

CITY OF CROWLEY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2002

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 8th day of January, 2002, at the regular meeting place of said Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the City Hall, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana.

Mayor Isabella L. de la Houssaye presided with the following Aldermen present: James M. Buatt, J. Elliot Doré, Tiger Istre, Greg Jones, Vernon Martin, Mary T. Melancon, Laurita D. Pete, and Ira Thomas. Aldermen Steven C. Premeaux was absent.

Alderman Istre led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and Fire Chief Russell Meche gave the invocation.

Alderman Thomas moved to amend the agenda to consider the following items:

- A) Consider Partial Payment No. 4 to E. L. Habetz for Renovations of the Maraist Building
- B) Consider Partial Payment No. 4 To E. L. Habetz for Renovations of the Rice Theatre
- C) Consider a request for "Conditional Use Permit" to operate a Day Care Center at 1613 Lennie Johnson Street
- D) Consider a request for "Home Occupancy" to operate a Business of F/Wedding & Etc. at 513 Moore Ave.

Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted after a vote as follows:

YEAS: James M. Buatt, J. Elliot Doré, Tiger Istre, Greg Jones, Vernon Martin, Mary T. Melancon, Laurita D. Pete, and Ira Thomas

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Steven C. Premeaux

APPEARANCES:

Mr. Edward J. Trahan appeared before the assembly with concerns about individuals discharging fireworks towards his home on New Year's Eve. Police Chief

Alleman and the two Officers that were dispatched to the incident were present and inform him that statements were taken and charges were referred to the juvenile prosecutor.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Larry Dubois donated a commemorative poster from Crowley's 1987 Centennial Celebration. Mayor de la Houssaye accepted it on behalf of the City and stated her appreciation, as this particular poster was not in the City's collection.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES / BILLS:

Alderwoman Melancon moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the December 11, 2001 regular council meeting; and approve them as written and distributed to each Alderman. Seconded by Alderman Doré and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas moved to approve all bills presented for payment. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

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

The Mayor submitted her annual report for the year ending December 31, 2001, copies of which were distributed to each Alderman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS:

Alderwoman Melancon moved to authorize a work order for street repairs under the annual contract with R. E. Heidt for an estimated \$40,000 to \$45,000. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Melancon moved to authorize the mayor to initiate the order for Mader-Miers Engineering to proceed with topographic surveys for the Streetscape Project. Seconded by Alderman Doré and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Melancon moved to approve Mader Miers to receive quotes from contractors for the clearing required to complete the Hengens Park parking area and to authorize Mayor de la Houssaye to sign the contract with the lowest responsive bidder. Seconded by Alderman Thomas and duly adopted.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Alderman Buatt offered a motion to approve the renewal application from Norma L. Weekly for a 2002 Class B - retail package beer permit and Class B - retail package liquor permit for Lagrange Food Mart, 620 S. Eastern Avenue, Crowley, LA contingent upon approval by Acadia Parish Sales Tax Office. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin offered a motion to approve the new application from Jeanette V. Shepherd for a 2002 Class A - retail outlet beer permit and a Class A - retail outlet liquor permit for Victoria's Unpredictable Lounge, 824 West Second Street, Crowley, LA. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

ZONING & ANNEXATION:

Alderman Jones moved to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to grant a "Conditional Use Permit" to operate a Day Care Center at 1613 Lennie Johnson Street, Crowley, LA. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to allow "Home Occupancy" for Carrie and Roger Moore to operate F/Wedding & etc. at 513 Moore Avenue, Crowley, LA. Seconded by Alderwoman Pete and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin offered a motion to rescind the resolution adopted in December on Reapportionment. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Doré and duly resolved and adopted.

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

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 shall provide for the time and place where the Board will consider its adoption.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, that the following ordinance be and it is hereby introduced for consideration at the next regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, to-wit:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1160, REAPPORTIONING DUAL MEMBER VOTING DISTRICTS FOR THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, LOUISIANA; AND DESIGNATING THE BOUNDARY OF DISTRICTS (WARDS) 1,2,3 AND 4 OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RESULTS OF THE 2000 UNITED STATES CENSUS; AND TO PROVIDE CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES TO CONFORM TO THE RESULTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL RELATED MATTERS THEREOF; AND TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH OR CONTRARY HERETO.

