

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
AUGUST 11, 2025**

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE NO. 774-2025 AN ORDINANCE LEVYING 9.65 TOTAL MILL TAX FOR THE YEAR 2025 ON ALL OF THE TAXABLE PROPERTY SITUATED WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA FOR THE GENERAL SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS OF SAID TOWN AND FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST AND REDEMPTION OF BONDS FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

There were no public comments on Ordinance No. 774-2025.

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

PUBLIC MEETING TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, August 11, 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, and Alderman Percy Williams.

There were absent: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Wiggins, and approved to adopt the minutes from the regular meeting held on July 14, 2025.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mayor Bourgeois requested approval of the payment of bills. A motion was made by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Louque, and approved to pay all bills and accept financial statements presented before the Council.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Fauchaux reported that Mr. Martin's attorney, Mr. Sammy Accordo, is verbally requesting an extension to complete renovations to his building. However, no extension has been formally filed with the court. Alderman Brack asked how long the court could take to issue an order to demolish the building. The lawsuit against the property owners at 303 E Jefferson Hwy will be filed with the court on Wednesday. Mr. Fauchaux responded that the town could request a motion to shorten the time frame for work to be completed. There has been no progress at the property located at 115 N Colonial Avenue; he is requesting that the mayor request a structural analysis through South Central Planning.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Police Chief Jenkins passed out the department's monthly report. They had targeted enforcement in the area near the park. They cited several drivers for stop sign violations. With the start of the school session, he has his officers watching the school bus drivers for speeding in the area. We have a police unit that was damaged by Acadian Ambulance, and it is at the body shop for repair. No one was injured. Alderman Brack asked if we had had any trouble with enforcing the new golf cart ordinance. Chief Jenkins reported that there have been no major issues.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Director Jody Ordeneaux stated that during the August 6th rain event, several streets were impassable. Also, the drainage ditches filled quickly, causing drainage issues throughout town. The drainage ditches on the North side of US 61 need to be cleaned, helping the town's drainage to work properly.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Our Code Enforcement officer has resigned. He is requesting assistance from the Police Department to help with extreme cases. Chief Jenkins stated that as long as it falls within the parameters of the town ordinance, they will assist until a new code enforcement officer is hired.

PLANNING COMMISSION - There was no report for this month

ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

Parish Councilman Todd Poche stated he spoke with Aaron Elisar, at LA DOTD, for an update on the cleaning of the culverts under Highway 3125 in Gramercy. Mr. Elisar responded that he is creating a change order to address the size of the culvert under Highway 3125. Entergy has started changing poles to help strengthen the electrical grid. St. James Parish President Pete Dufresne addressed the board concerning the renewed bonds for drainage that were passed in May. He would like to use funds for engineering on David Canal, and hopefully, this will help the Parish apply for grant funding to shore up David Canal. Alderman Calcagno inquired when the next public meeting for the levee project would be held. Mr. Dufresne stated that a presentation was made at the last Parish Council meeting. Mr. Dufresne reported that currently \$40 million is allocated for the ring levee project, and the parish has forwarded plans for review by the Corps of Engineers.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Brack reported a sinkhole at 245 N Airline Avenue. He would like to see the maintenance crew have a 6- or 7-day cycle for cutting the grass on Ferrero Canal. Grass is beginning to overgrow the work that has recently been completed. The town maintenance crew did a good job cleaning the advertisement signs on the poles by Hwy 3125, but there are still areas that need attending. Also, a hard barricade needs to be placed on Central Canal near the elementary school.

Alderman Louque stated that residents reported that the Waste Management replacement carts are smaller than the original cart. Mayor Bourgeois stated they are shaped differently but are the same cubic size. He thanked the Police Department for the traffic control at the park.

