

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
FEBRUARY 10, 2025**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Gramercy Town Hall:

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

There were present: Mayor Steven Bourgeois, Alderman Theron Louque, Alderman Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Percy Williams

There were absent: Alderman Darren Brack, Alderman Craig Calcagno

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Mr. Jess Daze', from Eisner Amper, Public Accountants, presented the financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Mr. Daze' reported that the Town of Gramercy is in good financial standing.

Mr. Shanrick Burns, from Krewe of M.A.C, stated that Krewe of M.A.C was formed in November 2016 by a group of St. James Parish residents to promote good fellowship, contribute to civic good, encourage charity, and to keep the great spirit of Mardi Gras in St. James Parish and River Parish Region. They host school uniform drives, trunk or treat, community bike rides and community prayer. They will have their annual Mardi Gras parade on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, beginning at 1:00 pm. They will follow their usual route beginning at Golden Grove Truck Stop and ending at Cypress Grove Montessori. Individuals wishing to participate in the parade can sign up at St James Parish Library in Lutcher no later than February 24, 2025 by 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Louque , seconded by Alderman Wiggins, and approved to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated January 13, 2025.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Faucheux reported that he attended the LMA Mid-Winter Conference in January. There were several seminars that provided good information for municipalities. He recommends that more town representatives attend this conference.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Jenkins passed out the monthly department report. Chief Jenkins reported that during the snow/freeze storm in January that all officers were on duty and there was no lapse in coverage for the town. He continues looking into hiring a new officer for the department. Gramercy Police Officers will be available during the Mardi Gras parade on March 4, 2025.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

EOC Director Jody Ordeneaux reported that the Town of Gramercy had approximately 7 inches of snow, with the lowest temperature being 10 degrees. He has spoken with Gramercy water plant operator and parish concerning ideas on how to conserve water during emergencies.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Asst. Chief Jody Ordeneaux stated he continues to monitor construction projects in town to see if the owner has a building permit. Town Attorney Bobby Faucheux asked if there was any further action taken against the property owners at 1339 N Airline Avenue. Asst. Chief Ordeneaux stated that Mr. Darr was issued a summons to appear in court.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Secretary Gary Waguespack reported that the Commission met with Mr. Dale Hymel concerning the re-subdivision of property on Belinda Street and West Avenue. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend the re-

subdivision to the Board of Alderman. Alderman Calcagno provided a copy of the law that requires the Planning Commission to attend a four-hour training session upon appointment. Mayor Bourgeois will research for available classes.

A motion to approve the re-subdivision of property on Belinda Street and West Avenue was made by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Louque reported that Entergy has installed a light pole this past week. On N. Ezidore and E. Third Street a large bush has overgrown and blocking the view of the stop sign. He spoke to Maintenance Supervisor Scott Blank to put timers for the lights on the pavilion on Main Street. He suggested that the Town Hall and Maintenance Supervisor's truck should have AED Defibrillator; Mayor Bourgeois will look into the costs. He attended the LMA Mid-Winter Conference in January.

Alderman Williams stated he did not receive any complaints this month. There is a streetlight blinking on E First Street. The New Zion Church kitchen in Golden Grove is in deplorable condition and should be demolished. Mayor Bourgeois stated we will do a structural analysis on the structure.

Alderman Wiggins spoke with DOTD about the signal lights on Main Street; the representative stated the camera needs to be changed. He has received reports of speeding on S Elm Street and cars going the wrong way S Fir Street, which is a one-way street. He offered his condolences to the family of Andrew Duhe.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois stated that the Ferrero Canal project kick off began today; they filmed areas that need repair and staging has begun. Town Hall is aware of the Post Office's delay in mailing out the water bills; therefore, we will not charge late fees for bills due February 10, 2025. The resolutions for LGAP and CWF will be for culverts on Rose Street and to purchase auto meters for the next phase of this project. The inspection and cleaning of the water tower will be this month.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PARADE PERMIT FOR THE KREWE OF M.A.C. MARDI GRAS PARADE

WHEREAS, the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Gramercy, Section 50-40 through 50-49 provides for the issuance of Parade Permits; and

WHEREAS, the Krewe of M.A.C. requests that a Parade Permit be issued for their use in holding a Parade traveling exclusively on Louisiana Highway 641 on Mardi Gras Day, March 4, 2025.

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

SECTION 1. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen hereby approve the Permit Application for the Krewe of M.A.C. and Steven J. Bourgeois, Mayor, is hereby authorized to sign and issue this Permit Application.

SECTION 2. As specified in Section 50-49, the Town reserves the authority to revoke this Parade Permit, at any time up to and including the Parade start time, if the violation of any standard for the issuance of the Permit occurs.

SECTION 3. This approval and issuance is conditioned on the compliance by Krewe of M.A.C. with all of the requirements of the applicable Town Ordinances, and including providing the required parade bond, indemnification agreements and driver's license and vehicle insurance coverage for each vehicle driver.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10TH day of February, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE OFFICE OF CYBER READINESS, PART OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Agreement is to facilitate Cyber Readiness Assessments performed by the Office of Cyber Readiness for the benefit of Louisiana's political subdivisions, as permitted by Article VII, Section 14© of the Louisiana State Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Aldermen, that Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois is hereby authorized to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Office of Cyber Readiness, Part of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of February, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04-2025

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 J. Bourgeois, Mayor, is hereby authorized to apply for funding from the LGAP and CWEF programs for 2024-2025.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of February, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2025

A RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE I, SECTION 6-1 OPEN CONTAINERS

WHEREAS the Town of Gramercy shall celebrate the holiday of Mardi Gras on Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

WHEREAS, Police Chief Dustin Jenkins, recommends the suspension of Town of Ordinances Chapter 6, Article I, Section 6-1 Open Container, with the exception of glass containers,

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

SECTION 1: The Mayor and Board of Alderman accept the recommendation of Police Chief Dustin Jenkins to suspend Chapter 6 Article 1 Section 6-1 (Open Containers) of the Town of Gramercy Code of ordinances and shall be suspended from 12:00 pm until 04:00 pm on Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of February, 2025.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Louque and approved to adjourn at 6:45 pm.

/s/ Steven J. Bourgeois, Mayor
Attest: /s/ Amy St. Pierre, Town Clerk