

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

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Tuesday, October 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 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 comment on agenda items.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS -

Representatives from St. James Parish Government presented an update on Hurricane Ida Recovery. First phase of debris pick up is 95% complete, phases two and three will follow afterwards. St. James Parish is working with DOTD for a one-time pass in commercial zone areas. Property owners can submit to FEMA a Private Property Debris Removal application; an assessment will be completed by FEMA before approval is granted.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka presented a Proclamation recognizing October 2021 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. FEMA has approved temporary housing solutions for those who suffered major damage to their homes during Hurricane Ida. Mr. Donald Haines of Waste Management spoke on the challenges of increased garbage during Hurricane Ida recovery period. They began regular pickup on September 7, 2021 and use Wednesdays and Saturdays as make up days in Gramercy and St. James Parish. They will continue the schedule until further notice.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT

Mayor Nosacka reported that High Tide Consultants LLC has finalized plans for the widening of S. Millet. We will begin bid advertisements in the News Examiner on September 23, 2021 and run for three weeks. Bid opening will be the week of October 18, 2021. The Central Canal bank work will not require bids. When plans are completed, we will request quotes on the project. Debris contractors are in town picking up trees, construction debris pickup will follow afterward. Reported to Entergy the last few residents without power. CES has completed inspection of culverts from W. Railroad to S. David Street. They will forward the results to Donavon at Meyer Engineering. He has met with PEC concerning combining the Force Main Project with sewer and water line upgrades on LA 3125.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

There was no report for this month.

B. REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

There was no report for this month.

C. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mayor Nosacka reported that there are several properties that will need to be demolished due to hurricane damage. He will forward a list to the aldermen in the coming weeks.

3. REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

Parish District One Councilman Alvin St. Pierre, Jr. thanked St. James Parish administration for their combined efforts during the hurricane recovery. He also thanked Mark Johnson with Entergy and Donald Haines with Waste Management for their work during the recovery period. Mr. St. Pierre reported that a resolution was on the Parish meeting agenda concerning FEMA housing. The maintenance crew has been working on S. Millet Street Project and will continue to complete their agreed work on this project.

4. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairman Barry LeBlanc reported that a resident on N Magnolia inquired about using a sea can as storage on his property; the commission members were unanimously against a sea can being used as storage. Mayor Nosacka stated that the property owner reported to him that he will get a shed instead. A resident has filed for a mobile home permit; Mayor Nosacka and Mr. LeBlanc will inspect the mobile home.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno presented his monthly report. There was damage to several areas in Park A and these areas have been cleaned by Parish.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 24-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy (the "Town") has identified the need for engineering and project implementation services related to the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act and State's Water Rescue Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town issued a Request for Qualifications for engineering firms to perform these services.

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

SECTION 1. The Board of Aldermen hereby selects and approves the proposal from Professional Engineering Consultants Corporation to perform engineering and project implementation services related to projects to be funded from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act revenues received by the Town, and to formulate and make application for projects to be funded by the State's Water Rescue Plan.

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute an engineering and project implementation services agreement with the aforementioned engineering firm.

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Louque, 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 12th of October, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SEEK AND RECEIVE RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR QUOTATIONS FOR DRAINAGE STRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AT WEST RAILROAD AVENUE AND NORTH DAVID STREET

WHEREAS, drainage improvements are needed at the intersection of W. Railroad Avenue and N. David Street, and those improvements will provide drainage relief to entire area of Hymel Subdivision; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen has already authorized Meyer Engineers, Ltd to assess and design the required improvements.

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 advertise and receive quotations from qualified contractors for the improvements designed by Meyer Engineers, Ltd for the intersection of W. Railroad Avenue and N. David Street.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUANCE OF STORM DEBRIS ASSESSMENT AND CLEANING SERVICES BY COMPLIANCE ENVIROSYSTEMS, LLC

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy (the "Town") has identified that in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, several drainage canals and conveyances are in need of immediate and emergency assessment, clearing and cleaning; and

WHEREAS, the Town has contracted with Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC to perform these services, authorized by the Board of Aldermen in the adoption of Resolution No. 23-2021; and

WHEREAS, the emergency authorization that provided for the potential for 100% reimbursement by FEMA for the cost of such services has expired as of October 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has ordered Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC to cease their work as of the expiration date of October 10, 2021.

