CITY OF CROWLEY REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 2025

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 5:00 p.m. Tuesday the 18th day of February 2025 at the regular meeting place of said Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the Council Chambers, 426 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana.

Mayor Chad Monceaux presided with the following Aldermen present: Chuck Ashby, Katie Chiasson, Thompson Bradford Core, Jeff Doré, Dickie Latiolais, Vernon Martin, Samuel J. Reggie III, Sandy Marx and Byron K. Wilridge, Sr.

None were absent.

Alderman Chuck Ashby gave the invocation. Alderman Dickie Latiolais led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

APPEARANCES:

Mr. Jake Benoit from Senator Kennedy's office introduced himself to the council members.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

A motion was made by Alderman Vernon Martin to amend the agenda to add the questions from constituents to the Community Development Committee seconded by Alderman Byron Wilridge. Motion was not voted on.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Chad Monceaux opened the public hearing to consider proposed Ordinance No. 1547 The Ordinance was read by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1-8 GENERAL PENALTY OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY TO UPDATE APPLICABLE FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND TO MAKE OTHER AMENDMENTS IN KEEPING WITH CURRENT STATE LAW; 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.

Assistant City Attorney Micheal Landry asked for proponents to the proposed Ordinance No. 1547. A third and final call was made with no one coming forward to speak. A call for opponents of the proposed Ordinance No. 1547 was made. A third and final call was made with no one coming forward to speak. Assistant City Attorney Micheal Landry called the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1547 to a close and Mayor Chad Monceaux opened the public hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 1548.

The Ordinance was read by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 7 – CRIMINAL CODE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY TO UPDATE APPLICABLE FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND TO MAKE OTHER AMENDMENTS IN KEEPING WITH CURRENT STATE LAW; 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.

Assistant City Attorney Micheal Landry asked for proponents to the proposed Ordinance No. 1548. A third and final call was made with no one coming forward to speak. A call for opponents of the proposed Ordinance No. 1548 was made. A third and final call was made with no one coming forward

to speak. Assistant City Attorney Micheal Landry called the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1548 to a close and Mayor Chad Monceaux reconvened the regular Council meeting.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Alderman Dickie Latiolais moved to dispense with the reading of the January 29, 2025, Special Council meeting seconded by Alderman Jeff Dore and duly adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORTS:

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

Mayor presented the status report of audit findings for fiscal year 2023.

Mayor explained the monthly budget-to-actual comparisons through January 31, 2025, was not available yet due to the software upgrade.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE:

A motion was made by Alderman Samuel Reggie and seconded by Alderman Brad Core to approve the Preliminary and Final Plat for Dixie Field Property LLC, showing Lot 11 being a Commercial Subdivision located in Section 43, Township 9 South, Range 1 East, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana contingent upon review by and approval of the City Engineer as Designated Review Agent of the Crowley Planning Commission. Mayor Monceaux opened the floor for discussion. There being no remarks from the Council. The motion having been submitted to a voice vote; the motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderman Samuel Reggie and seconded by Alderwoman Sandra Marx to approve a conditional use to occupy a learning center located 514 W 10th St. in the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish. Alderman Samuel Reggie questioned the parking availability, and the requirements detailed in the city ordinance. A motion was made by Alderman Samuel Reggie and seconded by Alderwoman Sandra Marx to amend the motion to approve a conditional use to occupy a learning center located 514 W 10th St. in the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, contingent upon the city ordinance regarding parking be met. Mayor Monceaux opened the floor for discussion on the amended motion. There being no remarks from the Council. The amended motion having been submitted to a voice vote; Alderman Vernon Martin abstained; the amended motion was carried.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS COMMITTEE:

A motion was made by Alderman Byron Wilridge and seconded by Alderman Jeff Dore to approve Partial Payment #3 for the Urban Park & Pavillion Project to Prestige Construction Group, LLC in the amount of \$44,650.00. Mayor Monceaux opened the floor for discussion. There being no remarks from the Council. The motion having been submitted to a voice vote; the motion was carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES:

A motion was made by Alderman Brad Core and seconded by Alderwoman Sandy Marx to adopt Ordinance No. 1547, amending and reenacting provisions of Chapter 1, Section 1-8 General Penalty of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley to update applicable fines and penalties for violations and to make other amendments in keeping with current state law; 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. Mayor Monceaux opened the floor for discussion. There being no remarks from the Council.

