

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
MAY 12, 2025**

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE NO. 769-2025 An ordinance Amending Chapter 70, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, providing for allowance of Golf Carts and Slow-Moving Vehicles to be permitted by the Town of Gramercy and allowed to be driven on the streets within the Town of Gramercy corporate limits.

No comments were received on the above ordinance.

A motion was made to close the public hearing by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno and unanimously approved.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, May 12, 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 Darren Brack, Alderman Craig Calcagno, Alderman Theron Louque, Alderman Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Percy Williams

There were absent: None

There were also present: Asst. Police Chief Jody Ordeneaux, Town Attorney Robert Faucheux, Jr., Town Clerk Amy St. Pierre

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received.

PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS

Timothy Pittman, 1595 Tulip Street and 1596 Rose Street, requested a meeting be scheduled with the Mayor, Police Chief, District Alderman and himself.

A motion to suspend the meeting was made by Alderman Calcagno, second by Alderman Wiggins and unanimously approved. A motion to add Flo Dumas from Entergy to the agenda was made by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno and unanimously approved.

Flo Dumas from Entergy thanked Alderman Wiggins and Alderman Calcagno for their correspondence concerning streetlight outages in Gramercy. The streetlight repair contractor patrols at night for outages and repairs. She provided a new installation form for the town to use going forward. The town pays for 444 streetlights. Sharonda Jackson is the lighting coordinator for Entergy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Calcagno, and approved to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated April 14, 2025.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Faucheux has received no response concerning the correspondence he sent to Charles Martin concerning the renovation or demolition of his building on E Main Street. The property owners of 115 N Colonial failed to appear in Mayor's Court in January and he will send a certified letter concerning cleanup of the property and repairs to the house. It is a violation of Town of Gramercy Ordinances to do construction work without a building permit,

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Assistant Chief Jody Ordeneaux passed out the monthly report. If anyone has any questions, please contact him or Chief Jenkins.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Director Jody Ordeneaux will confirm the contact information on our contracts for emergency assistance during disaster.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mayor Bourgeois announced the hiring of Sid Berthelot as the code enforcement officer. He will begin on July 1, 2025.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Bourgeois stated he received calls concerning blighted property and tagged cars. He would like to see the Planning Commission members discuss only items on the agenda set for the meeting.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Brack reported the Ferrero Canal project has been completed and is pleased with the work done. Mayor Bourgeois inquired when the work on David Canal will begin. Alderman Brack stated it should start next week.

Alderman Louque stated that David and Central Canal needs to have the grass cut. The culverts on S. Airline Avenue and N. Airline Avenue need to be cleaned.

Alderman Williams received a call that the drainage on S. Airline Avenue was slow to clear after the recent rain event; it looks like the culverts need to be cleaned.

Alderman Wiggins reported a light out on E First Street. A high-grass letter needs to be sent to the property owner at 229 S Cherry Street. The pothole on N. Pine Street is getting worse and needs immediate repair. A grass and blight letter needs to be sent to the property owner at 278 S Cherry Street.

Alderman Calcagno turned in his monthly report. There are property owners/contractors doing work in the town without building permits. He has revised the letter he would like to mail to all residents concerning building permits and other important ordinance regulations, if anyone would like to make changes, please let him know. Mayor Bourgeois suggested Alderman Calcagno stop and ask the owner if they have a permit if he sees unpermitted work. He is pleased with the work done on Ferrero Canal. Alderman Brack was angered over hearing that Alderman Calcagno suggested he should not be paid for missing a meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois reported that we received the \$75,000 Parish Road funds and that it will go towards the widening of W. Second Street. He met with representatives from Waste Management to discuss a more efficient way of tracking customer complaints and notification of the progress of the complaints. He met with Scott Poirrier with High Tide Consultants and several contractors in a pre-bid meeting concerning utility relocation for the LA 3274/LA 3125 round about. He will research the possibility of not having a Planning Commission meeting if there are no items on the meeting agenda. The town will use LGAP funds on the Rose Street expansion project.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 770-2025 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 771-2025 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE SALES TAX FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 772-2025 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 773-2025 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026 FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA.

