

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
MARCH 9, 2020**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, March 9, 2020 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, Alderman Barbara Woods

There were absent: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS - There were no presentation and comments

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka reported that water plant operator Tray Kell set his retirement date as April 1, 2020. The annual sanitary survey for the water plant has been completed and no major deficiencies were found. The Dudley Pump Station project is near completion. There are several manholes on N. Airline Avenue that have damage due to aging infrastructure and repairs are needed. A contractor has inspected the concrete work needed on several streets in town and will provide an estimate. South Central Planning is providing continued training on the Work Order Management program. Keri Walker, St. James Parish Librarian presented books for the Town of Gramercy sponsored Free Little Library. This is a program in partnership with a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Grant that St. James Parish Library was awarded. Several locations throughout the parish will have a little library available for public use.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT

Mayor Nosacka stated that work has begun on the West Ground Storage Tank project at the Water Plant and will take 6 -8 weeks to complete. He has received details for a stand-by generator by Dudley Pump Station and will contact United Rentals concerning availability of a generator. The engineers are preparing a scope of work for the N. Airline replacement pump project. The E. Railroad Re-location Project has been delayed due to the high water level of the Mississippi River.

3. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Police Chief Brent Dicharry reported the Mardi Gras parade was successful and there were no issues to report. He has received complaints about speeding in the neighborhoods; he has extra patrols out and tickets will be issued. Chief Dicharry issued a reminder that a person can call 911 in the event of a drug overdose in the household with no fear of arrests being made.

B. REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux reported that Mosquito Control continues West Nile monitoring in St. James Parish and there have been no positive results as of today's date. Concerning the Corvid-19 virus, please make sure to wash your hands for at least 20 second with soap and water and follow LA Department of Health public health guidelines.

C. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Ronald Boudreaux reported that we continue to have problems with people not getting permitted for work being done at their residence. He continues his effort to contact the car owner to voluntarily remove the abandoned vehicle.

4. REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

There is no report for this month

5. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Chairman Barry LeBlanc reported that the board members discussed establishing a demolition ordinance; this would be to make sure all utilities have been disconnected to prevent any accidents or injuries.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno passed out his monthly report. The town continues to cut the grass. The Tennis court project is continuing with painting, some dirt work by the Parish and sod planting around the courts

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 06-2020

A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE DEMOLITION OF THE 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 Mayor has determined the structures located at four locations in the Town to be unsafe; and

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 following structures, subject to compliance with the notice and appeal provisions contained within the Ordinance:

- Shonique Wilson / 1607 Tulip Street / Property ID 0100120980
- Shonique Wilson / 1406 Golden Grove Ave / ID 0100120980
- Timothy Pittman / 1596 Rose St / ID 100092900 & 100092905
- Floyd Jackson Sr / 216 S Fir St / ID 0100052800

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, Louque, Wiggins, Woods
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of March, 2020.

RESOLUTION 07-2020

A RESOLUTION OF RESPECT FOR BELOVED PASTOR AND RESIDENT OF THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY
REVEREND FERDINAND GAINES, JR.

Whereas, we are today comforted by the words of Our Lord in Revelations 21:4 which says: *"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."*; and

Whereas, Ferdinand Gaines, Jr. passed from this life on February 29, 2020, having served the Lord Jesus and First Community Antioch Baptist Church as Pastor for more than 43 years, and

Whereas, Ferdinand Gaines, Jr. performed his work on this earth and offered his service to God's Church for the greater honor and glory of God, unreservedly and in a spirit of humility, and

Whereas, it has pleased our Almighty God to take Ferdinand Gaines, Jr. unto Himself, too soon by our measure but fully in His Divine Providence, and

Whereas, we have each of us been blessed by the presence of Ferdinand Gaines, Jr. in our lives and this community.

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

SECTION 1. We embrace the bereaved family and Church congregation of Reverend Ferdinand Gaines, Jr., in our common bond of grief and remembrance of a beloved soul, and we bow in both gratitude and acceptance of the perfection of God's plan to gather each of us into His merciful arms when we have fulfilled our mission here on this earth.

SECTION 2. We offer comfort to the family of Reverend Ferdinand Gaines, Jr. with the words of the Gospel of John, Chapter 14, *"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."*

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of March, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. Alderman Calcagno stated that a roofing job on N. Magnolia was done without a permit. He suggested that building permits include a written detailed scope of work for the project. He asked if the Parish Operations Director has put together a plan for our large canals to be cleaned. The maintenance shop is in need of a rack system to help organize equipment and tools.

Alderman Brack had no report for this month

Alderman Louque inquired if St. James Parish still helps Gramercy Recreation with grass cutting. He asked for an update on the cleaning of N. Airline Avenue ditches; Mayor Nosacka stated the contractor will send a quote. He asked if the town can clear the stack of tires behind Taylor's Express.

Alderman Wiggins stated that the grass S. Airline Avenue and S. Millet was high and needed to be mowed.

Alderman Woods reported that she received a complaint about a fire hydrant on S. Elm Street that was hit by a car. She asked that we keep the family of Revered Gaines and the London family in our prayers.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Robert Faucheux, Jr. stated he will review the new Fight the Blight policy and compare with the town's current ordinance.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno, and approved to adjourn 8:16 pm.

/s/ Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor
Attest: /s/ Amy St. Pierre, Town Clerk