

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE NO. 775-2025 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY ORDINANCE 705-18 UNDER SALES TAX & USE AND REINSTATE VENDOR'S COMPENSATION

There were no public comments on Ordinance No. 775-2025.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Alderman Louque, seconded by Alderman Williams, 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, September 8, 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.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Philip Chachere, 511 N Airline Avenue, expressed concerns about a storage container located at 519 N Airline Avenue. It blocks the view of the road when he is trying to leave his driveway. He is asking the Mayor to speak with the property owner about pushing it further back on their driveway.

It was discussed that this property has abandoned vehicles and overgrowth, and the owner has not responded to letters from the town requesting the property to be cleaned. Mayor Bourgeois proposed having a contractor clean the property and bill the owners.

A motion to have the property at 519 N Airline Avenue cleaned was made by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Calcagno, and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Brack, seconded by Alderman Louque, and approved to adopt the minutes from the regular meeting held on August 11, 2025.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Fauchaux stated that the structural analysis for three properties in Gramercy has failed. He would like a certified letter sent to the property owners to appear in Mayor's Court. He recommended letting South Central Planning handle the blight proceedings for 115 N Colonial Avenue. He saw a sign advertising for a state alcohol license posted at 234 E Main Street and questioned if there was enough distance from the church on the corner of the street.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Police Chief Jenkins passed out the department's monthly report. He has received complaints about the speeding dump trucks on LA 3125; he will have the officers on LA 3125 cite any drivers for speeding. Little League football season is starting up, and they will patrol the park area for traffic violations. Mayor Bourgeois thanked the Police Department and the residents who helped with finding the person responsible for the dumping of materials on the side of the road. Alderman Brack asked if the State had placed the No Left Turn signs near the Shell station driveway on LA 3125. He asked if there is a way to prevent people from making a left onto LA 3125 and Asst. Chief Ordeneaux said the town can write a letter to LA DOTD requesting that flexible delineator posts be installed.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – No report for this month

CODE ENFORCEMENT – No report for this month

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman Alex Gerhold stated that Cathey Allen was pleased with the improvements near JJ's Bar. Bryant Lewis reported trash along the ditch behind 748 N Magnolia Street.

ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT

Parish Councilman Todd Poche reported that the US 61 overlay from the St. John Parish line to the Ascension Parish line will begin in September. Mayor Bourgeois stated that the LA 3125 culverts will be cleaned when the overlay project begins. Mr. Poche has asked Mr. DJ Hymel to do a presentation on the protection levees at the next town meeting.

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. Tree cutting is needed on several streets to increase height clearances and visibility. With the new golf cart ordinance, usage has increased in the Recreation Park area. But there are underage drivers who do not possess a driver's license driving the carts. Could the police department do spot checks in the area? Blighted property should have a renovation permit with inspections to ensure the work is done properly and to code. He spoke with representatives from MRI at the convention who provide street survey services.

Alderman Wiggins reported tall grass on Tulip Street and S Cherry Street. The old mobile home at 269 S Cherry Street needs to be demolished.

Alderman Williams reported tall grass at 244 S Sycamore and requested a letter be sent to the owners. Residents have asked him why Entergy is changing the utility poles. Mayor Bourgeois said they are strengthening their system.

Alderman Louque reported tall grass at 160 N Pine Street and requested a letter be sent to the owners.

Alderman Brack asked that the unused dirt on Sixth Street be removed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois recognized parish officials in attendance. The water tower cleaning is scheduled for September 18th. Work continues on the sewer pond levee road. Upcoming work on Central Canal next to the school, N. Pine Street, and Ellis Street will begin soon. Three properties have failed structural inspections; we will notify the owners of the failures. The store owner on River Road has started cleaning up the property.

ORDINANCE – FINAL ACTION

ORDINANCE 775-2025

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

WHEREAS, An Ordinance of the Town of Gramercy, Ordinance 705-18, Under Sales Tax & Use, and reinstate vendor's compensation

The following shall be amended and read as:

Section 6. Vendor's Compensation. For the purpose of compensating the dealer in accounting for the remitting the Tax levied by this ordinance, each dealer shall be allowed one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the amount of Tax due and accounted for and remitted to the Collector in the form of a deduction in submitting its report and paying the amount due by the dealer, provided the amount due was not delinquent at the time of payment, and provided the amount of any credit claimed for taxes already paid to a wholesaler shall not be deducted in computing the commission allowed the dealer hereunder. The maximum allowable amount per dealer and calendar month is seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00), effective for taxable periods beginning on or after July 1, 2025.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on Monday, August 11, 2025, notice of public hearing having been published on Thursday, August 21, 2025 said public hearing and public meeting held on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Louque to adopt the Ordinance, a record was taken and the following result was held.

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2025

A RESOLUTION TO RE-SCHEDULE THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER DUE TO THE COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, meet on the second Monday of every month; and,

WHEREAS, in the month of October, this meeting falls on Columbus Day,

WHEREAS, in observance of this holiday, the Town of Gramercy will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

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

SECTION I. That the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, will be held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm

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

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

And the resolution was adopted on the 8th day of September, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-2025

A RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OFFICE OF DEBT RECOVERY, AN OFFICE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT DEBTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognizes that there are certain debts and accounts on which the Town has been unable to collect funds due;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognizes that, as the governing authority for the Town, there exists a duty to exercise due diligence in collecting public funds;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognizes that the Town is authorized by state law to collect outstanding debts owed to the Town of Gramercy for the collection of one or more of the following items:

1. Debts and accounts receivable, including, but not limited to, unpaid utility fees, penalties, interest, and other sums due to the municipality, as applicable,
2. Court penalties, costs, fines, and fees in cases in municipal court in which the accused has failed to appear or otherwise failed to satisfy a monetary obligation ordered by the court;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town of Gramercy Board of Aldermen, that Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois, is hereby authorized and directed to execute a joint agreement between the Office of Debt Recovery, an Office of the Department of Revenue, and the Town of Gramercy, for the collection of delinquent debts.

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

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

This resolution was declared adopted on the 8th day of September, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN OPT-IN FORM FOR THE STATE-MANAGED TEMPORARY HOUSING PROGRAM UNDER LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTE 726(F)(3)(B)(iii)(aa)

WHEREAS, Act 526 (HB 1070) of the State of Louisiana 2022 Legislative Session requires each jurisdiction to Opt-In or Opt-Out of the temporary housing and shelter assistance program that is managed by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gramercy desires to Opt-In to the GOHSEP program for Town residents; and

WHEREAS, an Opt-In to the GOHSEP temporary housing programs have no effect on any of the Federal or FEMA temporary housing and shelter assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, an Opt-In does not provide any approval for group or large site development.

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

SECTION 1. Mayor Steven J. Bourgeois is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the Town of Gramercy to sign and execute an Opt-In form as required by Act 526 (HB 1070) of the State of Louisiana 2022 Legislative Session.

A motion to adopt the above resolution was made by Alderman Calcagno, seconded by Alderman Wiggins, 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 the 8th day of September, 2025.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, seconded by Alderman Williams, and approved to adjourn at 6:50 pm.

Steven J. Bourgeois, Mayor

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