

CITY OF CROWLEY

SPECIAL EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

**MARCH 7, 2002**

The Mayor Pro Tempore and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, Louisiana, the governing authority of the City of Crowley, met in a special emergency session at 5:00 p.m. Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002 at the regular meeting place of said Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the City Hall, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana, after the giving and posting of notice of said meeting in the manner provided by law.

Mayor Pro Tem James Buatt assumed the chair and presided with the following Aldermen present: James Buatt, J. Elliot Doré, Tiger Istre, Mary T. Melancon, Steven C. Premeaux, and Ira Thomas. Alderman Greg Jones, Vernon Martin and Laurita D. Pete were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited and Alderman Doré gave the invocation.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING:

You are hereby notified that a Special Emergency Council Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley will be held on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The purpose of said meeting will be:

1. To Consider the Report and Recommendation of Mader-Miers Engineering and Waste Water Superintendent to Declare an Extra Ordinary Emergency due to Multiple Pump Failures at 9<sup>th</sup> Street Waste Water Pumping Station and to Authorize Emergency Repairs.
2. No Other Items Will Be Considered.

S/ James M. Buatt .

James M. Buatt,

Mayor Pro Tempore

James M. Buatt p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 3:00 o'clock
J. Elliot Doré p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 4:10 o'clock
Tiger Istre p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 3:50 o'clock
Mary T. Melancon p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 4:00 o'clock
Steven Premeaux p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 4:05 o'clock
Ira Thomas p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 3:55 o'clock
Judy L. Istre p.m.	March 7, 2002 at 3:05 o'clock

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Doré, 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, DECLARING AN  
EXTRA-ORDINARY PUBLIC  
EMERGENCY DUE TO MULTIPLE

PUMP FAILURES AT THE 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
PUMPING STATION; AND TO  
AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT FOR  
EMERGENCY REPAIR

WHEREAS, an unknown object or debris entered the impellers of the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Wastewater Pumping Station, causing a severe torque load which sheered a submersible pump from its mounting at the base of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the failure of the first pump caused a portion of the steel rail support system and structure to collapse into the basin, resulting in the loss of the entire automatic control system for all pumps and two of the remaining three pumps failed to respond to manual override control; and

WHEREAS, the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Wastewater Pumping Station consists of four large main submersible pumps with an automatic control system designed to engage the required number of pumps to handle the wastewater received from approximately 80% of the City of Crowley; and

WHEREAS, the single remaining pump lacked sufficient capacity to handle the entire volume and the inadequacy or the failure of the pump was substantial without any backup pumps available; and

WHEREAS, the simultaneous failure of three main pumps is an unusual, extra-ordinary and extreme failure exposing a large portion of the City of Crowley to raw sewerage and wastewater excursions, including bacteria, viruses, as well as other environmental hazards, and the potential for significant property damage and loss to private and public facilities, resulting in an imminent threat to the public health, safety and well-being of the citizens of Crowley; and

WHEREAS, it was necessary to take immediate action to engage the repair of the facility which was beyond the capability and expertise of City crews; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer recommended the immediate telephone solicitation of contractors to negotiate a contract for the necessary repairs; and

WHEREAS, the response of four of the contractors was completely negative, stating they were unable or unwilling to attempt the work; and

WHEREAS, E.B. Feucht & Sons, although willing to offer its services to accomplish the work, was already engaged in emergency repairs for the Town of Iota's pump stations and would be unable to respond for at least three days; and

WHEREAS, the sole quotation and offer which was received by the City of Crowley was made by PDS Construction, Inc. to immediately respond, begin and complete the work necessary to properly repair the pump station at a price of \$680.00 per hour, plus the cost of equipment rental and materials necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineers deemed the price and terms of the offer to perform the work reasonable under the circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen find that an immediate and significant danger to the public health and welfare exists due to the damaged and/or non-functional pumps, control systems and appurtenances thereto;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Crowley, in special emergency session duly convened after emergency notice was issued to the news media by facsimile and telephone notification that a special emergency session was to be held; and that after consideration of the facts and circumstances, they do find that an Extra-Ordinary Public Emergency exists due to the multiple pump failures

which occurred at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Wastewater Pumping Station, exposing the citizens of Crowley to potential health and environmental hazards which posed a substantial threat to public welfare, health and damage to property in the City of Crowley; and they do authorize, empower and direct the Honorable Isabella L. de la Houssaye, Mayor of the City of Crowley to negotiate, engage and execute a contract with PDS Construction, Inc. for the Emergency Repair of the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Wastewater Pump Station for the cost of \$680.00 per hour, plus equipment rental and material and under such other terms and conditions as may be meet and proper in the circumstances; and hereby authorize the Wastewater Superintendent to take immediate action for the repair of the pump station.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in special emergency session duly convened on this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002 at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, at which a quorum was acting throughout.

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JAMES M. BUATT, MAYOR

PRO TEMPORE

ATTEST:

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JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

Alderman Doré moved to amend the Fiscal 2002 Budget and appropriate \$100,000.00 for the repairs of the multiple pump failures from Utility's fund balance to Sewer Department's Capital Outlay expense account. Seconded by Alderwoman Melancon and duly adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

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JAMES M. BUATT, MAYOR

PRO TEMPORE

ATTEST:

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JUDY L. ISTRE, CITY CLERK

Presented rough draft to Mayor Pro Tempore on March 11, 2002 at 2:30 p.m.

Presented for Mayor Pro Tempore signature on March 12, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Pro Tempore signed & returned to City Clerk on March           , 2002  
at            a.m.