

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
OCTOBER 14, 2019**

PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 722-19 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A CERTAIN IMMOVABLE PROPERTY AS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF SAID PROPERTY, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS THEREWITH

Attorney Robert Faucheux, Jr. stated that the advertisement should include a statement that the bidder should be able to demonstrate the ability to successfully bid.

Mayor Nosacka closed the public hearing and continued with regular order of business.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, October 14, 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 Clyde Wiggins

There were absent: Alderman Betty Coleman, Alderman Theron Louque

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Joseph Darr, 1339, 1345, 1355 N. Airline Ave, spoke concerning Resolution No.29-19 Demolition of certain properties. He requested more time to clean up property and renovate houses.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS

1. Mayor Nosacka and the Board of Aldermen presented a proclamation to Powerlifting Champions Quamecca Stafford and Shay Naquin.
2. Mrs. Cathey Allen, 280 S. Mulberry Street, stated that S. Mulberry Street is a one way street yet cars are driving in both directions and asked the street to be patrolled more often. The trees across the street from her home are hanging onto the street causing the school bus to pass dangerously close to the edge of the street where the sides are collapsing; she inquired about when culverts would be replaced. S. Fir Street on E. Railroad sign is missing a One-Way sign.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka reported the State Lead and Copper test results are in and all 20 residences were within the compliance limits. Night Out Against Crime is October 15, 2019. Ma'Jewz Eatery on E. Main Street will have a grand opening on Friday, October 18, 2019 at 11:00 am. There will be an Electronic recycle event on Saturday, October 19, 2019 in Winn Dixie parking lot.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECTS

Mayor Nosacka stated that the contractors for road repairs on E. Second Street will be back to finish re-surfacing in the coming weeks. Tony Arikol, Professional Engineering Consultants, reported that a larger door would be needed on the side of Dudley pump station in order to access new pumps. Meyers Engineering has provided plans for the E. Railroad location and they are available for review at town hall and the bid packets are being prepared to send out for quotes on project.

3. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. CHIEF OF POLICE

Police Chief Brent Dicharry stated that Night Out Against Crime is Tuesday, October 15, 2019. He recommended we follow St. James Parish and set trick or treat hours for 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The police department will close streets in certain areas for Halloween.

B. REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux recommended the town residents to have their heating systems serviced and carbon dioxide detectors checked. Encouraged all to have their flu vaccinations; St. James Hospital is currently holding their Flu Shot Fair on Thursday and Friday until October 25th.

C. CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Ronald Boudreaux reported that he continues to speak with residents concerning abandoned cars and some resident do remove the vehicles. He has currently tagged a recreational vehicle. He has spoken with the Pastor at Golden Grove Baptist Church about removing the old bus from their property.

4. REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

Mr. Alvin St. Pierre, Jr., St. James Parish District One Councilman thanked everyone for their support during his recent re-election. Budget items have been forwarded to finance and councilman for budget review. Drainage projects are included in the new budget currently under review. There is a pilot program available for installing smart water meters in unincorporated areas of the parish.

5. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairman Barry LeBlanc stated that he has seen progress in Mr. Darr’s clean-up efforts and recommends that board give him more time to complete the job. There are 23 new home constructions in Gramercy Subdivision III located behind Taylor’s Express. Recommends that town send another flyer informing the residents of permits needed in Gramercy.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno had no report for this month.

ORDINANCE – FINAL ACTION

ORDINANCE NO. 722-19

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A CERTAIN IMMOVABLE PROPERTY AS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF SAID PROPERTY, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the real property located at 904 E. Railroad Avenue, Assessment No. 0100107200 (the “Property”), has been adjudicated to the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana (the “Town”) and the Town is in possession of the Property; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, it has been determined by the Town that the Property is not needed for public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to dispose of the Property; and

WHEREAS, a recent Appraisal of said property indicated the value of the Property to be \$22,000.00;

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

SECTION 1. The Town hereby declares the Property as not needed for public purposes; and

SECTION 2. The Mayor is authorized to advertise for public sale of the Property and to dispose of the Property by sale to the highest bidder at a minimum price of \$22,000.00, and in accordance with the provisions of LA R.S. 47:2201, et seq.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on Monday, September 9, 2019, notice of public hearing having been published on Thursday, September 19, 2019, said public meeting held on Monday, October 14, 2019, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Brack to adopt the Ordinance, a record was taken and the following result was held.

