

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
JANUARY 9, 2024**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on January 9, 2024, 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 Clerk Amy St. Pierre

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no public comments.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS

Mr. James Ramagos is seeking approval for the subdividing of property located on the corner of E. Airline Highway and N. Airline Avenue. This would allow him to sell half of the property to the cell tower owner and half to Mr. Zeyad Ahmed.

Mr. Pat Gordon, with South Central Planning Development Commission, gave an update on the re-zoning of certain areas within the town limits. The changes would better reflect the housing in the area.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Williams and approved to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated December 11, 2023.

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. Fauchoux had no report for this month.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Dicharry had no report for this month.

REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Jody Ordeneaux reported that extremely cold conditions are expected for the coming weekend. This will include hard freeze temperatures and icy road conditions. Please begin to take precautions to protect pipes, animals, and plants.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairman Alex Gerhold reported that Mr. Ramagos attend the monthly meeting to discuss the re-subdividing of his property on E. Airline Highway. The Commission recommends the approval of the re-subdivision to the Board of Aldermen. Alex Gerhold was named as Chairman and Gary Waguespack as Secretary of the Planning Commission.

A motion to accept the recommendation of the re-subdividing of the Ramagos property on E. Airline Highway was made by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Louque and the motion passed unanimously.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Brack had no report for this month.

Alderman Louque asked that a workorder be issued for the repair of two collapsed culverts on N. Airline Avenue. He contacted Entergy about a leaning pole at 328 N. Airline Avenue. He asked Chief Dicharry who to call during the day when no answers the phones by the Police Department. Chief Dicharry stated that complaints should go through St. James Parish Sheriff's Office since all calls are recorded.

Alderman Louque recommends Travis Bourgeois as District 3 representative on the Planning Commission.

Alderman Williams had no report for this month.

Alderman Wiggins reported there was a power outage on the South side of the railroad tracks on New Years Day due to an accident in Lutcher.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. A resident reported sewer coming out of the manhole on the 1000 block on N. Milet which was caused from plugging. Received another complaint about a streetlight outage in N. Ezidore Circle. I was told to put a complaint in the Entergy app; case number 2080166841. We have received numerous complaints about rats and snakes being sited at 1595 Tulip Street. He received notice that the property at 224 S Airline has been sold. There have been recent incidents involving town property. He suggests that an accident report be written to seek restitution for the repairs or replacement of public property. He would like to see our Public Comments section updated to have a more orderly process. He has been researching the Open Meeting Law for reference. He passed out Gramercy Recreation report, if anyone has any questions, please contact him.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois reported receiving one quote for the building of the town pavilion and is waiting for a second quote. We will begin advertising for a maintenance department position. The contractors working on the Force Main Project will relocate a bore to avoid any servitude issues.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 758-2024 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY SO AS TO REZONE THE FOLLOWING PARCELS OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS AS DEPICTED ON REVISED ZONING MAP FILED AT TOWN HALL

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2024

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING GRAMERCY PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER FOR THE TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026

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

WHEREAS, commission member Barry LeBlanc retired effective December 31, 2023.

WHEREAS, Alderman Theron Louque, District Three has recommended the appointment of the following commission member:

District Three: Travis Bourgeois

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

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Calcagno. 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 8TH day of January 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2024

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, February 13, 2024.

WHEREAS, Police Chief Brent Dicharry, 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 Brent Dicharry 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, February 13, 2024.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 8th day of January 2024.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Brack, second by Alderman Wiggins and approved to adjourn at 6:35 pm.

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