

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION HELD SEPTEMBER 18, 2025. The City Council of the City of Crowley, Texas met in Regular Session on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, 201 East Main Street, Crowley City Hall, Crowley, Texas.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Billy Davis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 p.m. City Secretary Asja Reyes called roll and noted a quorum was present.

Present were

Council Member Tina Pace, Council Member Jerry Beck, Council Member Jesse Johnson, Council Member Jim Hirth, Council Member Matt Foster, Council Member Scott Gilbreath, Mayor Billy Davis

City staff included:

City Manager, Lori Watson

Asst City Manager, Cristina Winner

Asst City Manager, Matt Elgin

City Attorney, Rob Allibon

City Secretary, Asja Reyes

Fire Representative, Keira Stephens

Police Chief, Kit Long

Planning and Comm Dev Director, Rachel Roberts

Director of Utilities, Randal Manus

EDC Director, Molly Martin

Asst Finance Director, Heather Gwin

HR Administrator, Lacy Duncan

Media Relations Coordinator, Jay Hinton

Downtown Events Coordinator, Julie Hepler

Absent:

Public Works Director, Mike Rocamontes

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags

Invocation was given by Council Member Tina Pace followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.

Presentations/Proclamations

1. Proclamation - National Night Out

Proclamation regarding National Night Out was read by Council Member Jesse Johnson. The proclamation states National Night out is an Annual National Community-Building Campaign that will be held this year on October 7th, 2025. This campaign promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live and work.

Consent Agenda

1. Discuss and consider approving the minutes from the work session and regular meeting held on September 4, 2025.

Council Member Jim Hirth made the motion to Approve the minutes as presented; second by Council Member Jesse Johnson, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion Carried 7-0.

Public Hearings

1. (a) Hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Crowley Economic Development 4B FY2025-26 Operating Budget and discuss and (b) consider adopting the Crowley Economic Development 4B FY2025-26 Operating Budget.

Mayor Billy Davis opened up the floor to the public at 7:05 pm for a public hearing to discuss the adoption of the proposed Crowley Economic Development 4B FY2025-26 Operating Budget - no discussion. Public Hearing closed at 7:06 pm.

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to Approve the proposed Crowley Economic Development 4B RY2025-26 Operating Budget; second by Council Member Jim Hirth, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Hold a Public Hearing to receive input on the Operating Budget beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

Mayor Billy Davis opened up the floor to the public at 7:06 pm for a public hearing to receive input on the Operating Budget beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026 - no discussion. Public Hearing closed at 7:07 pm.

3. Hold a Public Hearing to receive input on the proposed 2025 ad valorem property tax rate.

Mayor Billy Davis opened up the floor to the public at 7:07 pm for a public hearing to receive input on the proposed 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax Rate - no discussion. Public Hearing closed at 7:07 pm.

City Business

1. Discuss and consider approving Ordinance 09-2025-573, an Ordinance authorizing the City's Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2025, in the maximum amount of \$8,000,000 for the purposes set forth in the City's Notice of Intention, payable from the proceeds of an annual ad valorem tax levied, within the limitations prescribed by law, upon all taxable property in the city, and a pledge of certain revenues of the city's combined utility system; and other matters in connection therewith.

Jack McLiney with Samco Capital reported that his company went out to market on \$8,000,000 of certificates of obligation for the City of Crowley. They received (7) bids from across the country - the leading bid being from Hilltop Securities with a true interest cost of 3.73%.

In doing the modeling leading up to this point, Samco used a 4.75% interest rate, resulting in a savings of \$669,737. During the time they were working on this project, Samco met with City Staff and S & P, and S & P affirmed the city's bond rating of AA, which is very good and a product of the direction that this council has been moving the city, as well as past councils, and the work that City Staff has been putting in behind the scenes. Samco's recommendation would be to accept Hilltop Securities' bid

Council Member Tina Pace made the motion to Approve Ordinance 09-2025-573, second by Council Member Jesse Johnson, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Discuss and consider adoption of Ordinance 09-2025-571, an ordinance of the City of Crowley, Texas approving and adopting the budget for fiscal year 2025-26, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026, providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to Approve the Adoption of Ordinance 09-2025-571; second by Council Member Scott Gilbreath, council conducted a record vote and unanimously approved the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Consider and act upon ratification of the property tax revenue increase reflected in the Proposed FY 2025-26 City of Crowley Operating Budget.

Council Member Tina Pace made the motion to act upon the ratification of the property tax revenue increase reflected in the Proposed FY2025-26 City of Crowley Operating Budget; second by Council Member Jim Hirth, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Discuss and consider adoption of Ordinance 09-2025-572, an ordinance of the City of Crowley, Texas affixing and levying Municipal Ad Valorem Taxes for the fiscal year 2025-26, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026, and for each year thereafter until otherwise provided on all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Crowley as of January 1, 2026 to provide revenues for the payment of current expenses and all outstanding debts of the city; directing the assessment thereof; providing for due dates and delinquent dates for payment of Texas together with penalties and interest thereon; providing for approval of the tax rolls presented to the City Council; repealing conflicting ordinances providing a severability clause and declaring an effective date.

