

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
NOVEMBER 14, 2022**

PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 747-2022 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 50 – OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS, ARTICLE II, PARADE AND DEMONSTRATION PERMITS

There was no comment received on the above ordinance. A motion to close the public hearing was made by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Wiggins and the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, November 14, 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 Theron Louque, Alderman Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Barbara Woods

There were absent: Alderman Darren Brack

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS - None

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nosacka reported he continues to receive complaints about red dust from Noranda. LA DOTD will have a meeting on November 17, 2022, from 4 to 7 pm to discuss the roundabout. The Parish Economic and Development Board will have a Main Street Christmas Stroll on December 4th, 1 – 4 pm. Toys for Tots will be held on December 18, 2022, 10 – 12 pm at the N. Montz Fire Station. Waste Management will begin delivering new garbage carts on November 15th. The cleaning of Ferrero Canal between 2nd and 6th street is near completion. E. Railroad sidewalk repairs are nearly complete. The maintenance shop break room is currently being repaired. Senator Cassidy has met with Zapp's CEO to discuss their plans for the Gramercy site. The application for the Water Rescue Program has been submitted; this funding will be for the water intake rehab. The applications for LGAP and CWFEP has been submitted; this funding will be to acquire and install culverts on Rose Street and additional AMR meters.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT

Mayor Nosacka stated the engineers have provided the preliminary plans for the Dudley Force Main Project. The S Millet asphalt overlay should be finished by end of the week. The Main Street Committee has requested Main Street be cleaned and the striping repainted. The plans for the North Ground Storage tank rehab will go to the Department of Health for approval.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Police Chief Brent Dicharry reported there were no incidents on Halloween. Due to high traffic at peak hours in the evening, the officers have been writing more tickets for driving on the shoulder. Inquired about the time frame for when construction on round about at LA 3125 will begin so they can help coordinate with traffic control.

REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux reported that it can take 10-20 minutes to get from First American Bank to LA 3125 and hopes the roundabout can help lessen the time.

B. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Gerhold presented his report on abandoned vehicles in town. At this time, 11 vehicles have been moved by owners, but the remaining numbers are still high.

REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

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

3. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairman Barry LeBlanc had no report for this month.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno stated there was no November meeting.

ORDINANCE – FINAL ACTION

ORDINANCE NO. 747-2022

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 50 – OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS, ARTICLE II, PARADE AND DEMONSTRATION PERMITS

WHEREAS, an Ordinance amending the Town of Gramercy Code of Ordinances, Chapter 50, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article II, Parade and Demonstration Permits.

The following shall be amended and read as:

Sec. 50-41. - Required.

It shall be unlawful to promote, organize or hold or assist in organizing or holding or to take part or participate in any parade or procession or other public demonstration in the streets or other public places unless a permit has been secured from the Town.

Sec. 50-42. - Exemptions.

This article shall not apply to the following:

- (1) Funeral processions.
- (2) Students going to and from school classes or participating in educational activities, provided such conduct is under the immediate direction and supervision of the proper school authorities.
- (3) A governmental agency acting within the scope of its functions.
- (4) Any gathering on publicly owned sidewalks.
- (5) Any gathering of 10 or fewer people.

Sec. 50-43. - Application.

- (a) A person or organization seeking issuance of a parade permit shall file an application with the Town on forms provided, not less than three business days before the date on which it is proposed to conduct the parade.
- (b) The application for a parade permit shall set forth the following information:
 - (1) The name, address and telephone number of the person seeking to conduct such parade.

(2) If the parade is proposed to be conducted for, on behalf of or by an organization, the name, address and telephone number of the headquarters of the organization and of the authorized and responsible heads of such organization.

(3) The name, address and telephone number of the person who will be the parade chairperson and who will be responsible for its conduct.

(4) The date when the parade is to be conducted.

(5) The route to be traveled, the starting point and the termination point, including any anticipated stops or delays along the route.

(6) The approximate number of persons who and animals and vehicles which will constitute such parade; the type of animals and description of the vehicles.

