

THE MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON HELD SEPTEMBER 10, 2008 at 11:30 A.M.

Pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, this is an emergency because of an imminent threat to public health and safety caused by Hurricane Ike.

1. Declaration of a quorum and call meeting to order.
2. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Thomas, CM Mahoney, CM Beeton, MPT Weber,
CM Fennewald, CM Woods
Absent: CM Colbert
Staff: City Manager LeBlanc, City Attorney Green, City Secretary Lawrence
3. Consider for action declaring a state of emergency for the City of Galveston in response to Hurricane Ike.
City Attorney said, as stated in the City Charter, City Council has the discretion to declare a state of emergency. That state of emergency is deemed to exist when there is the imminent threat of potential damage due to a storm. City Council is being asked to determine that the extraordinary powers under the Charter must be taken so the emergency management plans and do what can be done to alleviate the damage to property and protect the lives of the citizens of Galveston. In addition, if Council declares the state of emergency, all the powers that would normally be vested in the City Council will be vested in the Mayor and the Mayor has the extraordinary power or, in her absence, the Mayor Pro Tem, to exercise those powers she deems reasonable in response for the emergency. In addition to that, under her separate authority under the Texas Disaster Act, the Mayor is intending to declare that the City of Galveston may suffer widespread or severe damage from the impending storm, Hurricane Ike, and she will hereby determine that extraordinary measures must be taken and declare a local state of disaster for the City of Galveston effective at noon today.

**MPT Weber moved to declare a State of Emergency. Second by CM Woods.
Unanimously approved by those present.**

City Attorney Green stated that the State of Emergency would remain in effect for no longer than a period of seven days but, as Mayor, Mayor Thomas will have the right to revoke it at any time.

4. Discuss City of Galveston Emergency Plan.
City Manager LeBlanc said City Hall would remain open until further notice, however, the recreation center will be closed on Friday. Flooding will be monitored throughout the island. There will be a police presence to control access into flooded areas. The water system will be monitored and, if necessary, on the West End on Friday, the City may have to cut off parts of the water system in order to protect the entire water system from being compromised. Trash service will be provided through Thursday.

Mayor Thomas said a voluntary evacuation of the West End of the island would be called. Mr. LeBlanc explained what could be expected regarding winds and tides.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.