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 PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, shall meet on the 6th day of February, 2002 at 5:00 o'clock p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Crowley, LA, to consider the adoption of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1160, REAPPORTIONING DUAL MEMBER

VOTING DISTRICTS FOR THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, LOUISIANA; AND DESIGNATING THE BOUNDARY OF DISTRICTS (WARDS) 1,2,3 AND 4 OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RESULTS OF THE 2000 UNITED STATES CENSUS; AND TO PROVIDE CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES TO CONFORM TO THE RESULTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL RELATED MATTERS THEREOF; AND TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH OR CONTRARY HERETO.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for a nominal fee in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Crowley, LA.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this the 8th day of January, 2002.

JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

THUS DONE, SIGNED AND ADOPTED on this the 8th day of January, 2002.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY
OF CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH,
LOUISIANA, SUPPORTING AN
AMENDMENT TO THE STATUTES
PERTAINING TO ANNEXATION OF
PROPERTIES ADJACENT TO
MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley has been informed that a District Court ruling in St. Tammany Parish has been made which prevents the annexation of property adjacent to municipal boundaries for Lawrson Act communities; and

WHEREAS, the decision of the District Court could have adverse implications for all Lawrson Act municipalities in the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, economic development, growth and orderly development of property adjacent to municipalities is a goal of annexation; and

WHEREAS, annexation is necessary for the orderly growth and development of municipalities, economic development of communities and provides a means to increase municipal revenues to provide services to the community; and

WHEREAS, the orderly development and growth of municipalities and the power to annex is necessary for the orderly growth and development of municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, in regular session duly convened, that they do hereby urge the Louisiana Municipal Association to endorse and support an amendment or amendments as may be necessary to assure municipalities the continued authority and lawful means to annex property adjacent to municipal corporate limits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honorable Gil Pinac, State Representative and Honorable Fred Hoyt, State Senator, to introduce and/or co-sponsor an amendment or amendments that may be necessary.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on this the 8th day of January, 2002 at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was acting throughout.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

PUBLIC BUILDING:

Alderman Thomas moved to approve Change Order Number 1 for E. L. Habetz Builders, Inc. to install additional lighting at the Rice Theatre at the cost of \$1,333.00. Seconded by Alderman Buatt and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas moved to approve Change Order Number 2 to E. L. Habetz Builders, Inc. to install four 16 ounce copper canopies over the exterior doors at the Rice Theatre at the cost of \$955.00. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas moved to approve Final Payment No. 5 to E. L. Habetz Builders Inc., for the roof construction to Miller Stadium for \$6,718.00. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas moved to accept the City of Crowley's Building Inspector's recommendation to delete the firewall requirement from the construction at the Crowley Enterprise Center and to accept the recommendation of Glenn McBride, Consulting Engineer of the Associated Design Group, Inc. to install a electrically supervised automatic sprinkler system throughout the facility in lieu of a one hour fire rated separation wall. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

Alderman Martin moved to approve Partial Payment No. 4 to E. L. Habetz Builders, Inc. for the renovations to the Crowley Enterprise Center in the amount of \$59,446.00. Seconded by Alderman Doré and duly adopted.

Alderman Doré moved to approve Partial Payment No. 4 to E. L. Habetz Builders, Inc. for the renovations to the Rice Theatre in the amount of \$40,494.00. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

INSURANCE & PERSONNEL:

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Mark Landry for the city to return to self insured for worker's compensation and to accept the low bid of \$56,796 from Midwest Employers' Casualty Company for aggregate insurance. Seconded by Alderman Doré and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to change the date of the Tuesday, February 12, 2002 Regular Council meeting to Wednesday, February 13, 2002. Seconded by Alderman Buatt and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Alleman to hire Patrick Joseph Babineaux to fill a vacant position in the Crowley Police Department effective January 12, 2002. Seconded by Alderman Buatt and duly adopted.

