

PART I
CHARTER*

- [Art. I.] **Limits and Boundaries [and General Corporate Existence]**
- [Art. II.] **Officers and Their Election**
- [Art. III.] **Duties and Powers of Officers**
- [Art. IV.] **General Provisions**
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- [Art. VI.] **Public Improvements and Work**

—***Editor's note-**Part I of this publication contains the compiled Charter of St. Martinville. Pursuant to R.S. 141:3a:343 the municipality has been reclassified from town to city status by proclamation of the governor. This proclamation is not a charter amendment so that the governing body is still referred to in the charter as the "town council," and the charter name of the municipality is the "Town of St. Martinville." No attempt has been made to correct the use of the term "town" in this compilation.

The only changes in this compilation are in the printing style and the addition of words, letters and figures in the interest of clarity. Such words, letters and figures are enclosed in brackets []. Charter amendments have been worked into the appropriate place in the compilation and amendment notes indicate the same. In preparing this compilation the editor used an earlier compilation prepared in the city which contained the following certificate and statement:

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ST. MARTIN

TOWN OF ST. MARTINVILLE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, adopted April 4, 1898, incorporating therein the following amendments thereto:

1. Amendment adopted August 14, 1902 amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Public Improvements and Work".
2. Amendment adopted August 5, 1903, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Officers and their Elections".
3. Amendment adopted May, 4, 1909, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "General Provisions".

**[ARTICLE I.] LIMITS AND BOUNDARIES
[AND GENERAL CORPORATE
EXISTENCE]***

All the inhabitants of the Town of St. Martinville, as incorporated by Act No. 110 of the General Assembly of the ~~—*Amendment note-For~~ amendment history for this part (designated as Article I by the editor), "Limits and Boundaries," see the editor's note accompanying this charter compilation.

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4. Amendment adopted December 19, 1910, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "General Provisions".
 - fi. Amendment adopted March 17, 1911, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Limits and Boundaries".
 6. Amendment adopted March 5, 1912, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Officers and their Election".
 7. Amendment adopted November 14, 1922, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "General Provisions".
 8. Amendment adopted July 11, 1933, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Officers and their Election".
 9. Amendment adopted November 10, 1936, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Officers and their Election".
 10. Amendment adopted July 19, 1938, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Public Improvement and Works".
 11. Amendment adopted March 9, 1948, amending that portion of the Charter of the Town of St. Martinville, having reference to "Officers and their Election".

I further certify that the said charter as amended and as hereinabove set forth is now in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and affixed the seal of said town on this ____ day of ____ , A.D. 1955.

SECRETARY

State of Louisiana, approved by Act 44 of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, approved April 3rd, 1877, as follows to-wit:

That the limits and boundaries of said Town of St. Martinville, including the limits herein and hereby enlarged, shall be all that tract or portion of land or territory in the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana, on the West and East sides of Bayou Teche and comprehended in the following limits, to-wit:

On The West Side Of Bayou Teche:

Commencing at a point of West Bank of Bayou Teche Sproule's Canal (now known as the Cypress Island Drainage District Canal), in Section Eighty (80), at the waters edge, thence on the margin of said Canal, fifteen (15) arpents back, thence South Thirty-three and one-half (33½) degrees across Sections Eighty (80), Eighty-one (81), Eighty-two (82), Eighty-three (83), and Eighty-four (84), in Tp. 10 S. R. 6 E., thence across Township line of Tp. 10 S. R. 6 E., thence continuing South thirty-three and one-half (33½) degrees to lower line of Section Sixty-seven (67) in Township Eleven (11) South of Range Six (6) East, at a point thirty-nine and 79/100 (39.79) arpents back from Bayou Teche; thence following said lower line of Section 67, Tp. 11 S. R. 6 E., to Bayou Teche, thence up said Bayou Teche, in front on said mentioned Sections, to starting point.

On East Side Of Bayou Teche:

Commencing at a point on the East Bank of Bayou Teche at the waters edge, and upper line of Sec. 53, in Tp. 10 S. R. 6 E., thence on said upper line, ten (10) arpents back, thence in a direct line, across Secs. 53, 54, 55 and 56, in Tp. 10 S. R. 6 E. crossing said Township line and across Secs. 1 and 2 in Tp. 11 S. R. 6 E., at a point ten (10) arpents from Bayou Teche, thence on lower line of Sec. 2, Tp. 11 S. R. 6 E., to Bayou Teche, thence up in front of said mentioned Sections to starting point.

Shall constitute a body politic and corporate with the perpetual succession, by the name and style of "The Town of St. Martinville," and as such, they and their successors shall have, exercise and enjoy all the rights, immunities, powers, privileges and functions possessed and enjoyed by municipal corporations, and shall be subject to all the duties and obligations pertaining to or incumbent on said town as a corporation and may ordain and establish such acts, laws, regulations and ordinances, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, as shall be needful for the government, interest, welfare and good order of said body politic, and under the same shall be known in law and be capable of contracting and being contracted with, suing and being sued, and pleading and being pleaded in all courts and places, and in all matters whatever; may take, hold, purchase, lease, grant and convey and acquire by purchase, grant, donation or otherwise such real and personal or mixed property or estate, as the purposes of the corporation may require within or without the limits thereof, and may make, have and use a corporate seal and change and renew the same at pleasure; provided, that the limits of said corporation may be hereafter extended by the addition of other territory to the same on complying with the provisions of the Constitution and laws of this state relative thereto.

