

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
MAY 13, 2019**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, May 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gramercy Town Hall.

Mayor Nosacka called the meeting to order, and asked that the Clerk call roll:

There were present: Mayor Steven Nosacka, Alderman Darren Brack, Alderman Craig Calcagno, Alderman Betty Coleman, Alderman Theron Louque, Alderman Clyde Wiggins

There were absent: None

There were also present: Police Chief Brent Dicharry, Town Attorney Robert Faucheux, Jr., Town Clerk Amy St. Pierre

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received on agenda items.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS

Mr. Adam Roussel gave a presentation on products and services offered by Core and Main. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen recognized Mr. Canera Miles, a 2019 Lutchter High School graduate, as Outstanding Young Leader in the Town of Gramercy.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka reported that the town received its' annual pipe corrosion review and there are no abnormalities to report. He sent a letter to KCS Railroad requesting the old cross ties be removed by N. Airline crossing. Spoke with Mr. Larry Faucheux, Louisiana Sugar Refining, about the odor from the pond. The work order management system has been ordered and should be implemented during the summer. He spoke with Waste Management about the placement of trash cans to prevent traffic hazards on N. Airline. Progress is being made on demolition of properties that were approved by Board. At the Corps of Engineer signing for the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Risk Reduction project, it was announced that the project would not be completed until spring 2024, leaving us five years to deal with possible flood risks.

REPORT ON-GOING PROJECTS

The E. Railroad Avenue relocation project is being delayed by the high water level of the Mississippi River. The Dudley Pump Station pumps are on order.

2. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Brent Dicharry reported that having police presence by the park during game time has help with parking issues. The juvenile reported missing earlier that morning has been found and is safe. The Gramercy Police Department is currently accepting applications for a full time officer.

B. CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Ronald Boudreaux stated that having verbal communication first with residents concerning ordinance violations will help with them understanding the violation and hopefully lead to more cooperation in resolving the issue.

3. REPORTS FROM ST JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

District 1 Councilman, Alvin St. Pierre, Jr., stated that the agreement on the 14th Street project should be completed and work to replace the failed culvert and broken street should begin soon. He would like to see rubber mats in the playground areas of Park A and Park B. A request has been made to have the basketball goals removed from Park A be placed in Park B.

4. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman Barry LeBlanc reported that engineer Chuck Fromherz is waiting for Fire Marshall Approval of plans for the Deroche Circle development. A FEMA trailer was parked on an empty lot on N. Airline; he informed them that it is not allowed and it should be removed within a few days.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno passed out his monthly report. The lines and parking blocks for the East parking lot have been painted. Construction on the new tennis courts should begin in June. Mr. Jeff Bell will turn in an updated Master Plan in a couple weeks. They have contacted Quiver for an estimate on handicapped parking area. The East parking lot has a sinkhole that needs repair.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 717-19 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 38 – HEALTH AND SANITATION

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 16-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF VACANT PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy desires to provide areas for recreation, particularly for pre-school and elementary children; and

WHEREAS, the property at the corner of South Fir Street and Railroad Avenue (Parcel No. 0100035800) is available for purchase by the Town; and

WHEREAS, the property could serve as a valuable location for such recreation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute a contract for the purchase of the property at the corner of South Fir Street and Railroad Avenue (Parcel No. 0100035800) at an amount less than Appraised Value and not exceeding Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00)

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Coleman, seconded by Alderman Wiggins and resulted in the following vote:

YEAS:	Brack, Calcagno, Coleman, Louque, Wiggins
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 13th day of May, 2019

RESOLUTION 17-19

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (“LLA”) has provided recommended policies and practices for aspects of financial management and accounting practices for local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s financial auditors have also recommended the adoption of these policies and practices by Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN, TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA THAT:

SECTION 1. The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy hereby adopt the LLA-recommended policies pertaining to: Financial Reporting, Capital Assets, Budget, and Customer Utility Accounts and authorize the Mayor to take the actions necessary to implement and adhere to these policies and practices.

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Calcagno and resulted in the following vote:

YEAS:	Brack, Calcagno, Coleman, Louque, Wiggins
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

And the resolution was duly adopted on this the 13th day of May, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Calcagno, second by Alderman Wiggins, and approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meetings, and to adopt the minutes as published.

PAYMENT OF BILLS/FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

It was moved by Alderman Louque, second by Alderman Brack, and approved to pay all bills and accept financial statements presented before the Council.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. The Recreation Board is asking to relocate a street light at 4th Street and Belinda Street. At the S. Millet railroad crossing, a work crew foreman stated that the spur should be removed and the crossing should be replaced within 5-8 weeks. Work needs to continue on our major drainage canals. An audit of our sewer pond was performed and several safety issues need to be addressed; work has begun on some of these issues. April 27th was National Drug Take Back Day; Sheriff Martin says it is not too late to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs, please contact the St. James Sheriff's Office for drop off locations. He would like to schedule a Board workshop to discuss policies, ordinances, budget, etc.

Alderman Brack stated he has received complaints concerning blighted property at 553 N. Airline Avenue. A No Parking sign is needed at the corner of W. Railroad and S. Airline Avenue. He did a survey of the maintenance shop and there are old vehicles that need to be surplus and a general cleaning and organization of the entire shop is needed.

Alderman Louque thanked the Mayor for getting the dip on N. Montz repaired. He would like to see all town vehicles identified as Town of Gramercy property.

Alderman Wiggins stated that he had concerns about school buses turning onto N. Airline Avenue from E. 10th Street. He has tagged several street lights for repair.

Alderman Coleman stated that residents inquired about speed bumps on S. Mulberry. She thanked Mr. Snyder for selling the empty lot to the Town. She expressed concerns about unfenced areas around swimming pools.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There was no report for this month.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Calcagno and approved to adjourn at 8:40 pm.

Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor

Amy St. Pierre, Town Clerk