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

And the ordinance was declared adopted on this 14th day of October, 2019.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE 723-19 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 74, SECTION 74-41 FURNISHING WATER TO OTHERS

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 27-19

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL LOUISIANA COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR AUDIT ENGAGEMENTS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor requires the preparation of an annual Compliance Questionnaire for Audit Engagements of Government agencies, and;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Compliance audit report provides information which determines required actions by the Town to maintain compliance set by Louisiana Legislative Auditor;

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 have reviewed and hereby approve the annual Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for Audit Engagements of Government Agencies, dated September 13, 2019, for the Town of Gramercy, LA, which is attached to this Resolution.

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

| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| YEAS: | Brack, Calcagno, Wiggins |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | Coleman, Wiggins |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of October, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 28-19

A RESOLUTION TO RE-SCHEDULE THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER DUE TO VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana meet on the second Monday of every month; and,

WHEREAS, in the month of November this meeting falls on Veteran's Day.

WHEREAS, in observance of this holiday, the Town of Gramercy, will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2019

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

SECTION I. that the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019

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

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

And the resolution was adopted on this the 14TH day of October, 2019

RESOLUTION 29-19

A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN STRUCTURES
LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY

WHEREAS, the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Gramercy, Chapter 18 provides for the repair or demolition of what has been determined to be unsafe structures; and

WHEREAS, the Town finds the structures located at 1355 N Airline Avenue (Assessment No. 0100040400), 1345 N Airline Avenue (Assessment No. 0100040500), and 1351 N Airline Avenue (Assessment No. 0100040410) to be unsafe and unfit for occupancy

WHEREAS, Section 18-29 (a) requires the determination by the Board of Aldermen that a structure is unreasonable to repair and that demolition is required.

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

SECTION 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to proceed with demolition and removal of the structure, subject to compliance with the notice and appeal provisions contained within the Ordinance.

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

YEAS:
NAYS:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Mayor Nosacka deferred this resolution until November 12, 2019 town meeting.

RESOLUTION 30-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO REQUEST A CHANGE IN SCOPE OF THE PROJECT
AUTHORIZED FOR 2015-2016 GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA COMMUNITY WATER
ENRICHMENT FUND GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy (the "Town") has applied and has been awarded a Grant in the amount of \$35,000, from the State of Louisiana Community Water Enrichment Fund (LCWEF) Grant program; and

WHEREAS, the Town has received a Contract for the LCWEF Grant, Contract # 1516-CWEF-STJ-0101, which specifies the scope, terms and conditions for the use of these grant funds and other program requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Town has determined that these Grant funds would be better utilized to provide for other purposes than originally applied for and approved; and

WHEREAS, the Town has been advised that these services qualify for reimbursement from the proceeds of this LCWEF Grant;

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

SECTION 1. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to request a change in the authorized scope of the 2015-2016 LCWEF Grant to the Inspection and Repair of the interior of one of the Town Water System's two ground storage tanks that are physically located at the Town's Water Treatment Plant at 407 E. Jefferson Highway, Gramercy, LA.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of October, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 31-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO THE ANNUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE PONCHARTRAIN
LEVEE DISTRICT AND THE COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO THE CHRISTMAS BONFIRE
PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, and the Pontchartrain Levee District desire to enter into an annual Christmas Bonfire program agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, desires once again to comply with the Pontchartrain Levee District Christmas Bonfire program agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, desires to enter into the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement pertaining to the Christmas Bonfire Program.

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

SECTION 1. Mr. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into and sign said Christmas Bonfire Program agreement and the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District, and to pay the Towns' portion of the liability insurance premium in the amount of \$2,500.00.

SECTION 2. That the subject agreements for the Christmas Season 2019 are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Wiggins, a vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of October, 2019.

RESOLUTION 32-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A LOUISIANA STATE CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST FOR WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, capital improvements are needed for the Town of Gramercy's wastewater collection system infrastructure to accommodate commercial and residential growth; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana's Capital Outlay Program provides for capital improvements for State and local governments;

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

SECTION 1. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen hereby approve the application to the State of Louisiana's Capital Outlay Program, in the amount of \$500,000, to provide for a new wastewater collection line to accommodate future commercial and residential growth.

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute any necessary documents related to this application.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of October, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS/FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Brack had no report for this month.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. Alderman Calcagno reported that several residents began work without permits. These residents were informed that a permit was needed and they did apply for a permit. Fire Safety Week is October 6 – 12; he is encouraging everyone to check the batteries in your smoke detectors, all fire extinguishers and to have an evacuation plan for your family.

Alderman Wiggins reported that several cars in need of tags or removal. There is high grass along Railroad Avenue canal.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Robert Fauchoux, Jr. stated that the paperwork for the Nolan Carmouche law suit has been sent to the attorneys and signed off. He attended the 2019 City Attorney conference.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Brack, second by Alderman Calcagno, and approved to adjourn 8:41 pm.

Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor

Amy O. St. Pierre, Town Clerk