Council Member Jim Hirth made the motion to Approve Ordinance 09-25-572; second by Council Member Scott Gilbreath, council conducted a roll call vote and unanimously approved the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

5. Discuss and consider approving revisions to the Pay Classification Plan.

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to Approve the revisions to the Pay Classification Plan, second by Council Member Jim Hirth, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

6. Discuss and consider adoption of Resolution R09-2025-464 of the City of Crowley amending the Staffing Plan.

Council Member Jim Hirth made the motion to Approve the adoption of Resolution R09-2025-464; second by Council Member Tina Pace, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

7. Discuss and consider approval of a request by Ocean Star Group for a variance from city code Section 102-124, "Schedule for signs in the Crowley Downtown District," to allow more than one

wall sign per street frontage

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to Approve the request by Ocean Star Group for a variance from city code Section 102-124 to allow more than one wall sign per street frontage; second by Council Member Jim Hirth, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Louis with Ocean Star Group (400 E Main St, Crowley, TX 76036) - Thanked council for the opportunity to speak. He said he was trying to put up a small sign up to help customers identify the restaurant clearly. He mentioned the sign would be for functionality purposes, and not used for additional advertising. The restaurant is located away from the road and it's possible that potential customers may not see the restaurant from the road. With additional signage, they would be able to attract more customers and potentially create more jobs which would be great for the City of Crowley and the community.

8. Discuss and consider approval of Ordinance 09-2025-574, an ordinance amending Appendix A: Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges of the Crowley City Code, to update certain building permit fees and to add new fees for sign posting and zoning re-notice and for master sign plan applications

Council Member Jerry Beck made the motion to Approve Ordinance 09-2025-574; second by Council Member Tina Pace, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

9. Discuss and consider approving the EDC's branding package recommendation for Crowley Crossing's logo and color scheme.

Julie Hepler, Main Street Coordinator, approached council and stated that City Staff and stakeholder group has been working on a branding package for the Crowley Crossing to include a logo and color palette. There was a lot of discussion about that item during a previous council meeting, and based off of the feedback, she presented the color palette chosen with variations to the logo. Julie presented these options to the EDC Board, earlier in the evening, which resulted in a split discussion between Option 1 and Option 3 - nobody favored Option 2.

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to Approve Crowley Crossing Logo Option 3; second by Council Member Jerry Beck, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

10. Discuss and consider approving Ordinance 09-2025-575, and ordinance of the City of Crowley amending Chapter 86 Utilities, Article IV Rates and Charges and Billing Procedures, Division 5 Billing Procedures, Section 86-728 Resumption of Service: Reconnection Fees, to update operational hours.

Council Member Tina Pace made the motion to Approve Ordinance 09-2025-575; second by Council Member Matt Foster, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment

No discussion

Items of Community Interest

Julie Hepler (Main Street Coordinator) shared upcoming events to be held at the Crowley Crossing this fall. On Tuesday, October 7th, is National Night Out which will be held downtown at the Crowley Crossing. The Market on Main will continue to have their markets on Sundays (10/5, no market on 10/12, 10/19, and 10/26). Their night market this month has been moved from the first Friday night to the second Friday night in October (10/10) with a theme of "Market Mash." The Fall Festival will be held at the Crowley Crossing on Saturday October 18th from 4 pm to 8 pm. Julie also wanted to inform council that the concrete games have been delivered in the Crowley Crossing, and they weigh over 600 lbs. a piece - no need to worry about them walking off.

Terry Horn, with the Chamber of Commerce, wanted to remind everyone they are having their annual golf tournament on Friday, October 10th - they have a few sponsorship opportunities left, golf teams are filling up very quickly. The golf tournament will be held at Hidden Creek Golf Course, and there will be a shotgun start. Today was the chamber luncheon and Joe Horn was the speaker, and did very well. The chamber is looking forward to the grand opening of Ocean Buffet and the ribbon cutting.

Lori Watson, City Manager, wanted to remind the council that October 25th, from 11 am to 2 pm, the City will be holding an employee appreciation event called Fall-O-Ween at the Crowley Crossing.

Council Member Jim Hirth wanted to recognize a gentleman that passed about a month ago, Lonnie Johnson, now that we are a Purple Heart City. Lonnie was a Vietnam Veteran and a Purple Heart recipient. Jim Hirth expressed that he wished Lonnie could have been here to see we are now a Purple Heart City.

Matt Elgin, Assistant City Manager, mentioned that it has been difficult to find a Chief Building Official for the past couple of years, and was very pleased to announce the City extended a job offer to Nathan Gonzales - he started his new position on Monday, September 15th. In 2026, Nathan will have 20 years of municipal service under his belt. He started in Hurst with the Police Dept. and worked for them for about 13 years as a Public Service Officer and dabbled in Code Inspection. He then went to Denton, Aledo, and served most recently in Kennedale as a Plans Examiner, City Planner, and Director of Community Development. Matt stated the City is excited with Nathan's experience level and what he brings to the table. As a result, the City will be able to expand their services as Nathan will be assisting with some plan review services the City had been doing through a third party. This will allow the city to recoperate some revenue.

Nathan Gonzales, new City Building Official, introduced himself to council and expressed that he's excited to be here and serve Crowley Citizens. Nathan stated that he's very passionate about building safety, currently serves on two boards, and works on advancing this field. He's currently making connections with the school district in order to create exposure to this field, and educate young minds, about building safety and code compliance as it is difficult to fill the roles of building officials and building inspectors.

Executive Session

None

Reconvene and Take Action from Executive Session

Not Applicable

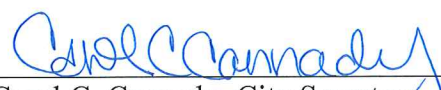
Adjournment

As there was no further business to discuss, Mayor Billy Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p. m.



Billy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Carol C. Cannady, City Secretary