Alderwoman Pete offered a motion to promote Crowley Police Officer Troy Hebert to the rank of lieutenant effective January 12, 2002. Seconded by Alderman Buatt and duly adopted.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC:

Alderman Istre offered a motion to declare the Mardi Gras celebration, on Monday evening and Tuesday, an annual festival in Crowley, Louisiana, to include the issuance of a city permit to sell beer and to authorize the mayor to appoint the chairperson for the event. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

RECREATION:

Alderman Thomas moved to approve partial payment no. 5 to LADCO for the Drainage Improvements at Miller Stadium in the amount of \$6,587.96. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

Alderman Thomas moved to authorize Mader-Miers Engineering, Inc. to proceed with the necessary specifications, plans and bid process for lighting improvements at Miller Stadium at an estimated cost of \$185,000.00 and to refer to finance. Seconded by Alderman Doré and duly adopted.

REVENUE & FINANCE:

Alderman Doré moved to amend the fiscal 2002 budget to appropriate \$185,000.00 from the fund balance of the Sales Tax Fund to the Youth Recreation Operating Fund and to increase the Capital Outlay expense in the amount of \$185,000.00 for lighting improvements at Miller Stadium. Seconded by Alderman Jones and duly adopted.

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF
CROWLEY, ACADIA PARISH, LOUISIANA,
ACCEPTING A NOMINATION PETITION
FOR AN OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASE
AND AUTHORIZING THE
ADVERTISEMENT TO RECEIVE BIDS
THEREFOR

WHEREAS, a nominating petition has been received by the City of Crowley from Angelle & Donohue Oil & Gas Properties, Inc. proposing the acquisition of an oil, gas and mineral lease and subsurface servitude covering approximately 6.0 acres, more or less, located in the City of Crowley, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Angelle & Donohue Oil & Gas Properties, Inc. has deposited with the City Clerk of the City of Crowley the appropriate fee in the form of a money order in the amount of \$200.00; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have reviewed the request and desire to accept the petition and desire to advertise and receive bids for an oil, gas and mineral lease within the area nominated;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, in regular session duly convened, that the City of Crowley shall receive sealed bids at the office of the City Clerk, Judy Istre on or before the 7th day of February, 2002 at 3:00 p.m., which bids shall be opened at 3:30 p.m. on said date for the lease of oil, gas and other minerals on the following described property, to-wit;

All of the streets and other properties belonging to the City of Crowley not currently under lease comprising of the entirety or portions of, but not limited to, the following streets: Magnolia (Brook) Dr., Cypress Dr., Azalea Dr., Broad Acres Dr., Parkerson Ave., Cherokee Road, Stutes St., Huval St., Sweeney St., James St., Lewis St., Cherry St., Texas St., Canal St., Truman St., May St., Holly St., Avenue G, Avenue H, Avenue I, Avenue J, Avenue K, 15th St., 14th St., 16th St., 17th St., N. 17th St., S. 17th St., Park St., N. View Lane, Avenue B, Avenue C, Avenue D, Avenue E, Avenue F, Buatt Ave., Hoffpauir Ave., Taylor Ave., Milton Ave., Chappuis Ave., Western Ave., and Northern Ave. contained within the following described area:

Beginning at a point within the City Limits of Crowley have coordinates of X = 1,672,309.59 and Y = 569,960.50;
Thence West 2,613.59 ft. to a point having coordinates of X = 1,669,696.00 and Y = 569,960.50; Thence North 676.91 ft to a point on the Marg I RA SU A, Department of Conservation Order No. 660-E-2, having coordinates of X = 1,669,696.00 and Y = 570,636.41;
Thence with the said Marg I RA SU A the following courses: S 89° 42' 14" W 1,241.02 ft. having coordinates of X = 1,668,455.00 and Y = 570,630.00, N 24° 58' 32" W approximately 1,107.00 ft. to a point of intersection with a northern boundary of the Crowley City Limits;
Thence with the Crowley City Limits the following courses: Northwesterly, Southwesterly, Westerly, Northwesterly, Westerly, Southerly, Westerly, Southerly, Easterly, Southerly, Easterly, Southerly, Southeasterly, and Southwesterly to a point on or a northerly extension of the Western right-of-way line of Western Ave.;