(7) The hours when such parade will start and terminate, which shall be limited to hours as set forth in this article.

(8) A statement as to whether the parade will occupy all or only a portion of the width of the streets proposed to be traversed.

(9) The location by streets of any assembly areas for such parade.

(10) The time at which units of the parade will begin to assemble at any such assembly areas.

(11) The interval of space to be maintained between units of such parade.

(12) If the parade is designed to be held by and on behalf of or for any person other than the applicant, the applicant for such permit shall file with the application a communication in writing from the person proposing to hold the parade, authorizing the applicant to apply for the permit on his behalf.

(13) Copies of valid driver's licenses are needed for the operators of all vehicles to be included in the parade, gathering, or event.

(14) Evidence of liability insurance must be provided for all vehicles participating.

(c) Where good cause is shown, any application under this section which is filed less than two days before the date such parade is proposed to be conducted will be considered.

Sec. 50-44. - Standards of issuance.

The application shall be reviewed by the Town Mayor and the Town Chief of Police.

The Mayor shall issue a permit as required in this article when, from such other information as may otherwise be obtained, they find that:

(1) The schedule of the parade is such that it shall not begin before the hour of 8:00 a.m. and shall not last beyond the hour of 9:00 p.m.

(2) The conduct of the parade will not substantially interrupt the safe and orderly movement of traffic on streets other than the approved event route.

(3) The conduct of the parade will not require the diversion of so great a number of police officers of the town to properly police the line of movement and the areas contiguous thereto as to prevent normal police protection to the town.

(4) The conduct of such parade will not require the diversion of so great a number of ambulances as to prevent normal ambulance service to portions of this town other than that to be occupied by the proposed line of march and areas contiguous thereto.

(5) The concentration of persons, animals or vehicles at assembly points of the parade will not unduly interfere with proper fire and police protection of or ambulance service to areas contiguous to such assembly areas.

(6) The conduct of such parade will not interfere with the movement of firefighting equipment enroute to a fire.

(7) The parade is not to be held for the sole purpose of advertising any product, goods or event and is not designed to be held purely for private profit.

(8) A bond of \$10,000.00 performance bond has been posted, if required by Section 50-45.

Sec. 50-45. Performance Bond.

Applicants shall post a \$10,000 performance bond prior to the parade.

The bond may be posted in cash or through a surety or other insurance instrument.

The following exceptions shall apply:

1. Parades with no vehicles or animals shall not be required to post a bond.
2. Parades held by non-profit organizations registered with the Louisiana Secretary of State who provide documentation to verify that status shall not be required to post a bond.
3. Parades held by indigent individuals who provide attestation to verify their indigent status shall not be required to post a bond.
4. Parades held by an individual or group with a demonstrated history of compliance with Town Ordinances for previous parade events shall not be required to post a bond.

Sec. 50-46. - Notice of decision.

The Mayor will notify the applicant of the Town decision within 24 hours of a decision.

Sec. 50-47. - Contents.

Each parade permit shall state the following information:

- (1) Starting time.
- (2) Minimum speed.
- (3) Maximum speed.
- (4) Maximum interval of space to be maintained between the units of the parade.
- (5) The portions of the streets to be traversed that may be occupied by the parade.
- (6) The maximum length of the parade in miles or fractions thereof.
- (7) Such other event details as the mayor and board of aldermen shall find necessary for the safe conduct of the event.

Sec. 50-48. - Alternate permit.

The Town, in denying an application for the parade permit, shall be empowered to authorize the conduct of the parade on a date, at a time or over a route different from that named by the applicant. Any applicant desiring to accept an alternate permit shall, within one day after notice of such action, file a written notice of acceptance with the mayor and board of aldermen. An alternate parade permit shall conform to the requirements of and shall have the effect of a parade permit under this article.

Sec. 50-49. - Duties of permittee.

A permittee under this article shall comply with all permit directions and conditions and with all applicable laws and ordinances. The parade chairperson or other person heading or leading such activity shall carry the parade permit upon his person during the conduct of the parade.

