

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
JUNE 10, 2019**

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Shelly Warren, 605 N. Pine Street, questioned if the town will be going on private property to inspect swimming pools. The mayor explained the town would inspect a swimming pool only if a complaint concerning public safety has been made.

No further comments were received. A motion to close the public hearing was made by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Louque. The mayor closed the public hearing and continued with regular meeting.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, June 10, 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 Theron Louque, Alderman Clyde Wiggins

There were absent: Alderman Betty Coleman

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 - None

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka reported that the annual "Water We Drink Report" will be published in the News Examiner next week. In July we will conduct our tri-annual Lead and Copper sampling required by the state. There will be a public meeting for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Plan on June 20, 2019 at St. James Parish Hospital Community Room at 5:30 pm. We have replaced the failed culvert at E. 14th Street; St. James Parish helped with this project. The parish also helped clear Ezidore Canal along the KCS Railroad and behind the fire station. The town continues with several demolitions. On S. Mulberry Street we have boarded up a house that vagrants were living in.

REPORT ON-GOING PROJECTS

The pumps for the Dudley Station rehabilitation should be delivered in mid-July. The contractors will be on site to begin prep work for the project. The Airline Highway sump pump is in and the catch basin is in by the ditch. Electrical service will follow soon.

2. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Brent Dicharry reported that in an attempt to curb underage children driving golf carts or four-wheelers, when a minor is stopped the officer contacts the parents and explains the law and dangers of allowing children to drive golf carts or four-wheelers. The police department is working in several speeding areas to slow down traffic. Chief Dicharry recommends waiving the Firework Ordinance for the July 4th holiday.

B. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux stated that the Mississippi River levels will remain steady for this week. He passed out a projected storm surge map that showed possible flooding in town with a Category 2 storm. Changes will be coming to the flood insurance; the parishes current three feet baseline flood elevation will eventually have to be changed to six or seven feet to receive insurance discounts. The town administration can look into requirements on elevation for future developments. Programs are available to help communities to become Weather Ready Communities. This includes the town establishing an Emergency Preparedness

Management Committee that would include members from the police department, town administration, maintenance, local industries and residents.

C. CODE ENFORCEMENT - None

3. REPORTS FROM ST JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT - None

4. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION - None

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno passed out his monthly report. A public hearing was held for the 2019 Millage Rate. The new parking blocks for the East parking lot have been painted. The board is waiting on Quiver Construction for the handicap parking and old restroom revision estimates. With baseball season ending soon, the baseball fields will soon transition to soccer fields.

ORDINANCE – FINAL ACTION

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

WHEREAS, an Ordinance amending the Town of Gramercy Code of Ordinances, Chapter 38, Article II, Section 38-23, Section 38-28 and Section 38-29.

The following shall be added and read as:

Sec. 38.23. Prohibited.

(c) It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation owning or occupying any residential, industrial, commercial, or agricultural property within the town limits to allow any of the following conditions:

- (1) Any condition that provides harborage for rats, mice, snakes or other vermin.
- (2) All disagreeable or unauthorized noises and annoying vibrations, including animal noises.
- (3) The carcasses of animals or fowl not disposed of within a reasonable time after death.
- (4) Any accumulation of stagnant water permitted or maintained on any lot or piece of ground.
- (5) Dense smoke, noxious fumes, gas, soot or cinders, in unreasonable quantities.
- (6) All disagreeable or obnoxious odors and stenches, as well as the conditions, substances or other causes

which give rise to the emission or generation of such odors or stenches.

The following shall be amended and read as:

Sec 38.28. Authority.

(a) Under this article, in default of the cutting, destroying or removing from the designated areas all weeds, grass, brush or underbrush, trash, refuse, rubbish and debris growing or lying upon the area, or other Prohibited conditions provided for Sec 38.23 (c), within the period provided for, the mayor or his duly authorized representative is authorized and empowered, at the expense of the person owning the premises, to order by town forces or by contract the cutting, destroying or removing of such weeds, trash, brush or underbrush, trash, rubbish, refuse and debris growing or lying upon such prohibited areas, or any other actions necessary to correct the Prohibited conditions.

(b) Multiple violations: If the property owner has been notified pursuant to this section at any time during the preceding 12 months (not calendar) and has failed to take corrective action, the town may undertake the cutting, destruction, or removal of noxious weeds or grass or other noxious growths, or any other actions necessary to correct the Prohibited conditions, without notice on a monthly basis, or as needed to comply with Section 38-31.

(c) Prior to undertaking corrective action pursuant to this section, the town shall file and record an affidavit by designated town personnel, which includes the following:

- (1) A description of the property, including the address of the site and the street name.
- (2) A photograph of the property, sufficient to reasonably identify its unsafe or unsanitary condition, and to justify the necessity for cutting, destroying, removing of tall grass, weeds and other noxious growths or trash, or other Prohibited conditions provided in Sec 38.23 (c).
- (3) A statement and copy of the original violation notice that reflects the property's failure with the last 12 rolling months to take corrective action after initial notification was served and the opportunity to comply has expired.