ORDINANCE – FINAL ACTION

ORDINANCE NO. 769-2025

An ordinance Amending Chapter 70, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, providing for allowance of Golf Carts and Slow-Moving Vehicles to be permitted by the Town of Gramercy and allowed to be driven on the streets within the Town of Gramercy corporate limits.

WHEREAS, Gramercy, Louisiana is empowered to adopt amendments and revisions of its ordinances by Louisiana Revised Statutes.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen are desirous of exercising said power; now, therefore. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, and it is hereby ordained by the same:

Section 70 Article III Golf Carts and Utility Terrain Vehicles

Section 70-50. Definitions

1. "DOTD" means the Department of Transportation and Development.
2. "Driver" means every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.
3. Golf Carts are defined as electric or gas-powered pleasure vehicles that do not exceed 25 miles per hour on a straight and level surface.
4. Utility Terrain Vehicles are defined as recreational motor vehicle designed for and capable of travel over designated roads, with a minimum width of fifty inches but not exceeding seventy-four inches and a minimum weight of at least seven hundred pounds but not exceeding three thousand five hundred pounds.
5. "Highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place of whatever nature publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular travel, including bridges, causeways, tunnels, and ferries; synonymous with the word "street".
6. "Local municipal authority" means every council, commission, or other board given authority by the constitution and laws of this state to govern the affairs of a municipality.
7. "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled but excluding a motorized bicycle. "Motor vehicle" shall also include a "low-speed vehicle" which is a four-wheeled, electric-powered vehicle with a maximum speed of not more than twenty-five miles per hour and is equipped with the minimum motor vehicle equipment appropriate for vehicle safety as required in this ordinance.
8. "Municipality" means an incorporated village, town, or city created under the authority of the constitution or laws of this state.
9. "Operator" means every person, who drives or is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle upon a highway or who is exercising control over or steering a vehicle being towed by a motor vehicle.
10. "Owner" means a person who holds a legal title to a vehicle or in the event a vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale, lease, or transfer of possession thereof with the right of purchase upon the performance of the conditions stated in the agreement, with the right of immediate possession in the vendee, lessee, possessor, or in the event such similar transaction is had by means of mortgage and the mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, then the conditional vendee, lessee, possessor, or mortgagor shall be deemed the owner for the purposes of this Chapter.
11. "Police officer" means every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations.
12. "Private road or driveway" means every way or place in private ownership and used for vehicular travel by the owner and those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons.
13. "Right of way" means the privilege of the immediate use of the highway.
14. "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, exclusive of the shoulder. A divided highway has two or more roadways.
15. "Shoulder" means the portion of the highway contiguous with the roadway for accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency use, pedestrian use, mobility aid use or bicyclists when other accommodations are not available, and for lateral support of base and surface.
16. "Sidewalk" means that portion of a highway between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a highway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for the use of pedestrians.
17. "State maintained highway" means any highway in this state which is contained in the state highway system as defined by law or which is maintained by the department.
18. "Street" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place of whatever nature publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular travel, including bridges, causeways, tunnels, and ferries; synonymous with the word "highway".

19. "Traffic" means pedestrians, vehicles, and other conveyances either singly or together while using any highway for purposes of travel.
20. "Traffic control device" means all signs, signals, markings, and devices, not inconsistent with this Chapter, placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.
21. "Traffic control signal" means a type of highway traffic signal, manually, electrically or mechanically operated, by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and permitted to proceed.
22. "Vehicle" means every device by which persons or things may be transported upon a public highway or bridge, except devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks. A bicycle or a ridden animal shall be a vehicle, and a trailer or semitrailer shall be a separate vehicle.