Thence Southeasterly approximately 355.00 ft. to a point on the Northern right-of-way line of 15th St.;

Thence Southwesterly approximately 2,910.00 ft. with the above said right-of-way of 15th St. to a point on a Western boundary of the Crowley City Limits;

Thence Southeasterly approximately 784.00 ft. with the said Crowley City Limits to a point on the Southern right-of-way line of Northern Ave.;

Thence Northeasterly approximately 8,020.00 ft. with the said right-of-way of Northern Ave. to a point of intersection with a North-South line having a Coordinate of X = 1,672,309.59;
Thence North approximately 1,923.00 ft. to the point of beginning and estimated to contain 133.00 acres, shown more fully on the attached plat.

All bearings, distances, and coordinates refer to the Louisiana Coordinate System of 1927, South Zone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all bids shall offer a cash bonus for a lease having a primary term which shall not exceed three (3) years. Minimum royalties shall be one-quarter (1/4) of all oil, including condensate or other liquid materials, produced and saved; one-quarter (1/4) of the value of all gas, including casinghead gas, produced and saved or utilized by methods considered as ordinary production methods at the time of production; one-quarter (1/4) of any and all other liquid or gaseous minerals in solution and produced with oil or gas and saved or utilized, which are not specifically mentioned herein.

Should Lessee fail to begin the actual drilling (spudding in) of a well on the leased premises within one (1) year from the date of the lease, the lease shall terminate as to both parties to the lease, unless on or before each anniversary date Lessee shall pay a delay rental (which shall in no event be less than one-half of the bonus offered), which shall cover the privilege of deferring drilling operations for a period of one year. Upon like payments annually, drilling operations may be further deferred for successive periods of one year each during the primary term. The primary term of the lease shall be three (3) years. The lease shall provide for the drilling of offset wells where necessary to protect the City's interest and shall contain provisions against the assignment or sublease of the lease unless approved by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Louisiana. The lease shall contain a "NO SURFACE OPERATIONS" clause, but may be developed by directional drilling. Lessee shall have the right to enter into pooling or unitization agreements with respect to the development of the leased premises subject to the approval of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Louisiana.

The lease shall be without warranty as to title even to the return of the bonus and rental payments.

A certified check, cashiers' check or bank money order, payable to the City of Crowley for the full amount of cash bonus shall accompany and be deposited with each bid and no bid or deposit may thereafter be withdrawn or cancelled; and the cash bonus thus deposited shall be forfeited to the City of Crowley by the successful bidder in the event said bidder does not enter into a written lease within TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER THE WRITTEN LEASE IS SUBMITTED TO HIM FOR EXECUTION.

Any leases awarded on the above lands shall be subject to approval of the State Mineral Board.

The City of Crowley reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to grant a lease on any portion of the tract advertised for a price not less than proportionate to the best bid offered for the lease of the entire tract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Notice to Bidders attached as Exhibit "A" shall be published in conformity with law in the official journal of the City of Crowley, The Crowley Post Signal, and the State Journal, The Advocate, containing the terms and conditions required.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened on this the 8th day of January, 2002 at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was acting throughout.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

The following amendment the fiscal 2002 General Fund budget was offered by Alderman Doré. Seconded by Alderman Buatt and duly adopted.

Account	Budget	Y.T.D.	Amended	Increase	Revenue
A/C 37-017-100	LCDA Loan	194,000	532,000	532,000	338,000
Expense					
A/C 52-703-100	Enterprise Center	-0-	235,982	300,000	300,000

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Alderman Martin moved to approve Change Order No. 1 to the Installation of the Comminutor at the Main Pump Station contract at the cost of \$11,823.25 for KAS Contractor. Seconded by Alderman Istre and duly adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

ISABELLA L. DE LA HOUSSAYE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JUDY L. ISTRE, CLERK

Presented rough draft to Mayor on January 9, 2002 at 4:15 p.m.

Presented for Mayor's signature on January 11, 2002 at 4:30 p.m.
Mayor Signed & returned to City Clerk on January 14, 2002 at 11:30 a.m.