

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR  
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
TOWN OF GRAMERCY  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

Based on the Public Health Emergency in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 and all subsequent Proclamations made by the Governor of Louisiana, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy have determined that in order to continue the necessary operations of government, but to also take into account the orders of the Governor, the guidance issued by the Louisiana Attorney General, and the recommendations of the CDC, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy will meet via video/teleconference at the posted date and time to only take up any matters on its agendas which are necessary to ensure the public function and which require a vote of the Board of Aldermen. The public is invited to access the meeting via teleconference line at (605) 313-4802 and enter this Access Code: 436128# . If a member of the public would like to issue public comment on any agenda item, please do one of the following: 1) Send an email, prior to the meeting, to the Town Clerk (amyp@townofgramercy.com) stating the agenda item you want to submit a comment upon, along with your full name, address, and your written comments which will be read into the record of the meeting; or 2) Dial into the teleconference line at (605) 313-4802 and enter this Access Code: 436128# . You will be allowed to comment during the Public Comment item of the agenda on any matter requiring a vote of the Board of Aldermen.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm via telephone conference.

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: Town Attorney Robert Fauchaux, Jr., Town Clerk Amy St. Pierre

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - There were no public comments.

**PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS**

Mr. Timothy Pittman reported a streetlight out at Golden Grove Street & Tulip Street, he requested an update on the report of gunshots in the Golden Grove neighborhood and he inquired about what steps the police department will take concerning the growing drug issues in the town.

**REPORTS**

**1. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Nosacka stated that storm preparations are in place and we should not have any severe backwater issues. Maintenance worker Paul Perrilloux is out for an extended time with health issues. St. James Volunteer Fire Department has settled on plans to build a new fire station on W Main Street in Gramercy. He has looked at two workorder programs, Iworqs and St. James Parish program, both are user friendly and has spoken with St. James Director of Operations Rick Weber and Parish President Pete Dufresne about the town using their program. On Friday, September 18, 2020 First Antioch Baptist Church will hold a food drive giveaway. He has received the incident report for the LA 3125 fire hydrant accident and will be mailing a statement to the driver for reimbursement of water and fire hydrant repairs. Birdie's Convenience Store has opened at 352 N Airline Avenue in Gramercy. The Delta Regional Authority Grant for \$150,000 has been awarded to the Town; this will help with the economic development on LA 3125. He is working on a list of concrete repairs needed throughout town and will forward to the Aldermen when list is complete.

**2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT**

Mayor Nosacka reported that E. Railroad Avenue is open to the public and the town will add a fender in front of the AT&T box and a curb off the drain box near JJ's Bar. He received a certificate of substantial completion from Meyer's Engineers on the E. Railroad relocation project. The eradicator we put over the pump by Dudley Station to keep the debris from going into the pump are working at this time. He has asked Scott Poirrier, Hi Tide Consultants, to research the metal building needed by Dudley Pump Station and the S. Millet drainage project; a special meeting will be scheduled soon to have Mr. Poirrier speak to us about both projects. Test wells were dug near the Dunn resident on N Pine Street to find location of water in the street; researched a dry well that sits underground and lets water seep into fabric to help water move to the catch basin. On W. Second Street a relief pipe has been placed on an old well to help drain to David Canal. Jim Zerinque will finish cleaning Ferrara Canal in the near future.

**3. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS**

**A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE**

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux spoke on behalf of Chief Dicharry. Lt. Ordeneaux reported that suspects have been identified in the gun shooting incident in the Golden Grove area and arrests are expected in the near future.

**REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux stated that Gramercy will have limited impact from Hurricane Sally and asked that we keep those in neighboring states who will be affected in our prayers. Concerning W Second Street wash out due to an old well, he suggested that pumping grout under the road may be a more permanent and efficient repair for the street.

