

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
APRIL 11, 2022**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, April 11, 2022 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 Craig Calcagno, Alderman Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Barbara Woods

There were absent: Alderman Darren Brack, Alderman Theron Louque

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 -

Earline and Terrance Hayes, owners of Ma'Jewz Restaurant, 234 E Main Street, asked the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to consider issuing an alcohol license for their restaurant. Mayor Nosacka asked to meet with the owners to discuss their business plan for the restaurant.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka stated the Town of Gramercy trash day will coincide with St. James Parish and State's Anti-Litter wee on Saturday, April 23, 2022. FEMA reimbursement work continues, with biweekly conference calls and providing backup documentations. The Town has received initial reimbursement payment.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT

Mayor Nosacka reported that the concrete street repair request has been submitted to FEMA and is schedule for review. We are waiting on the Contractor's scheduling for asphalt street repairs. We are waiting on engineering plans and costs estimates for S. Millet Avenue, Central Canal, Lighting Project on 3125, and Sportsman Pond Access Road lift projects. We are awaiting bids for the N. Ezidore Circle Drain Culvert upgrade project.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Dicharry reported that the investigation on the Mobile Lane shooting is still under investigation.

B. REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

There was no report for this month.

C. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Gerhold passed out a monthly report. He has tagged about 50 vehicles; 12 have been moved by owner. He has sent certified letters to owners he has not be able to personally speak with.

Mayor Nosacka requested a motion to continue with demolition of three properties located at 1360 Golden Grove Street, 1606 E. First Street, and 1605 E. Second Street. A motion was made by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Woods and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

District 1 Parish Councilman Alvin St. Pierre, Jr. had no report for this month

3. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Barry LeBlanc reported that the Commission discussed the Open Meetings Law and Robert Rules of Order for Planning Commission meetings. The members agreed that a drainage plan should be turned in for review on all new construction in town.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno stated that discussion has begun for future improvement projects in Park A and Park B in Gramercy.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 738-2022 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE II, PERSONNEL POLICY, SECTION 2-81 ABSENCES FROM WORK, PARAGRAPH (a) (1) HOLIDAYS.

ORDINANCE NO. 739-2022 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2:26 OF ARTICLE II, BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO REDISTRIBUTE THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN DISTRICTS BASED UPON THE 2020 CENSUS AND TO FURTHER SPECIFY THE EFFECTIVE DATES OF SAME

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 15-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT JOINTLY WITH ST. JAMES PARISH SHERIFF’S OFFICE PERTAINING TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to upgrade and meet the level of governmental infrastructure required by the State of Louisiana and Division of Administration and also wishes to continue to receive support from both Parish and Sheriff Information Technology; and

WHEREAS, the Parish and Sheriff jointly and the Town hereby agree to each enter into an agreement to share certain IT connections, data storage, internet services, records management, and resources.

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 and empowered to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement with St. James Parish Government jointly with St. James Parish Sheriff’s Office pertaining to Information Technology and Records Management.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 11th day of April, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-2022

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended, states that “...no person shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale, rental, or advertising of dwellings, in the provision of brokerage services, or in the availability of residential real estate-related transaction including lenders, builders and homeowners insurance companies...,” and

WHEREAS the State of Louisiana passed the Louisiana Equal Housing Opportunity Act which allows the Louisiana Attorney General’s Office to enforce fair housing laws, and

WHEREAS the Parish of Assumption desires to promote Fair Housing practices throughout the community and in particular regard to those programs providing housing assistance to area residents,

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Gramercy does hereby proclaim April as “Fair Housing Month” in order to raise public awareness about the requirements of the Fair Housing Law.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this 11th day of April, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO SEEK AND RECEIVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL AND MONITORING SERVICES

WHEREAS, both St. James Parish and the Town of Gramercy (the "Town") are susceptible to natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, both Parish and Town resources may become overwhelmed with debris removal; and

WHEREAS, private, independent monitoring resources may be needed to verify and document debris removal and lawful disposal; 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 authorized to take all actions necessary for the Town to participate in the Request for Proposals that the St. James Parish Council is developing for Debris Removal Services and for the Town to participate in the resulting contract.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 11th day of April, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 18-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH FAULK & WINKLER LLC FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FINANCIAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the requirements to receive federal funding the Town of Gramercy is required to develop and implement additions to its financial policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the accounting firm of Faulk & Winkler LLC possesses the qualifications and experience required to assist the Town in the development of these required financial policies and procedures.

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 Engagement Letter of March 19, 2022 with Faulk & Winkler, LLC.

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute the Engagement Letter with Faulk & Winkler, LLC and to make payment upon satisfactory execution of the Work.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 11th of April, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LGAP) AND COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND PROGRAM (CWEF) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy is eligible to participate in applying for and receiving grant funding from the State of Louisiana through the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) and the Community Water Enrichment Fund Program (CWEF).

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 apply for funding from the LGAP and CWEF programs for 2022.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 11th day of April, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT QUOTE FOR ROOF REPAIRS & REPLACEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy has identified that multiple Town-owned buildings have roof repairs that are needed as a result of Hurricane Ida; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy has publicly advertised and solicited quotes from contractors to perform this work.

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 selection of Garcia Roofing and Sheet Metal Inc. for roof repairs and replacements for six Town-owned buildings (the "Work"), at a price of not to exceed One Hundred Forty-Two Thousand, Six Hundred and Three Dollars and Eighty Cents (\$142,603.80).

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to applicable contract documents with Garcia Roofing and Sheet Metal Inc. for this Work and to make payment upon satisfactory execution of the Work.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 11th day of April, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL FOR AUTOMATIC METER READING PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy has determined the need to install Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) equipment for a portion of the Town's utility meters; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy has publicly advertised and solicited proposals from contractors to perform this work.

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 selection of Core & Main LP to install AMR-replacement utility meters and install and implement the software and services required to integrate into the Town's existing utility billing system, for an approximate 300-meter portion of the Town's meters (the "Work"), at a price of not to exceed One Hundred Thirty-One Thousand, Four Hundred Sixty-One Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$131,461.50).

SECTION 2. Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to applicable contract documents with Core & Main LP for this Work and to make payment upon satisfactory execution of the Work.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 11th day of April, 2022.

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.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Woods stated she has received calls about the tall grass at 1557 E. Second Street and she has spoken with a family member to have the grass cut.

Alderman Wiggins reported a letter needs to be sent to property owner on Tulip Street for tall grass. The windsock at the water plant still needs to be replaced. He reported to Chief Dicharry of speeding complaints he received on S. Fir Street and N. Montz Street.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. He thanked Alex Gerhold for the code enforcement monthly reports. He inquired what is the next step of action on Hurricane Ida damaged structures; would they be eligible for the PPDR program? He discussed his concerns about the recent gun violence in Gramercy. These shootings do not affect only the parties involved but surrounding residents and their properties.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Faucheux stated that the settlement conference for Rise St. James lawsuit is scheduled for May 2, 2022 and asked the Aldermen to review comments that the town will bring before the magistrate.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno, and approved to adjourn at 7:13 pm.

/s/Mayor Steven T Nosacka

Attest: /s/Amy St Pierre, Clerk