Section 70-51. Rules and Regulations

1. Ordinance allows for the operation of Golf Carts and UTV's on public streets, roads, pathways within the Town of Gramercy's jurisdiction and as authorized by the Legislature of Louisiana.
2. This Ordinance pertains to Golf Carts and Utility Terrain Vehicles as defined herein.
3. Golf Carts and Utility Terrain Vehicles are not generally designed to be operated and used on public streets, roads, paths, or highways. The Town of Gramercy by adopting this Ordinance is no way endorsing, nor is it advocating, the use of Golf Carts on the public streets, roads, paths, or highways within its jurisdiction.
4. By adopting this Ordinance, the Town of Gramercy is merely regulating the operation of such vehicles by addressing Public Safety issues and concerns. All operators and passengers of Golf Carts, which operate within the Town of Gramercy's jurisdiction, do so at their own risk and peril.
5. This Ordinance does not imply that operation of these vehicles on said streets, roads, paths, and highways, is safe or advisable, even if done so in compliance with this Ordinance. All operators of said vehicles, and their passengers, must be observant of, and attentive to, the safety of themselves, motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and the personal and real property of others.
6. The Town of Gramercy has no liability, under any theory of liability, for permitting the operation of Golf Carts and Utility Terrain Vehicles on streets, roads, paths, or highways under its jurisdiction as allowed by Louisiana General Statutes and special legislation granted by the Louisiana State Legislature but governed by this Ordinance.
7. Defense Release, Indemnity, and Hold Harmless Agreement: As provided in Chapter 70. Sections 70-50, 70-51, 70-52 of the Town of Gramercy Code of Ordinances, any person or persons, operating or riding, Golf Carts or Utility Terrain Vehicles on the streets, roads, paths, or highway crossings under the jurisdiction of the Town of Gramercy, does so at his or her own risk and peril, and must operate said vehicles with due regard for the safety and convenience of other motor vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.
8. Golf Carts or Utility Terrain Vehicles may only be operated on streets, roads, paths, and designated highway paths within the Town of Gramercy in accordance with the following rules and regulations:
9. Before Golf Carts or Utility Terrain Vehicles can be operated on the designated streets, roads, pathways, or highways within the jurisdiction of the Town of Gramercy, the owners thereof must purchase and maintain liability insurance in at least the minimum amount required by the State of Louisiana for a licensed motor vehicle which policy insures against personal injury and property damage of any nature, relative to the operation of said vehicles.
10. Any person who operates a Golf Cart or Utility Terrain Vehicle in the Town of Gramercy takes full responsibility for all liability associated with the operation of said vehicles. Any person who rides or sits as a passenger on a Cart in the Town of Gramercy takes full responsibility for all liability associated with the "riding on" or the "sitting on" of said vehicles.
11. Any person that operates a Golf Carts or Utility Terrain Vehicle on the streets, roads, pathways, or designated highway paths within the Town of Gramercy jurisdiction, shall hold a valid driver's license issued by Louisiana State Department of Motor Vehicles, or equivalent operators licenses issued by another State and, said operator shall have this driver's license on their person at all times while operating said vehicles.
12. Golf Carts and Utility Terrain Vehicles must be equipped with front and rear turn signals, head lights, tail lights and brake lights.
13. Any person who operates a Golf Cart or Utility Terrain Vehicle within the Town of Gramercy jurisdiction must adhere to all State of Louisiana traffic laws, and all laws governing the use of, or the possession of, alcoholic beverages and controlled substances.
14. Golf Cart and Utility Terrain Vehicles operators must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and overtaking vehicles at all times.
15. All passengers, including children, must be properly seated while the Golf Cart or Utility Terrain Vehicle is in motion and shall not be transported in a negligent manner.

16. Golf Carts and Utility Terrain Vehicles shall not be allowed to operate on any town sidewalks, unless otherwise designated by the Chief of Police.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on Monday, March 10, 2025, a notice of a public hearing having been published on March 27, 2025 and May 1, 2025, said public hearing been held on Monday, May 12, 2025 the title having been read and the Ordinance adopted, on motion by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Brack, to adopt the Ordinance, a record was taken, and the following result was held.

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

And the ordinance was declared adopted on this 12th day of May, 2025

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Williams, second by Alderman Wiggins and approved to adjourn at 6:46 pm.

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