

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2017**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in special session on Monday, October 9, 2017 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 Jody Bourgeois, Alderman Craig Calcagno, Alderman Betty Coleman, Alderman Rhonda Lee,

There were absent: Alderman Clyde Wiggins

There were also present: Town Clerk Amy St. Pierre

The notice of the special meeting was as follows:

October 13, 2017

Board of Aldermen
Town of Gramercy
Louisiana

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please be advised that there will be a special meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, on Monday, October 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm. at the Gramercy Town Hall for the following purpose:

1. RES 25-17 A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Thank you.

/s/ Steven T. Nosacka
Mayor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, the undersigned Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana do hereby acknowledge receipt in due time of the call to the special meeting to be held on Monday, October 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Gramercy Town Hall.

/s/ Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor

ALDERMEN
/s/ Jody Bourgeois
/s/ Craig Calcagno
/s/ Betty Coleman
/s/ Rhonda Lee
/s/ Clyde Wiggins

Alderman Coleman and Aldermen Lee expressed concerns about listing police salaries in the tax proposition. They feel it may have a negative impact on the passage of the tax. Alderman Coleman also stated how important it is that the mayor and board members clearly explain to the residents a need for this tax increase. District One is in need of street widening on Rose Street and sidewalks on the south side of Railroad tracks for the public to have a safe place to walk instead of on the streets. Also drainage, street, and sewer issues plague all areas of Gramercy. Lt. Jody Ordeneaux, Gramercy Police Department, stated that new police units cost approximately \$30,000 after purchase and equipping the unit. The Police Department and the Town Maintenance Crew will need new radios within two years. Motorola no longer makes the models that we have and the parts for repairs are now limited. Unit computers and firewall replacement will soon need replacing as well.

A motion by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Coleman to amend Resolution 25-17 tax proposition wording to exclude "salaries and" and replacing with "police department equipment".

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

MEMBERS:	YEAS:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAINING:
Jody Bourgeois	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Craig Calcagno	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Betty Coleman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Rhonda Lee	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Claude "Clyde" Wiggins	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Bourgeois and seconded by Alderman Coleman:

RESOLUTION 25-17

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana (the "Town"), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by Article VI, Section 29 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, the applicable provisions of Chapter 5, Chapter 6-A and Chapter 6-B of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Town on **SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (SALES TAX)

Shall the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana (the "Town"), under the provisions of Article VI, Section 29 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and other constitutional and statutory authority, be authorized to levy and collect a tax of one-half of one percent (1/2%) (the "Tax") in perpetuity, from and after July 1, 2018, upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the Town, all as defined by law (an estimated \$300,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), with the proceeds of the Tax (after paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of collecting and administering the Tax), to be dedicated and used for constructing, improving, extending and maintaining streets, drainage, sewer infrastructure and sewerage treatment works; police department equipment; and purchasing and acquiring the necessary equipment and land for any of the aforesaid public works, improvements and facilities?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the *News-Examiner*, a newspaper of general circulation within the Town, published in Litcher, Louisiana, and being the official journal of the Town, once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the Mayor is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Town Hall, 120 N. Montz Avenue, Gramercy, Louisiana, on **MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018**, at **SEVEN O'CLOCK (7:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts set forth in the aforesaid Notice of Special Election are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held on Monday, April 9, 2018, as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Town will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Clerk of the Town is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the Mayor and/or Clerk of the Town are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of St. James Parish and the Registrar of Voters of St. James Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to levy and collect the sales and use tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

MEMBERS:	YEAS:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAINING:
Jody Bourgeois	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Craig Calcagno	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Betty Coleman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Rhonda Lee	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Claude "Clyde" Wiggins	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana (the "Town"), on October 16, 2017, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the Town on **SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the Town qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

**PROPOSITION
(SALES TAX)**

Shall the Town of Gramercy, State of Louisiana (the "Town"), under the provisions of Article VI, Section 29 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and other constitutional and statutory authority, be authorized to levy and collect a tax of one-half of one percent (1/2%) (the "Tax") in perpetuity, from and after July 1, 2018, upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the Town, all as defined by law (an estimated \$300,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), with the proceeds of the Tax (after paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of collecting and administering the Tax), to be dedicated and used for constructing, improving, extending and maintaining streets, drainage, sewer infrastructure and sewerage treatment works; police department equipment; and purchasing and acquiring the necessary equipment and land for any of the aforesaid public works, improvements and facilities?

The said special election shall be held at the polling places for the following precincts:

- 01(PART)
- 02
- 03(PART)

The polling places for the precincts set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5, Chapter 6-A and Chapter 6-B of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Town Hall, 120 N. Montz Avenue, Gramercy, Louisiana, on **MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018**, at **SEVEN O'CLOCK (7:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the Town are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Gramercy, Louisiana, on this, the 16th day of October, 2017.

ATTEST:

/s/ Mayor Steven T. Nosacka

/s/ Amy O. St. Pierre, Town Clerk

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 16th day of October, 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Alderman Lee, second by Alderman Calcagno and approved to adjourn at 7:42 pm.

/s/ Mayor Steven T. Nosacka

/s/ Amy O. St. Pierre, Town Clerk