Alderman Williams reported several streetlight outages in his district. He inquired about the status of the demolition on S. Airline Avenue. Mayor Bourgeois reported that he is waiting for Atmos Energy to remove the gas service line and meter. The drainage flow on S. Airline Avenue continues to be slow, and he asked if the culverts could be cleaned. The hot water ditch needs to be cleaned. He has received complaints of white dust from Atlantic Alumina

Alderman Wiggins stated that the E. Railroad Avenue right-of-way needs to be cleaned. The mobile home at 269 S. Cherry Street is collapsing and needs to be demolished. He has tagged several streetlights and reported the outages to Entergy.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. He attended the Manager Training course at the LA Rural Water conference and learned about regulations that govern water systems. He also attended the LA Municipal Association annual convention. The convention had some good sessions, and he met with vendors. On August 6th, he stopped by the town hall and assisted with water removal from the town hall lobby.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois thanked Parish President Dufresne and Councilman Poche for attending tonight's meeting. We have cleaned one clarifier by the water plant, and the second one will be cleaned later this week. He will order new testing equipment for water samples for the continuity of sample results. He will look into a cover for the filter beds and run new lines for the chlorinator above ground to replace the underground piping. The water tower cleaning proposal from USG Water has come in at \$2,900.00. Any repair or painting would add to the cost. He has received the contract from Advanced Treatments Services and would like to sign with them for continued support with water plant operations. The property owner at 822 N Airline Avenue has once again accumulated rubbish and debris. He would like to hire someone to clean the property. The Alderman agreed to the cleaning of the property. The New Zion Church and kitchen buildings failed the South Central Planning structural analysis.

ORDINANCE – FINAL ACTION

ORDINANCE NO. 774-2025

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING 9.65 TOTAL MILL TAX FOR THE YEAR 2025 ON ALL OF THE TAXABLE PROPERTY SITUATED WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA FOR THE GENERAL SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS OF SAID TOWN AND FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST AND REDEMPTION OF BONDS FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA THAT:

SECTION I. that the following millage are hereby levied on the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana.

Corporation Tax	5.91 Mills
2013 Water Improvement Tax	3.74 Mills
Total	9.65 Mills

SECTION II. that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of St. James, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for year 2025, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the tax authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

SECTION III. that this ordinance shall be published in the Official Journal according to law, and that this ordinance after first having been reduced to writing, was read and considered section by section at this public meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, acting as the governing authority thereof.

SECTION IV. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION V. If any provision or item of this ordinance of the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provision, items, or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby severable.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on Monday, July 14, 2025, notice of public hearing having been published on Thursday, July 24, 2025 and Thursday, July 31, 2025, said public hearing and public meeting held on Monday, August 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno, to adopt the Ordinance, a record was taken and the following result was held.

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

And the ordinance was declared adopted on this, the 11th day of August, 2025.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 775-2025

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY ORDINANCE 705-18 UNDER SALES TAX & USE AND REINSTATE VENDOR'S COMPENSATION

The public hearing is set for September 8, 2025.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 15-2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH ST. JAMES PARISH AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAID COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy Government values the impact that businesses bring to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement is to establish the distribution of a stimulus payment to holders of valid occupational licenses for the Town of Gramercy in the year 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY IT RESOLVED, by the Town of Gramercy Board of Aldermen, that Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois, is hereby authorized to sign and execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with St. James Parish pursuant to the terms and conditions and for the stated public purposes set forth in the attached agreement.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Williams, and resulted in the following vote:

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

The resolution was adopted on this, the 11th day of August, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-2025

A RESOLUTION ENGAGING A FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, is required to have a financial audit performed for the year ending June 30, 2025, for the Town of Gramercy; and,

WHEREAS, an engagement letter has been received from the firm of EisnerAmper LLP, Certified Public Accountants, 215 Saint Patrick Street, Donaldsonville, Louisiana; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, that the firm of EisnerAmper LLP, is hereby engaged to examine the financial statements and records of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, in accordance with the stipulations stated in their letter.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Williams, seconded by Alderman Wiggins, and a vote was taken on the above resolution, and the vote was as follows:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 11th day of August, 2025.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Brack, and approved to adjourn at 6:59 pm.

Steven J. Bourgeois, Mayor

Attest: _____
Amy O. St. Pierre, Town Clerk