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley have received a petition prepared by the Assessor Acadia Parish, Louisiana, Russell Benoit, comprising all of the property owners owning property in Block Sixty (60), adjacent to the alleyway of the CICO Addition No. 1, City of Crowley, requesting permission to close the alleyway in said Block Sixty (60) of the CICO Addition No. 1: and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen find that said alleyway is no longer needed for any public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley desires to abandon said alleyway and allow property to revert to the adjacent property owners reserving unto the City of Crowley all utility servitudes and the ownership of all oil, gas and mineral rights;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, IN REGULAR SESSION, DULY CONVENED THAT:

Section 1: The alleyway of Block Sixty (60) of the CICO Addition No. 1 of the City of Crowley is no longer needed for any public purpose or as a public thoroughfare.

Section 2: The dedication and donation of the alleyway situated in and on Block Sixty (60) of the CICO Addition No. 1 to the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, as per plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk and Recorder of Acadia Parish, Louisiana, be and the same is hereby revoked, set aside and all right, title and interest to the City of Crowley, in and to the said alleyway and the property thereunder is hereby abandoned and relinquished, reserving all utility servitudes and all oil, gas and mineral rights belonging to said property.

Section 3: All the area covered by and embraced by the said property to the center line thereof shall revert to the present owner or owners of the said lands contiguous

thereto on each side of the said alleyway of Block Sixty (60) of the CICO Addition No. 1 to the City of Crowley.

Section 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with or in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this the 9th day of March, 2004, at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, after a roll call vote as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

* Dr. James M. Buatt, Mayor Pro-Tem, Presided in the Absence of the Mayor.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made by Alderman Buatt and seconded by Alderman Premeaux the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

* Dr. James M. Buatt, Mayor Pro-Tem, Presided in the Absence of the Mayor

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

Presented rough draft to Mayor on March 12, 2004 at 4:30 p.m.
Presented for Mayor's signature on March 30, 2004 at 10:25 a.m.
Mayor Signed & returned to City Clerk March , 2004 .m.