

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
JULY 12, 2021**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm at Gramercy Town Hall.

Mayor Nosacka called the meeting to order, and asked the Clerk to call roll:

There were present: Mayor Steven Nosacka, Alderman Darren Brack, Alderman Craig Calcagno, Alderman Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Barbara Woods

There were absent: Alderman Theron Louque

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS -

Mr. Malik Baloney, founder of Let's Be B.I.G.G.E.R., a non-profit created in St. James to help our youth understand how local government works by meeting elected officials and exposing children to local and national community activities. He has been working with Ms. Barbara Woods of Woods Learning Academy this summer and the children have learned about voting.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka reported that we received two applicants for the recently advertised maintenance positions. He will contact Susan Baily of Louisiana Workforce Commission to help with potential applicants. Lucher Water Plant is currently out of service, and they are drawing water from St. James Parish; the town is on standby if we are needed. He received notice on Friday that the state portal to submit our request for American Rescue Plan funds is now open. The capital project listing he gave to the Aldermen in May could take up to two years to complete.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT

The N. Airline Sewer Pump project engineers stated the plans will be ready for bid at end of July. He asked the Aldermen to turn in any concrete repairs request so he can add them to his list. A purchase order has been issued to Quiver Construction for the Dudley Pump Station bulkhead project. After speaking with officials from St. James Parish, they will not be able to lay the culverts for the S. Millet Street improvement project. He will have to research a cost estimate for the town to cover the expense. The engineers for the Ellis Street and Hymel Street drainage project have provided plans and cost estimate; financing with DEQ won't be available until Spring 2022 so the town may have to look into alternative financing.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Dicharry reported to Mayor Nosacka that the shooting in Golden Grove is under investigation.

REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Emergency Preparedness Director Lt. Jody Ordeneaux reported that in the last two weeks there has been four separate rainfall events that exceeded 4" per hour. On two of those occasions Central Canal exceeded its bank by 4th Street. Recent work done by 4th street has helped with drainage in N. Ezidore Circle.

B. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mayor Nosacka reported that Sgt. Gerhold is continuing to work on the abandoned car list.

3. REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

District One Councilman Alvin St. Pierre, Jr. reported that options are open for Central Canal alternatives to prevent ditch bank erosion. Engineers are looking into rebuilding the Blind River launch on US 61. The Parish is looking into hiring a contractor to help with work on canal by Sandwich World. The Parish Council is beginning to gather projects for the new budget year, please send any requests to him by early August. The catch basin by 317 Belinda Street needs to be repaired.

4. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairman reported that it was discussed that the recent commission meeting to charge a surcharge on permits that would be refunded once they have passed all required inspections. No action was taken by the regarding this.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno presented his monthly report. If you have any questions, please contact him.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 12-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR STEVEN NOSACKA TO SIGN A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH DRC EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL

WHEREAS, St. James Parish Government, Town of Gramercy and Town of Lutcher currently has a contract with DRC Emergency Services for debris removal, and;

WHEREAS, the current contract expires on August 18, 2021 and has a one (1) year renewal option; and,

WHEREAS, Town of Gramercy wishes to execute that renewal option: and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town of Gramercy Board of Aldermen, that the contract be entered in accordance with the terms and conditions of said contract and that Mayor Steven Nosacka, is hereby authorized and empowered, to sign the necessary contracts and/or documents to provide for continued debris removal services.

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, Woods
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Louque
ABSTAIN:	None

And the resolution was adopted on this the 12th day of July, 2021.

RESOLUTION 13-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR STEVEN NOSACKA TO SIGN A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH TETRA TECH FOR DEBRIS MONITORING

WHEREAS, St. James Parish Government, Town of Gramercy and Town of Lutcher currently has a contract with Tetra Tech for debris monitoring, and;

WHEREAS, the current contract expires on August 18, 2021 and has a one (1) year renewal option; and,

WHEREAS, Town of Gramercy wishes to execute that renewal option: and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town of Gramercy Board of Aldermen, that the contract be entered in accordance with the terms and conditions of said contract and that Mayor Steven Nosacka is hereby authorized and empowered, to sign the necessary contracts and/or documents to provide for continued debris monitoring services.

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, Woods
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Louque
ABSTAIN:	None

And the resolution was adopted on this the 12th day of July, 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Wood asked if the speed bump request on S. Cherry Street has been approved. Mayor Nosacka reported all paperwork was turned into the office and he will order the speed bumps. With the recent shooting in Golden Grove, residents are requesting more police presence in the area. They are more fearful than ever with this happening in their neighborhood.

Alderman Wiggins reported that grass letters need to be sent to property owners of 242 and 243 S. Airline Avenue. The tracks by the Veterans Memorial Bridge are in need of repair. He thanked Entergy for fixing the lights on LA 44 by the bridge. He has received reports about pit bull dogs running loose in the Golden Grove area. Trees need to be trimmed on S. Fir and S. Mulberry Streets.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. With the recent 3.25" of rain in an hour, it was noticed the amount of drainage work needed throughout town. W. Main Street was flooded and the N. Pine Street ditch going to Ferrara Canal was half full when it should have been full; we need to check on what could be blocking the flow. Ditches on several streets across the tracks are in need of cleaning.

Alderman Brack noted that earlier garbage pick-up times in his subdivision was causing several residents to not have their garbage picked up, they will have to make sure garbage is put out the night before. There is an old boat on N Millet that should be marked as abandoned.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Fauchaux reported he and Mayor Nosacka met with Attorney Scott Thomas concerning the Rise St James lawsuit. The town has continued to comply with their requests.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Calcagno, second by Alderman Brack, and approved to adjourn at 7:10 pm.

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