The following shall be amended and read as:

Sec 38.29. Statement showing expense incurred; addition to tax liability.

If, after the cutting, destruction or removal of weeds, grass or growths by the town after due notice is provided in this article including any other actions necessary to correct the Prohibited conditions, the cost or expense thereof has not been paid within seven days, the tax collector shall furnish the owner, as shown on the last assessment roll of the town, by registered mail, a written statement showing the cost or expense incurred for the work and the place or property on which the work was done. If the statement is not paid within one month thereafter, the amount shall be included in and form part of the taxes due by the owner of the property and when collected shall be credited to the general fund of the town.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on Monday, May 13, 2019, notice of public hearing having been published on Thursday, May 23, 2019 and said public meeting held on Monday, June 10, 2019, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Brack, to adopt the Ordinance, a record was taken and the following result was held.

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

And the ordinance was declared adopted on this 10th day of June, 2019.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 718-19 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE SALES TAX FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019 FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 719-19 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020 FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA.

Mayor Nosacka called for a public hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 18-19

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Development Ready Communities Program, a strategic effort by Louisiana Economic Development to assist all of Louisiana's communities to become more competitive in today's global economy, is a community assessment, strategic planning, leadership development and marketing planning process for cities, towns, and villages; and

WHEREAS, the program's requirements provide for involvement of individuals from both public and private sectors of the community including: elected and appointed municipal officials, municipal employees, community leaders and citizens; and

WHEREAS, implementation and achievement of the community's vision, objectives and strategies, and measurement of that achievement, are the major goals of the program. LED's objectives are: 1) to provide a comprehensive and straight-forward assessment of community and economic development practices and activities; 2) to provide training, coaching, and external resources to communities; 3) to establish a repeatable process by the lessons learned, success stories and testimonials in this program; and 4) to ultimately develop more marketable communities and diversified economies through a systematic approach to community and economic development in the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen will receive a status report during the planning process and a presentation of the draft strategic plan developed by our community resulting from the Louisiana Development Ready Communities Program for consideration, to give feedback, and any further action deemed appropriate at those times.

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

SECTION 1. The Town hereby endorses and supports LED's Louisiana Development Ready Communities Program and its work plan and authorizes the Mayor to cooperate with and participate in the community assessment and strategic planning activities, and further, the residents of Gramercy are urged to support this effort.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Calcagno, second by Alderman Wiggins. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of June, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-19

A RESOLUTION DECLARING EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPROPRIATELY DISPOSE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, it has been determined by the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana (the "Town") that the equipment listed below is no longer of use and for all functional purposes deemed a maintenance burden:

1996 Ford Pickup Truck	VIN 2FDHF25H7TC117012
2001 GMC Pickup Truck	VIN 1GCEC19T81E211516
1998 GMC Pickup Truck	VIN 1GCEC14W02Z133180

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

SECTION 1. The Town hereby declares the aforementioned equipment as surplus property; and

SECTION 2. The Mayor is authorized dispose of the aforementioned equipment by donation, abandonment, or sale to the highest bidder.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Louque, second by Alderman Brack. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of June, 2019.

RESOLUTION 20-19

A RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND CHAPTER 50, ARTICLE V, SECTION 50-125 FIREWORKS

WHEREAS the Town of Gramercy shall celebrate the holiday of Fourth of July.

WHEREAS, Police Chief Brent Dicharry, recommends the suspension of Town of Ordinance Chapter 50, Article V, Section 50-125 Fireworks during the Fourth of July Holiday.

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

SECTION 1: The Mayor and Board of Alderman accept the recommendation of Police Chief Brent Dicharry to suspend Chapter 50 Article V Sec 50-125 (Fireworks Prohibited) of the Town of Gramercy Code of ordinances and shall be suspended from 12 Noon until 10:00 pm on Thursday, July 4, 2019.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of June, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Wiggins reminded everyone about a housing workshop at the St. James Parish Library in Lutchter on June 20, 2019.

Alderman Louque spoke about the need to quicken the process to get homeowners to respond to ordinance violations.

Alderman Brack expressed concerns about the railroad crossing at LA 641 being blocked around 5:00 pm when work traffic is at its peak, causing traffic to back up and taking a long time to clear. He encourages everyone to contact their State Representatives and Congressman to help with this situation.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. Asked for an update on the Parquette trailer on Second Street? Mayor Nosacka stated that they are selling to a third party who will move the mobile home out of town. We need to continue working on clearing the major drainage canals in town. Reminded everyone to "Make A Plan" for the upcoming hurricane season.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Robert Faucheux, Jr. reported that the Louisiana Municipal Association has a program that deals with surplus property that could eliminate the need for a resolution.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Brack and approved to adjourn at 8:19 pm.

Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor

Amy St. Pierre, Town Clerk