A roll was called with the vote as follows:

Yeas: Chuck Ashby, Katie Chiasson, Brad Core, Jeff Dore, Dickie Latiolais, Vernon Martin, Sandy Marx, Bryon Wilridge and Samuel Reggie.

Nays: None. Absent: None.

Abstained: None.

The ordinance passed by a vote of 0 nays, 0 absent and 9 yeas. The ordinance was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 1547

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1-8 GENERAL PENALTY OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY TO UPDATE APPLICABLE FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND TO MAKE OTHER AMENDMENTS IN KEEPING WITH CURRENT STATE LAW; 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.

WHEREAS, Chapter 1 Section 1-8 "General Penalty" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley have not been updated in many years;

WHEREAS, amendments are necessary to Chapter 1 Section 1-8 "General Penalty" in order to keep pace with current economic conditions and to provide a sufficient deterrent to violations of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley;

WHEREAS, this ordinance was duly introduced and notice of the intent to adopt this ordinance and of the public hearing held in connection therewith having been published in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing having been held in accordance with law in regular session on the 18th day of February, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. at Council Chambers in the Criminal Justice Building, Crowley, Louisiana;

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

SECTION 1: That Chapter 1 Section 1-8 "General Penalty" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley be and it is hereby amended so as to increase the minimum fine contained therein to "one hundred dollars (\$100.00)" and the maximum fine contained therein to "five hundred dollars (\$500.00)".

SECTION 2: If any provision, part, word, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance and do hereby declare the provisions hereof to be severable, then in that event, only that particular provision, part, word, section,

subsection, sentence, clause or phrase shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid and the remaining provisions, parts, words, sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases will not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 3: All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with or in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE, SIGNED AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, on this the 18th day of February, 2025, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

YEAS: Chuck Ashby, Katie Chiasson, Brad Core, Jeff Dore, Dickie Latiolais,

Vernon Martin, Sandy Marx, Samuel Reggie, and Bryon Wilridge.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sandy Marx and seconded by Alderman Brad Core to adopt Ordinance No. 1548, ordinance to amending and re-enacting provisions of Chapter 7 – Criminal Code of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley to update applicable fines and penalties for violations and to make other amendments in keeping with current state law; 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.. Mayor Monceaux opened the floor for discussion. There being no remarks from the Council.

A roll was called with the vote as follows:

Yeas: Chuck Ashby, Katie Chiasson, Brad Core, Jeff Dore, Dickie Latiolais, Vernon Martin, Sandy Marx, Bryon Wilridge and Samuel Reggie.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: None.

The ordinance passed by a vote of 0 nays, 0 absent and 9 yeas. The ordinance was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 1548

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 7 – CRIMINAL CODE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CROWLEY TO UPDATE APPLICABLE FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND TO MAKE OTHER AMENDMENTS IN KEEPING WITH CURRENT STATE LAW; 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.

WHEREAS, a number of the ordinances contained in Chapter 7 – Criminal Code of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley have not been updated in many years;

WHEREAS, amendments are necessary to the Criminal Code in order to keep pace with current economic conditions, changes in state law, and changes in the nature of criminal activity faced by local law enforcement in order to effectively fight crime and provide a meaningful and effective deterrent to criminal activity;

WHEREAS, this ordinance was duly introduced and notice of the intent to adopt this ordinance and of the public hearing held in connection therewith having been published in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing having been held in accordance with law in regular session on the 18th day of February, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. at Council Chambers in the Criminal Justice Building, Crowley, Louisiana;

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

SECTION 1: That the following sections of Chapter 7 - Criminal Code of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley be and they are hereby amended so as to provide for the following minimum and maximum fines