Sec. 50-50. - Revocation.

The Town shall have the authority to revoke a parade permit issued under this article upon violation of any standard for issuance as set forth in this article.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on Monday, October 11, 2022, notice of public hearing having been published on Thursday, October 27, 2022, said public hearing and public meeting held on Monday, November 14, 2022, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman Louque, second by Alderman Calcagno to adopt the Ordinance, a record was taken, and the following result was held.

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

And the ordinance was declared adopted on this 14th day of November, 2022.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 48-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OF CLEANING MAIN STREET AND RE-STRIPING OF PARKING AND CURBS ON MAIN STREET AND ADJACENT STREETS

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana (the "Town") desires to improve its Main Street to make it safer, more accessible and to encourage economic development;

WHEREAS, the Town desires to clean and re-paint and re-stripe the parking lines and curbs on Main Street and the adjacent streets.

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 issue a Purchase Order to Legit Pressure Washing LLC in the amount of \$4,000.00 for washing down the Main Street area, clearing debris, re-painting and re-stripping the parking areas.

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 updated quotes for re-painting and re-stripping only.

RESOLUTION NO. 49-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONDEMNATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana (the "Town") desires to improve public safety and through the removal of blighted housing;

WHEREAS, certain property owners have requested that the Town move forward with the condemnation process and demolition of abandoned residential structures located at 1583 Tulip Street and 1556 Rose Street.

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

SECTION 1. In accordance with the Town Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Article II, Unsafe Buildings, Steven T. Nosacka, Mayor, is hereby authorized to commence with the notice process, condemnation and demolition of the residential structures located at 1583 Tulip Street and 1556 Rose Street, and seek reimbursement for the cost of demolition in the most expedient terms possible.

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

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

ABSTAIN: None

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of November, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 50-2022

A RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND NEW EXPENDITURES AND HIRING UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2022

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

SECTION 1. New expenditures excluding maintenance repairs and hiring without approval of the Board of Aldermen are suspended until December 31, 2022.

A motion to adopt the above resolution changing capital expenditures to new expenditures excluding maintenance repairs was made by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Calcagno and resulted in the following vote:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of November, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 51-2022

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR STREET REPAIR PROJECTS IN THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy (the "Town") has identified the need for engineering and project bidding and inspection services related to repairs that are required on multiple streets in the Town, including Tenth Street, Eighth Street, Pine Street, and others to be identified.

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 issuance of a Request for Qualifications for Engineering services related to the repairs required on multiple Town streets.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 14th day of November, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Woods and approved and to adopt the minutes from the July 11, 2022 meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mayor Nosacka asked for approval of bills with the exception of Sparkling Touch, Johnson Concrete and Holcolm that need further review. It was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Woods and approved to pay all bills and accept financial statements presented before the Council.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Louque asked to have the maintenance crew to clean area on N. Airline Avenue between US 61 and railroad tracks.

Alderman Woods reported a streetlight out by Roses Discount and Mike's.

Alderman Wiggins reported he has tagged several streetlights that need repair. He asked with the mobile home destroyed by Hurricane Ida will be demolished. He thanked Bryant Lewis and Theron Louque for help with cooking for Veteran's Day Celebration event.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. He reported that a Keep Louisiana Beautiful grant is now available and maybe it could help new garbage containers for Main Street. The contractors working on S. Willow Street missed a drain and the edging needs to be completed. The Rose Street culverts need to be cleaned. He asked if the certified letters sent to property owners for ordinance violations can be tracked. He suggested that a written letter for appeal for demolition be added to the ordinance.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Fauchaux reported the court hearing for the demolition of home at 224 S. Airline Avenue has been set rescheduled for November 28, 2022 at 9:00 am. The Attorney General has assigned an assistant to review our opinion request. The parade ordinance will need to be reviewed and approved by a Judge.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno, and approved to adjourn at 7:26 pm.

/s/Mayor Steven T Nosacka

Attest: /s/Amy St Pierre, Clerk