

CITY OF CROWLEY
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2009

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 10th day of March, 2009 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: J. Elliot Doré, Jeff Doré, Lyle Fogleman Jr., Vernon Martin, Mary Melancon, Laurita Pete, Steven Premeaux, and Kitty Valdetero. Alderman Todd Whiting was absent.

Alderman Elliot Doré led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and Alderman Vernon Martin gave the invocation.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

Alderman Steven Premeaux offered a motion to amend the agenda to consider the application for a Justice Assistance Grant for the Police Department. Seconded by Alderman Elliot Doré and duly adopted after a unanimous vote.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES / BILLS:

Alderman Vernon Martin moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the February 9th, 2009 special council meeting. Seconded by Alderman Jeff Doré and duly adopted.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Greg A. Jones presented the Sales Tax chart and User Fee chart that track the collection trend since fiscal 1992.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderwoman Mary Melancon,
Vice-Chairperson – Alderwoman Laurita Pete
Members – Aldermen Jeff Doré, Lyle Fogleman, Jr. and Vernon Martin

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Mary Melancon and seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin to authorize Mader Engineering, Inc. to proceed with the bid process for the FY 2008-09 City Wide Street Repair project presented in December 2008, to add the Northern Avenue at Avenue H major repair work, and the Avenue E between 12th and 13th Streets major repair work, and to include the proposed deductive alternates presented at Council's Public Works Committee in the March 4, 2009 Engineering Report. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Mary Melancon and seconded by Alderman Jeff Dore' to authorize the mayor to procure Dean Tekell Traffic Engineering Consultant for the preparation of a Traffic Impact Study for the I-10 Service Road project not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Mary Melancon and seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin to approve Partial Payment No. 9 in the amount of \$304,924.40 to Merrick Construction Company for the Historic Parkerson Avenue Redevelopment Project. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Mary Melancon and seconded by Alderman Lyle Fogleman to increase the budget for the Contract with Pavement Markings, Inc. for the City-Wide Pavement Markings (legends) project to \$65,000.00. Motion carried.

UTILITY COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Vernon Martin
Vice-Chairperson – Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero
Members – Aldermen J. Elliot Doré, Lyle Fogleman, Jr. and Jeff Doré

A motion was offered by Alderman Vernon Martin and seconded by Alderman Jeff Doré to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Mader Engineering, Inc. to provide the design and construction engineering services for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Levee Repair project under the Louisiana Capital Outlay Program and Facility Planning and Control Project No. 50-M58-08B-01. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Todd Whiting
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Lyle Fogleman, Jr.
Members – Aldermen Vernon Martin, Mary Melancon and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderman Lyle Fogleman and seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin to extend the allotted time from (60) days to (90) days to bring the building and/or structure up to building code requirements or demolished and/or removed all trash and debris situated on Lots 5 & 6 of Block 171 of the Original City of Crowley, being the property of Mary Ellen Arceneaux, having a municipal address of 1124 North Avenue B, Crowley. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderman Vernon Martin and seconded by Alderman Elliot Doré to approve an application of a Justice Assistance Grant for funding totalling \$41,000 for the Police Department. Seconded by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and duly adopted after a unanimous vote.

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman J. Elliot Doré
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Vernon Martin
Members – Aldermen Kitty Valdetero, Laurita Pete and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderman Elliot Doré and seconded by Alderwoman Laurita Pete to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation for Versey Allen to enclose a Porch 2' into front setback located at 813 N Avenue A. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderman Jeff Doré
Vice-Chairperson – Alderwoman Mary Melancon
Members – Aldermen Kitty Valdetero, J. Elliot Doré and Todd Whiting

A motion was offered by Alderman Jeff Doré and seconded by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero to proclaim the week of April 12 –April 18, 2009 as National Community Development Week. Motion carried.

REVENUE & FINANCES COMMITTEE:

Chairperson – Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero
Vice-Chairperson – Alderman Todd Whiting
Members – Aldermen Laurita Pete, Jeff Doré and Steven Premeaux

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderman Jeff Doré to increase the budget up to \$10,000 to purchase a 15 ton a/c unit for the Courtroom. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderwoman Mary Melancon to increase the budget for the Contract with Pavement Markings, Inc. for the City-Wide Pavement Markings (legends) project to \$65,000.00. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderman Elliot Doré to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids for an a/c unit for the Rice Festival building and to accept the lowest bid. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderman Jeff Doré to increase the budget by \$10,000 for the preparation of a Traffic Impact Study for the I-10 Service Road. Motion carried.

CERTIFICATION:

A motion was offered by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero and seconded by Alderman Steven Premeaux to authorize Mayor Jones to sign the following certification for the “Replacement of Avenue “H” Bridge, Historic Parkerson Ave. Redevelopment Phase II, Repair of the Pond Levee System, and Renovations to the Rock Filter System”. Motion carried.

**CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 1511 OF
THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT:**

Pursuant to Title XV, Subtitle A, section 1511 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Pub. L.111-5 (Feb 17, 2009) (“ARRA”)), I Greg A. Jones, hereby certify that the infrastructure investment funded by ARRA has received the full review and vetting required by law and that I accept responsibility that such investment is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars. I further certify that the specific information required by 1511 concerning each such investment (a description of the investment, the estimated total cost, and the amount of ARRA funds to be used) is enclosed.

I understand that my State of local agency may not receive ARRA infrastructure investment funding unless this certification is made and posted.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR
CITY OF CROWLEY, LOUISIANA

Signed the 10th day of March 2009.