- a. Section 7-21 (b) "Simple Assault": minimum \$100.00; maximum \$500.00
- b. Section 7-22 (b) "Aggravated Assault": minimum \$250.00; maximum \$500.00
- c. Section 7-24 (b) "Simple Battery": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- d. Section 7-26 "Illegal Possession of Stolen Things": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- e. Section 7-27 (b) "Theft": minimum \$250.00; maximum \$500.00
- f. Section 7-28 (c) "Issuing Worthless Checks": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- g. Section 7-29 "Unauthorized Use of a Movable": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- h. Section 7-31 (b) "Disorderly Place-Keeping": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- i. Section 7-32 (b) "Disorderly Place-Letting": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- j. Section 7-33 "Attachment to City-Owned Utility Poles or Other City-Owned Structures in Rights-of-Way: minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- k. Section 7-34 (b) "Disturbing the Peace": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- l. Section 7-35 (b) "Fortunetelling, Palmistry, Conducting Seances, Phrenology": minimum \$100.00; maximum \$500.00
- m. Section 7-36 (b) "Gambling": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- n. Section 7-38 "Junk Dealers to Keep Records": minimum \$100.00; maximum \$500.00
- o. Section 7-40 (c) "Peeping Tom": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00 u.
- p. Section 7-41 (b) "Resisting an Officer": minimum \$250.00; maximum \$500.00
- q. Section 7-42 (d) "Criminal Trespass": minimum \$250.00; maximum \$500.00
- r. Section 7-43 (b) "Weapons-Illegal Carrying": minimum \$250.00; maximum \$500.00
- s. Section 7-44 (b) "Same-Illegal Use Generally": minimum \$250.00; maximum \$500.00
- t. Section 7-45 "Same-Possession in a Place Where Alcoholic Beverages are Served and Consumed on Premises: minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- u. Section 7-50 (e) "Barbed Wire": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- v. Section 7-54 (b) "Parks, Playgrounds, Recreation Areas; Prohibited Acts": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00
- w. Section 7-55 (b) "Urinating in Public Places": minimum \$150.00; maximum \$500.00

SECTION 2: That the following sections of Chapter 7 - Criminal Code of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crowley be and they are hereby amended as follows:

- a. Section 7-25 (b) "Criminal Mischief" be and it is hereby amended to increase the minimum and maximum fines for violations generally and to provide for greater fines for certain violations such that Section 7-25(b) as amended shall read in its entirety as follows:
 - (b) [Penalty.] Whoever commits criminal mischief shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned for not more than sixty (60) days, or both. Notwithstanding the foregoing whoever commits criminal mischief by discharging of any firearm within the corporate limits of the City of Crowley shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and shall forfeit the weapon used in the commission of the crime which weapon shall be confiscated and destroyed.
- b. Section 7-27 "Theft": be and it is hereby amended to increase the jurisdictional limit for prosecution as stated in subsection (b); to increase the the minimum and maximum fines for violations; and to enact and add subsection (c) said subsections as amended to read in their entirety as follows:
 - (b) Whoever commits theft and the misappropriation or taking is valued at less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned for not more than sixty (60) days, or both.
 - (c) In addition to fine and court costs as set forth in subsection (b) above, if satisfactory proof of the value of the item taken is submitted to the Court at the trial of the offense or at or before the acceptance of a plea of guilty or no contest to the offense, the offender shall be ordered to make restitution to the victim in the amount of the value of the item taken as proven to the satisfaction of the Court as set forth herein provided that, in the discretion of the Court, restitution may be ordered to be made in kind by return of the item taken. If restitution is ordered it shall be paid prior to the collection of any fine imposed.
- c. Section 7-37 "Interfering Electronic Devices, Reception or Communications": Subsection (b) be and it is hereby amended to provide for minimum and maximum penalties for violations such that said subsection (b) as amended shall read in its entirety as follows:
 - (b) Whoever maintains, operates or permits to be operated any such instrumentality shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars nor more than five hundred (\$500.00) dollars or imprisonment for not more than sixty (60) days.
- d. Section 7-39 (F) "Obscenity": be and it is hereby repealed in its entirety.
- e. Section 7-44 "Same-Illegal Use Generally", Subsection (a) be and it is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:
 - (a) Defined. "Illegal use of weapons or dangerous instrumentalities" is the intentional or the criminally negligent discharge of any firearm, air gun, or other instrumentality designed to launch or propel a projectile of any kind, or the throwing, placing or other use of any article, liquid or substance where it is foreseeable that it may result in death or great bodily harm to a human being, unless such discharge is reasonably required for the protection of life or property.

SECTION 3: If any provision, part, word, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not

affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance and do hereby declare the provisions hereof to be severable, then in that event, only that particular provision, part, word, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid and the remaining provisions, parts, words, sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases will not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with or in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE, SIGNED AND ADOPTED in regular session duly convened at Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana, on this the 18th day of February, 2025, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout.

YEAS: Chuck Ashby, Katie Chiasson, Brad Core, Jeff Dore, Dickie Latiolais,

Vernon Martin, Sandy Marx, Samuel Reggie and Bryon Wilridge.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion duly made by Alderman Brad Core and seconded by Alderwoman Sandy Marx the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Presented rough draft to Mayor on Presented for Mayor signature on

Mayor signed & returned to City Clerk on

Publish in newspaper on