

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF GRAMERCY
APRIL 10, 2023**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana, met in regular, monthly session on Monday, April 10, 2023 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 Clyde Wiggins, Alderman Percy Williams

There were absent: Alderman Theron Louque

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS

Chantel Walker, 628 N Pine Street, speaking on behalf of Marc Nelson, expressed concerns of an Airbnb located on N. Pine Street. The residents of the area are not in favor of having this type of business in their quite neighborhood.

Craig James, 415 E Main Street, stated that he is cleaning and painting his building. He feels he is being harassed because a board member keeps asking him about the work being done at the building. He showed a copy of his plans for the project and stated the plans are currently at the State Fire Marshall Office for review.

REPORTS

1. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bourgeois stated that the Force Main Project bid opening will be April 11, 2023 at 2:00 pm. Professional Engineering Consultants turned in an estimate of \$10,000 for the redesign of a N Airline Avenue sewer pump. The maintenance crew has begun installing the new street signs. He has started interviewing candidates for the Maintenance Supervisor position. New garbage containers have been installed on Main Street with a grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful. He has contacted All Start for street light repairs on N. Magnolia, N. Pine Street and behind Taylor's Express.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DIRECTORS

A. REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Mr. Brent Dicharry, Chief of Police, reported that our new officer has started and is doing good. He has received calls concerning the Airbnb and he understands that the residents in that area do not want this type of business in the area; he has been speaking with the mayor and town attorney about this matter.

REPORT FROM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – There is no report for this month.

B. REPORT FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Gerhold turned in his monthly report. He has tagged 18 new vehicles and two have been removed along with six from those that received certified letters.

REPORTS FROM ST. JAMES PARISH GOVERNMENT - There is no report for this month.

2. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairman Barry LeBlanc stated that the commission spoke about several residents doing projects without permits.

GRAMERCY RECREATION DISTRICT

Mr. Craig Calcagno passed out his monthly report. If anyone has any questions, please contact him.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 748-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES, APPENDIX A – ZONING, ARTICLE 19 R-2 RESIDENCE DISTRICT, SECTION 19.2 USES PERMITTED AND ARTICLE M – INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 22-2 USES PERMITTED

ORDINANCE NO. 749-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES, APPENDIX A – ZONING, ARTICLE 17 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 17.16 HOME OCCUPATIONS(h)

A public hearing for these ordinances has been set for May 8, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 16-2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION (MWPP) ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality requires the preparation of an annual MWPP audit report;
and

WHEREAS, the MWPP audit report provides information which determines required actions by the Town to maintain compliance and permit requirements;

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

SECTION 1. The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy have reviewed and hereby approve the Annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report, dated March 1, 2023, for the Town of Gramercy, LA, which is attached to this Resolution.

SECTION 2. The following actions are to be implemented by the Town as necessary to maintain permit requirements contained in the LWDPS Permit Number LA0046876:

- a. Provide certified Class II operators for operation and provide sixteen (16) hours of training for each operator during the next year. This training will be conducted by the Town's environmental consultant.
- b. Operate the Pond system as recommended by the Town Engineer and Environmental Consultant and correct deficiencies and minimize permit excursions.
- c. Study and address (within Town budget limits) INI, repair manhole and pipe leak issues in the collection system to reduce number of overflows in 2022.
- d. Maintain chlorination system to reduce Coliform levels.
- e. Schedule and maintain annual flow meter calibration.
- f. Monitor the non-domestic contributor using the new Permit, review user requirements and increase sampling on Pond discharges.
- g. Continue Influent monitoring on a monthly basis.
- h. Insure Town laboratory is following all required QA/QC documentation.

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, Wiggins, Williams
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Louque
ABSTAIN:	None

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of April, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2023

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended, states that "...no person shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale, rental, or advertising of dwellings, in the provision of brokerage services, or in the availability of residential real estate-related transaction including lenders, builders and homeowners insurance companies..." and

WHEREAS the State of Louisiana passed the Louisiana Equal Housing Opportunity Act which allows the Louisiana Attorney General's Office to enforce fair housing laws, and

WHEREAS the Town of Gramercy desires to promote Fair Housing practices throughout the community and in particular regard to those programs providing housing assistance to area residents,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Gramercy does hereby proclaim April as "Fair Housing Month" in order to raise public awareness about the requirements of the Fair Housing Law.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of April, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-2023

A RESOLUTION DECLARING EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPROPRIATELY DISPOSE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, it has been determined by the Town of Gramercy, Louisiana (the "Town") that the equipment listed below is no longer of use and for all functional purposes deemed a maintenance burden:

New Holland Grader	Serial No. 85306188
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, TOWN OF GRAMERCY, LOUISIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The Town hereby declares the aforementioned equipment as surplus property; and

SECTION 2. The mayor is authorized to dispose of the aforementioned equipment by donation, abandonment, or sale to the highest bidder.

The above resolution was offered by Alderman Calcagno, second by Alderman Williams.

A vote being taken on the above resolution, the vote was as follows:

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of April, 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Calcagno and approved and to adopt the minutes from the February 12, 2023 meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

ALDERMEN'S REPORT

Alderman Brack reported that Main Street improvement work continues with the pouring of concrete to repair areas where planters were removed, Entergy has replaced the streetlights and we will be installing the new street signs in the coming weeks. He met with

Rick Weber, St. James Parish Operations Director, concerning many repairs needed on David Canal. The curbing repairs on N. Pine Street have begun.

Alderman Williams inquired about having repairs made to the railroad tracks. He was advised to call the number on the sign by the tracks or contact his local State Representative. The S. Millet resurface project is not good, aprons and striping are needed. Mayor Bourgeois has asked Hi Tide Consultants to review the project. The restroom at Park B is locked. He reported tall grass on Tulip Street, and he asked if there was a list of houses to be demolished. Mayor Bourgeois said there is a list in the office, he can stop by to review at his convenience.

Alderman Wiggins reported a missing light pole on N. Millet Drive. Thanked the mayor for having repairs made to the sidewalk on N. Millet and for cutting a tree that was breaking up the road on S. Elm Street. He reported tall grass at 692 N Airline and 243 S Airline.

Alderman Calcagno passed out his monthly report. Alderman Calcagno stated the St. James Parish trash bash will be on Saturday, April 22nd. He has contacted Diamond Mower for a replacement 50" rotary head. The estimate for a complete head with 2 sets of blades is \$14, 114.00. Mr. Larry Faucheux, LSR Manager, provided a contact for the hot water canal to discuss a possible secondary emergency exit for Golden Grove Subdivision.

TOWN ATTORNEY – There is no report for this month.

There being no further business it was moved by Alderman Wiggins, second by Alderman Williams and approved to adjourn at 6:47 pm.

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