

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
JANUARY 9, 2023**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm at Gramercy Town Hall.

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

There were present: Mayor Steven Bourgeois, Alderman Darren Brack, Alderman Craig Calcagno, Alderman Theron Louque, Alderman Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Percy Williams

There were absent: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Shelly Warren asked if the Black History Month banners will be displayed this year? Mayor Bourgeois stated they will be placed on Main Street.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS

Rebecca Clark of Billy J Clark Inc. inquired when the two invoices turned into the office would be paid. Mayor Bourgeois stated it would be paid by the end of the week of the 16th.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois reported that the Force Main Project drawings were available for review. He has spoken to Chief Dicharry about complaints he received concerning speeding and littering. Alderman Brack asked what the timeline is for hiring a Maintenance Supervisor and Mayor Bourgeois stated he is working on a more detailed job description for the position.

2. REPORT ON-GOING PROJECT - None

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Police Chief Brent Dicharry reported no incidents on Christmas Eve. He thanked that police officers for helping the maintenance crew with finding leaks during the freeze; this help with timely repairs and the town avoiding water supply issues. There were guns fired into the air on New Year's Eve, however the thick fog slowed response times. Lt. Ordeneaux showed the new equipment the police department has for school shooting response; items included shields, helmets, and vest.

REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux reported he was on a conference call with Sheriff's Office to discuss an emergency alert system program and pricing. We can be included with St. James Parish or the town individually.

B. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Gerhold stated he continues to monitor the abandon vehicles in Gramercy. He is now a certified Car Seat Safety Technician, and he can train people how to safely use a child restraint.

REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

District 1 Parish Councilman Alvin St. Pierre, Jr. passed out his 2023 budget items report. It includes funding for East Bank Drainage Study, \$525,000 in Gramercy canal cleaning and repairs, funding for engineering fees to complete Gramercy Recreation master plan, a new concession building, and \$175,000 for Rose Street improvement project.

3. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Member Alex Gerhold stated that the commission recommends approving the building permit for new dance studio on N. Pine Street.

B. GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno stated there was no meeting in December.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A TOWN ATTORNEY AND MAYORS COURT MAGISTRATE FOR THE FOUR YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:386 Paragraph C provides for the appointment of an attorney at law for the municipality; and,

WHEREAS, Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois, has recommended the appointment of Mr. Robert "Bobby" Fauchaux, Jr., to the position of Town Attorney and Mayors Court Magistrate for the four year term ending December 31, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that the appointment of Mr. Robert "Bobby" Fauchaux, Jr., by Mayor Bourgeois to the position of Town Attorney and Mayors Court Magistrate for the four year term ending December 31, 2026, is hereby approved.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Wiggins. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|----------|--|
| YEAS : | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of January, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A TOWN CLERK AND TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE FOUR YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:381 Paragraph A provides that the municipal officers of a municipality shall be, but not limited to a clerk and a tax collector: and,

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:386 Paragraph A provides that the first regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen succeeding each regular election, the mayor, subject to confirmation by the board of aldermen, shall appoint a clerk, tax collector, and all other necessary officers whose election is not provided for in R.S. 33:381; and,

WHEREAS, Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois, has recommended the appointment of Amy O. St. Pierre, to the office of clerk and tax collector for the four year term ending December 31, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that the appointment of Amy O. St. Pierre, by the Mayor Bourgeois to the office of Town Clerk and Tax Collector for the four year term ending December 31, 2026, is hereby approved.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Brack. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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|----------|--|
| YEAS : | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of January, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-2023

A RESOLUTION ELECTING A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AS MAYOR PRO TEMPORE FOR FOUR YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:405 Paragraph A. (3) provides that the Board of Aldermen shall select one of the aldermen to be Mayor Pro Tempore; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor Pro Tempore shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the mayor, have the same power, and perform all duties of the mayor in the absence or disability of the mayor, except the veto power of the mayor; and,

WHEREAS, the mayor pro tempore has been elected at the beginning of each term of the board of Aldermen; and,

WHEREAS, Alderman Claude Wiggins has been nominated by for the position of mayor pro tempore:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that Alderman Claude Wiggins is hereby elected mayor pro tempore for the four year term ending December 31, 2026.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Louque. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|----------|--|
| YEAS : | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of January, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-2023

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING GRAMERCY PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS FOR THE FOUR YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, has a Gramercy Planning and Zoning Commission; and,

WHEREAS, as per the Town of Gramercy, Code of Ordinances, Section 58-20, members are appointed by the Board of Aldermen succeeding each regular election; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen has recommended the appointment of the following commission members:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| District One: | Cathery Allen (PW) |
| District Two: | Gary Waguespack (DB) |
| District Three: | Barry Leblanc, Chairman, and Inspector (TL) |
| At Large: | Brian Lewis (CW) |
| At Large: | Alex Gerhold (CC) |
| Fire Department: | Austin Berthelot |

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that the appointment of the above members to the Gramercy Planning and Zoning Commission for the four year term ending December 31, 2026 is hereby approved.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Williams, seconded by Alderman Wiggins. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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|----------|--|
| YEAS: | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was adopted on the 9th day of January, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2023

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FIRST AMERICAN BANK AND TRUST AS A LEGAL DEPOSITORY AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PERSONS TO SIGN CHECKS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that First American Bank and Trust Bank (herein called the "Depository") is hereby designated as a legal depository of money belonging to the Town of Gramercy, and that said money belonging to the Town of Gramercy, shall be deposited in said bank from time to time in the name of said Town, and that monies so deposited may be withdrawn upon a check, draft, note or order of the Town.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that checks drawn on the bank accounts of the Town of Gramercy shall require signatures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following are hereby authorized to sign said checks:

Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois
Alderman Craig Calcagno
Town Clerk Amy O. St. Pierre

whose signatures shall be duly certified to said Depository, and that no checks, drafts, or orders drawn against said Depository shall be valid unless so signed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Depository is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks, notes or orders so drawn, whether such checks, drafts notes or orders be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, drafts, notes or orders, or any of such persons in their individual capacities or not, and whether such checks, drafts, notes or orders are deposited to the individual credit of the person so signing and/or countersigning said checks, drafts, notes or orders, or to the individual credit of any of the other officers or not. This resolution shall continue in force and said Depository may consider the facts the holders of said officers, respectively, and their signatures to be and continue as set forth in the certificate of the Town Clerk, accompanying a copy of this resolution when delivered to said Depository or in any similar subsequent certificate, until written notice to the contrary is duly served on said Depository.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Brack. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|----------|--|
| YEAS: | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of January, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2023

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING REGION BANK AS A LEGAL DEPOSITORY AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PERSONS TO SIGN CHECKS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that Regions Bank (herein called the "Depository") is hereby designated as a legal depository of money belonging to the Town of Gramercy, and that said money belonging to the Town of Gramercy, shall be deposited in said bank from time to time in the name of said Town, and that monies so deposited may be withdrawn upon a check, draft, note or order of the Town.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that checks drawn on the bank accounts of the Town of Gramercy shall require signatures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following are hereby authorized to sign said checks:

Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois
Alderman Craig Calcagno
Town Clerk Amy O. St. Pierre

whose signatures shall be duly certified to said Depository, and that no checks, drafts, or orders drawn against said Depository shall be valid unless so signed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Depository is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks, notes or orders so drawn, whether such checks, drafts notes or orders be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, drafts, notes or orders, or any of such persons in their individual capacities or not, and whether such checks, drafts, notes or orders are deposited to the individual credit of the person so signing and/or countersigning said checks, drafts, notes or orders, or to the individual credit of any of the other officers or not. This resolution shall continue in force and said Depository may consider the facts the holders of said officers, respectively, and their signatures to be and continue as set forth in the certificate of the Town Clerk, accompanying a copy of this resolution when delivered to said Depository or in any similar subsequent certificate, until written notice to the contrary is duly served on said Depository.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Williams, seconded by Alderman Brack. A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|----------|--|
| YEAS: | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of January, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY TO DESIGNATE SIGNATURES WITH LOUISIANA ASSET MANAGEMENT POOL, INC. (LAMP)

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy is a "public entity" as that term is defined in the Articles of Incorporation of LAMP, Inc., and is subject to the restrictions imposed under the laws of the State of Louisiana with respect to the investment of funds of municipalities, parishes and other political subdivisions (a "Public Entity"); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy has received and reviewed the Depositing Members' Information Statement and such other documents as it deems material related to an investment in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (the "LAMP"), including documents relating to the organization and investment policies of the LAMP; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy has determined that an investment in the LAMP is consistent with its investment authority, including any limitations imposed under the laws of the State of Louisiana, and such Public Entity now desires, from time to time, to invest its funds in the LAMP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the individuals named below, in their capacities as authorized officers, employees or agents of the Town of Gramercy, are hereby authorized and empowered to invest and transfer, in their sole discretion, funds from any such account established in the LAMP for the benefit of such Public Entity; to issue letters of instruction related to any such account or investments thereunder; and to take any and all other actions which they, in their discretion, deem necessary or appropriate in connection with the establishment of one or more accounts in the LAMP and the investment funds thereunder:

Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois, Town Clerk Amy O. St. Pierre, Accountant Doreen R. Lang

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

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|----------|--|
| YEAS: | Brack, Calcagno, Louque, Wiggins, Williams |
| NAYS: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 9th day of January, 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mayor Bourgeois asked for approval of bills. A motion was moved by Alderman Brack, second by Alderman Wiggins and approved to pay all bills and accept financial statements presented before the Council.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Brack would like to set up a meeting to discuss with the Mayor projects and funding for the Main Street Revitalization program.

Alderman Louque reported several street light outages in subdivision behind Taylor's Express.

Alderman Williams reported dim streetlights on E First Street. He has received complaints about the odor from LSR. He suggested a plan be developed for a second evacuation route out of Golden Grove Subdivision in case of emergency.

Alderman Wiggins has received complaints about the condition of old End Zone Store on River Road. The sidewalk at 232 N Millet needs repairing.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. He welcomed Mayor Bourgeois and Alderman Williams. The new Waste Management lift truck will have problems though out town with low hanging wires. He would like to have PEC engineers to investigate what type of sewer pump is needed at 629 N Airline Avenue to reduce backup/plugging issues. He spoke with former Gramercy Alderman Eldridge Zeringue and wished him a happy 95th birthday. The town's annex building on N. Montz has been used by our police department for to perform work on the units. He recommends allowing the police department the sole use of the building for managing their vehicles.

A motion to suspend the agenda was made by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Calcagno, and was passed unanimously.

A motion to allow the police department sole use of the Town annex building on N. Montz for managing their police units was made by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Williams and was passed unanimously.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Fauchaux reported the court hearing for the demolition of home at 224 S. Airline Avenue has been continued. He spoken with the Attorney General office and is waiting for their opinion on the landowner's responsibility request made by the town.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Brack, second by Alderman Wiggins, and approved to adjourn at 7:04 pm.

Steven J. Bourgeois, Mayor

Attest: Amy St. Pierre, Town Clerk