**B. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Code Enforcement Officer Ronald Boudreaux recently tagged to abandoned vehicles in the mobile home park and one on N. Airline Avenue. On S. Airline Avenue two properties have tall grass and need to be sent letters. Alderman Wiggins reported an abandoned vehicle on N. Millet

**4. REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT**

Councilman Alvin St. Pierre, Jr. requested the Mayor and Board email him with any capital project for 2021 Parish budget by the end of the week. Parish workers will begin repairs to Central Canal in next couple of weeks. The contractors will begin dismantling the building by Gramercy Park A pool and will fill in the pool as soon as all utilities have been disconnected.

**5. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**A. PLANNING COMMISSION – No Report**

**B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT**

Mr. Craig Calcagno reported there was no meeting in September

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION 26-2020**

A RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA SUPPORTING NATIONAL RAIL SAFETY WEEK

WHEREAS, 2,220 rail grade crossing collisions resulted in 812 personal injuries and were responsible for 294 fatalities in the United States during 2019; and

WHEREAS, 1,111 trespassing incidents have occurred in the United States resulting in 579 pedestrians being killed and another 532 injured while trespassing on railroad property rights of way during 2019; and

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety, reminding the public that railroad right of ways are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws will reduce the number of fatalities and injuries; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Operation Lifesaver, United States Department of Transportation, and all local, state, county, and railroad law enforcement officers, first responders, and railroad corporations commit to partnering together in an effort to educate at a national level all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable laws in support of National Rail Safety Week;

THEREFORE, we, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana do hereby attest our full support proclaiming September 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020, National Rail Safety Week and we encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of rail safety education.

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Calcagno, 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

**RESOLUTION 27-2020**

A RESOLUTION TO RE-SCHEDULE THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER DUE TO COLUMBUS 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 October this meeting falls on Columbus Day,

WHEREAS, in observance of this holiday, the Town of Gramercy, will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

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, October 13, 2020.

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

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

And the resolution was adopted on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

### **RESOLUTION 28-2020**

A RESOLUTION ENGAGING A FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, is required to have a financial audit performed for the year ending June 30, 2020 for the Town of Gramercy; and,

WHEREAS, an engagement letter has been received from the firm of Postlethwaite and Netterville, Certified Public Accountants, 215 Saint Patrick Street, Donaldsonville, Louisiana; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that the firm of Postlethwaite and Netterville, is hereby engaged to examine the financial statements and records of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, in accordance with the stipulations stated in their letter.

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

A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

### **ALDERMEN'S REPORT**

Alderman Woods thanked all who participated in helping with clean up on E. Railroad in preparation for the re-opening of E. Railroad Avenue to S. Airline. On September 19, 2020 that will be a Voter's Registration Drive at Town Hall parking lot, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. and on September 26, 2020 a Voter's Registration Drive will be at New Hope International Worship Center in Vacherie, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Alderman Brack received a complaint about residents leaving grass clippings in the street; he spoke with the homeowner and he has been cooperative in the matter. He has also received a complaint about residents letting their dogs relieve themselves on other peoples' property.

Alderman Louque thanked the maintenance crew for working late hours on repairing the LA 3125 fire hydrant. He also thanked those that came forward with information on the truck company that knocked down the barrier by Taylor's rear exit.

Alderman Calcagno distributed his monthly report. Alderman Calcagno inquired if there has been any progress on the idea of a lateral canal from Central Canal to Ezidore Canal to help with heavy rains and also when the Ferrara Canal cleaning will be completed. The maintenance crew has no emergency warning lights or signs available when they are working on Highways; we need to provide proper equipment/material for the safety of our workers.

Alderman Wiggins reported the catch basin near the Driver's License on N. Pine needs repair and curbing in several areas. The ditches on Pecan Street need to be cleaned.

**TOWN ATTORNEY**

Town Attorney Robert Fauchaux, Jr. stated he is working with O'Reilly's on the agreement of the lift station from the Hymel family.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Louque, and approved to adjourn at 8:08 pm.

/s/ Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Amy St. Pierre, Town Clerk