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolution was offered by Alderwoman Mary Melancon, duly seconded by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero, and duly resolved and adopted.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, APPROVING THE ENGINEERING FEES AND COST ESTIMATE FOR REPAIR OF THE AVENUE G BRIDGE RAILS; TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT THEREFOR; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

WHEREAS, the bridge railing on the Avenue G Bridge sustained damage as a result of a vehicular collision; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has determined that the operator of the vehicle is responsible for the damages and notified the insurance company insuring the vehicle; and

WHEREAS, Huval & Associates Inc. have prepared a cost estimate of \$3,800.00 and engineering estimate in the amount of \$4,500.00 for engineering fees and recommended a contingency be budgeted in the amount of \$1,700.00; and

WHEREAS, Huval & Associates Inc. has indicated that immediate repair should be affected; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney concurs with this recommendation and that the full cost of damages will be paid by the insurance company;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, in regular session duly convened that they do hereby approve the engineering fees of \$4,500.00 and cost estimates for the repair of the Avenue G Bridge rails in the amount of \$3,800.00 and add thereto a contingency amount of \$1,700.00 for a total amount of \$10,000.00 anticipated repair cost and authorize a budget change for said amount with a line item for Avenue G Bridge Repairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honorable Greg A. Jones, Mayor of the City of Crowley, is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to negotiate and execute a repair contract for the repair of the Avenue G Bridge guardrails and other damages to the bridge structure according to plans and specifications to be furnished by Huval & Associates Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Honorable Greg A. Jones, Mayor, be and he is further authorized to execute any and all documents as may be meet and proper in the premises.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on the 10th day of March, 2009, in Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

The resolution endorsing the ASSIST Agency as sponsor of the LIHEAP and Weatherization Programs was offered by Alderman Martin and seconded by Alderwoman Kitty Valdetero. Alderman Lyle Fogleman moved and Alderman Elliot Doré seconded to amend the resolution by striking the paragraph “Whereas, the City of Crowley has no representation on the existing provider’s Board of Directors”. The following amended resolution was offered by Alderman Vernon Martin, duly seconded by Alderwoman Mary Melancon, and duly resolved and adopted with an abstention from Alderwoman Laurita Pete.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA, IN SUPPORT OF THE ASSIST AGENCY AS SPONSOR OF THE LIHEAP AND WEATHERIZATION PROGRAMS IN ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

WHEREAS, Assist Agency is the designated Community Action Agency for Acadia, Vermilion and Jefferson Davis Parishes and has been serving the needs of the low-income and impoverished since 1967; and

WHEREAS, Assist Agency has a strong presence in the City of Crowley and the Acadia Parish community with the full support of other parish-wide public bodies to sponsor the LIHEAP and Weatherization Programs; and

WHEREAS, Assist Agency has a full-time paid staff that is qualified to administer the LIHEAP and Weatherization Programs with no interruption of services including a completely computerized system thereby reducing instances of reporting errors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley has no representation on the existing provider’s Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, as sponsor agency of the LIHEAP and Weatherization Programs, the Assist Agency will work with local suppliers and contractors increasing support to the local community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, in regular session duly convened that they do hereby support the application of the Assist Agency to become the Sponsor of LIHEAP and Weatherization Programs in Acadia Parish.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on the 10th day of March, 2009, in Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

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

WHEREAS the City of Crowley, Louisiana is in need of reestablish flow in the rock filter with the installation of additional rock ; and,

WHEREAS loans and/or grants for this project may be available through the State Revolving Fund loan program operated by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Crowley Louisiana that:

Section 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to submit a pre-application to the Department of Environmental Quality on behalf of the City of Crowley, Louisiana for the purpose of placing this project on the Project Priority List for funding through the State Revolving Fund loan program; and,

Section 2. The Mayor is further authorized to furnish such additional information as may reasonably be requested in connection with the pre-application; and,

Section 3. The Mayor is hereby designated as the Official Project Representative for the City of Crowley, Louisiana for any project that may result from the submission of the pre-application.

A MOTION TO ADOPT the above resolution resulted in the following vote:

YEAS: Elliot Doré, Jeff Doré, Lyle Fogleman Jr., Vernon Martin, Mary Melancon, Laurita Pete, Steven Premeaux, and Kitty Valdetero

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Todd Whiting.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

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

WHEREAS the City of Crowley, Louisiana is in need of reestablishing the perimeter levees at the wastewater treatment facility brought about by hurricanes. The levees will also have concrete erosion protection installed at the water line to prevent future damage; and,

WHEREAS loans and/or grants for this project may be available through the State Revolving Fund loan program operated by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Crowley Louisiana that:

Section 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to submit a pre-application to the Department of Environmental Quality on behalf of the City of Crowley, Louisiana for the purpose of placing this project on the Project Priority List for funding through the State Revolving Fund loan program; and,

Section 2. The Mayor is further authorized to furnish such additional information as may reasonably be requested in connection with the pre-application; and,

Section 3. The Mayor is hereby designated as the Official Project Representative for the City of Crowley, Louisiana for any project that may result from the submission of the pre-application.

A MOTION TO ADOPT the above resolution resulted in the following vote:

YEAS: Elliot Doré, Jeff Doré, Lyle Fogleman Jr., Vernon Martin, Mary Melancon, Laurita Pete, Steven Premeaux, and Kitty Valdetero

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Todd Whiting.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made by Alderwoman Mary Melancon and seconded by Alderman Vernon Martin the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

GREG A. JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

Presented rough draft to Mayor on March 11, 2009 at 2:30 p.m.
Presented for Mayor's signature on March 12, 2009 at 2:15 p.m.
Mayor signed & returned to City Clerk on March 12, 2009 at 2:15 p.m.