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

SECTION 1. The Board of Aldermen hereby approves the extension and continuance of the services of Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC to perform storm drain debris assessment and cleaning services.

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute task orders with Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC for the continuance of assessment services, and for clearing and cleaning services on Airline Avenue and Central Canal, to make payment upon satisfactory execution of these services, and to request reimbursement of the applicable share of costs from the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") as part of Hurricane Ida mitigation efforts.

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Louque 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 12th of October, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SEEK AND RECEIVE RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS OR REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR HURRICANE IDA RECOVERY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy will reasonably require professional engineering or other specialized professional services to assist in the Town's recovery from Hurricane Ida; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy is required to competitively advertise for these services as needed.

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

SECTION 1. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to advertise and receive responses to request for proposals or requests for qualifications for Hurricane Ida recovery engineering and other specialized professional services.

SECTION 2. Any proposed Agreement with any provider of services authorized herein requires the approval of the Board of Aldermen.

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 12th of October, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 28-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COMMENCEMENT OF ENGINEERING, BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE HWY 3125 COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy continues to encourage and support programs and projects that will achieve broader economic development and job creation opportunities within the community; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Regional Authority has previously authorized a State Economic Development Assistance grant in the amount of \$155,500 for the Hwy 3125 Commercial Corridor Infrastructure Project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed development will require the extension of sewer services to serve this area along Hwy 3125.

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 proceed with engineering and bidding for the Hwy 3125 Commercial Corridor Infrastructure Project.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen hereby approve the funding of the entire match requirement, estimated to be \$92,000 plus inflation since the initial estimate in 2020.

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

YEAS:
NAYS:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

The resolution was deferred upon requests for more information.

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SEEK AND RECEIVE RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES RELATED TO HURRICANE IDA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE & RECOVERY CONSULTING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy will require a qualified grant and program management firm to assist with and manage federal and state grant funding programs and the reporting requirements, related to the Town's recovery from Hurricane Ida; and

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

SECTION 1. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to advertise and receive responses to request for qualifications from grant and program management firms to assist with and manage federal and state grant funding programs and the reporting requirements, related to the Town's recovery from Hurricane Ida.

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Brack 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 12th of October, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 30-2021

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR TEMPORARY RIGHT OF WAY ACCESS FOR COMMERCIAL DEBRIS REMOVAL

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy (the "Town") has identified the need for removal of commercial debris along State of Louisiana (the "State") highways within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the State has determined it in its best interests to provide the Town with Right of Way access so that the Town may direct the removal and disposal of commercial debris.

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

SECTION 1. The Board of Aldermen hereby approve the Intergovernmental Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Town of Gramercy, LA for Temporary Right-of-Way Access for Removal of Commercial Debris.

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to affect the removal and disposal of commercial debris from the Rights-of-Way along State highways within the Town of Gramercy.

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 12th of October 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Calcagno, 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

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 Calcagno passed out his monthly report. He reported that 63 permits have been applied for post Hurricane Ida and that permit inspections are still required. With prior resolutions passed on debris contracts, there should be a meeting explaining the process and timeline expectations. There are many lights damaged in town due to Hurricane Ida, he is working with Alderman Wiggins on compiling a list for Entergy.

Alderman Wiggins reported that he and Alderman Calcagno have identified 32 streetlights to date for repair due to damage from Hurricane Ida. There are properties on S. Airline Avenue that need grass cutting. At 239 W Main Street there is a sink hole by the catch basin.

Alderman Woods reported high grass by Park B on E Second Street.

Alderman Louque stated his questions were answered during the meeting.

Alderman Brack thanked St. James Parish Administration and EOC Director Eric Deroche for their continued work during the Hurricane Ida recovery. Alderman Brack agrees that an acknowledgement from the business owners who would have DOTD pick up their hurricane debris that it is their responsibility to make sure the debris is in place, and it is a one time pickup. Any further debris would be their responsibility to have removed.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Fauchaux reported that he worked on Resolution 30-2021 Intergovernmental Agreement with DOTD for Commercial Debris Removal. He has temporarily re-located to 10900 LA Hwy 3125 Suite H, Litcher.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno, and approved to adjourn at 7:30 pm.

/s/Mayor Steven T Nosacka

Attest: /s/Amy St Pierre, Clerk