



City Council January 12, 2009 Special Meeting Summary

News Release

January 12, 2009

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New Orleans, LA - January 12, 2009 - Today the New Orleans City Council, in a Special Council meeting, addressed five Ordinances continued from the Regular Council meeting of January 8th.

The Council passed Ordinances requesting monthly notice of performance from the Department of Sanitation and Contractors, as well as amending the 2009 Budget of Revenues and 2009 Budget of Expenditures.

Additionally, the Council unanimously agreed to compromise with Mayor Nagin to continue the "enhanced cleaning services" in the French Quarter through October 2009.

Addresses Sanitation Department Performance Audit



*Councilmember-at-Large
Clarkson*

The Council passed Ordinance Calendar No. 27,269, authored by Council President Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson, to require monthly notice of performance from the Department of Sanitation and Contractors.

Additionally, the Ordinance provides that an in-house performance-based audit of the Sanitation Department will be conducted.

Through the use of an in-house audit, the Council can re-allocate the funds that would have been used to pay for an external audit.

Addresses 2009 Budget Items



The Council passed the following Ordinances related to the 2009 Budget:

- **Ordinance Calendar No. 27,272** to amend the 2009 Operating Budget of Revenues to adjust the estimate for Other Financing Sources to conform with the 2009 Operating Budget of Expenditures, and establish the Community Disaster Loan (CDL) at approximately \$2.4 million

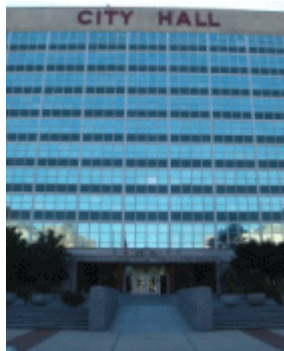
- **Ordinance Calendar No. 27,273** to amend the 2009 Operating Budget of Expenditures in the following ways:

1. Adjust the reduction of appropriations for other operating expenses in departments from 5.58% to 3%, excepting criminal justice and public safety departments
2. Remove the appropriation for the Office of the Indigent Defender, and state the Council's dedication to assist the Office in pursuing state assistance to add a fee onto red light camera tickets to generate funding of approximately \$600,000 (note: funding for this office was appropriated as part of Ordinance Calendar No. 27,274)
3. Adjust the appropriation for the Office of Inspector General
4. Restore \$30 million CDBG funds from the reserve
5. Replaces \$500,000 appropriation of the Chief Administrative Office

- **Ordinance Calendar No. 27,274** to amend the 2009 Operating Budget of Expenditures to transfer \$500,000 of Other Operating expenses from the budget of the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) to the Office of the Indigent Defender

- **Ordinance Calendar No. 27,289** to amend the 2009 Operating Budget of Expenditures to transfer funds within the budget of the Sanitation Department. This transfer results in a reduction of the reserve of Sanitation contracts from 50% to 25%

Budget Committee Chair Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell said, "The Council unanimously passed the 2009 budget. We pledge to ensure that services will be available for all citizens and that ongoing discussions will take place with Mayor Nagin throughout this budget year. The recovery construction projects are totaled to be 1.1 Billion this year and revenues will be closely analyzed through the Council's monthly budget committee meetings. As this Council stated in November of 2008, our priority is to ensure that vital services are not cut to the citizens of New Orleans."



Addresses French Quarter Sanitation Services

The Council also unanimously agreed to compromise with Mayor Nagin to ensure that SDT continues to provide "enhanced cleaning services" in the French Quarter through October 2009.

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans City government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.