Editor's note-The city annexed land on October 20, 1965 and Septem.ber 16, 1975. A document can be found dated March 11, 1971 redscribing the city limits as of that date.

[ARTICLE II.] OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION*

[1.] *[Council-Generally.]* The municipal government of the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, and the administra-

—***Amendment** note-This part (designated as Article II by the editor), "Officers and Their. Election," appears as amended by the Resolutions of January 11, 1955 and December 13, 1960. For other amendment history, see the editor's note accompanying this charter compilation.

tion of its affairs shall be vested in a town council, consisting of a mayor and five (5) councilmen.

[2.] [*Same-Quorum.*] Half of the number of the full number of councilmen and the mayor, or in the absence of the mayor, a majority of the councilmen shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

[3.] [*Other officers.*] The other officers of the corporation shall be a secretary and town tax collector, chief of police, and such other officers or agents and assistant police officers as the town council may from time to time direct, who shall be appointed by the mayor and the town council and shall hold their respective offices until their voluntary resignation or removal by the mayor and town council.

[4.] [*Election-Generally.*] That an election shall be held in this town on the third Tuesday of May 1962 and then every four (4) years thereafter on the third Tuesday of the month of May at such places as the town council may direct, for the election of a mayor and five (5) councilmen.

[5.] [*Same-State Law to Govern.*] The election of a mayor and councilmen as provided for in this charter, shall be in pursuance of the general election laws, now or hereafter existing, unless the legislature by special act or a constitutional convention in its constitution provides otherwise, in which case such election will be in pursuance of next special laws.

[6.] [*Same-Commissioners, Notice of Election, Holding Generally.*] For the purpose of holding said election and others that maybe ordered the mayor shall appoint commissioners of election by and with the c_onsent of town council unless the general laws now or hereafter in existence, provides otherwise, for the appointment of such commissioners.and shall give at least thirty (30) days previous notice by publication in one or more newspapers of said town of the day and hour and place at which said election is to be held. At the first election under this charter and every four (4) years thereafter on the third Tuesday of May there shall be elected by the qualified electors (voters) of the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, a Mayor and five (5) Councilmen who

shall hold their respective offices for a term of four (4) years from the date of their election and serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

[7.] [*Chief of Police-Duties.*] The chief of police shall perform all police duties which may be designated by said mayor and town council for the preservation of peace and good order of said municipality.

[8.] [*Same-Control by Council.*] The said chief of police shall serve under the supervision of said mayor and town council, and said mayor and town council may suspend or remove said police officer for incompetency, neglect of duty or malfeasance in office, or any other cause.

[9.] [*Salaries of Councilmembers and Mayor.*] The Council members and Mayor shall receive such salaries as the majority of the Council may determine, not to exceed the sum of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) per month for each Councilperson, and the Mayor not to exceed the sum of three thousand six hundred nineteen dollars and forty-two cents (\$3,619.42) per month payable bi-weekly on his own warrant if the Mayor's position is full-time which would mean the Mayor must work at least forty (40) hours each week; if the Mayor elects to work part-time then his salary is fixed at eight hundred dollars (\$800.00) per month. (Ord. No. 92-2, § 1, 6-1-92; Ord. No. 94-2, § 1, 7-1-94; Ord. No. 98-2, § 1, 4-20-98)

Amendment note-In addition to all other amendments, this paragraph (designated [9] by the editor) appears as amended by resolutions of December 13, 1960, November 20, 1962, November 19, 1974 and January 21, 1975; and an ordinance of 4-20-87, § 1)

[10.] [*Returns of Election Commissioners, When Newly Elected Officers Assume Duties.*] The commissioners of election shall make returns in the manner provided by the election laws of the votes case at each polling place and the returns of all election shall be sworn to as correct by the commissioners of election and shall be delivered to the town council for compilation and promulgation, and all of said elective officers shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices immediately after receiving their commission from the proper state authorities and taking prescribed oath of office of which proceeding due record shall be made upon the minutes of the council.

[11.] [*Elections Resulting in Ties.*] In case of a tie for mayor and councilmen a new election for said officers shall be immediately ordered, of which thirty (30) days previous notice shall be given in one of the newspapers published in the town.

[12.] [*Qualifications for Mayor or Councilman, Qualifying Fees.*] No one shall be eligible for mayor or councilman, who is not a duly qualified elector and who has not been an actual resident in said town during three (3) consecutive months previous to his election. All candidates for the office of mayor shall at the time of filing his qualification papers deposit with the mayor a qualification fee in the sum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) cash. All candidates for the office of town council shall at the time of filing his qualification papers deposit with the mayor a qualifying fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) cash. The qualifying fees hereby described shall not be returned to any candidate should he withdraw his name as a candidate for either office.

[13.] [*Qualifications of Electors.*] Every person shall be permitted to vote who is a qualified elector under the general laws of the state and who has resided three (3) months within the corporate limits immediately preceding the election and who possess all other qualifications under the constitution of the state.

[14.] [*Organizational Meeting of Council-Generally.*] Immediately after their qualification, the council shall hold their first meeting at the town hall or such other place as may be selected at which time the mayor and councilmen having presented and filed their commissions or certificates of election and oath of office as herein provided, shall enter upon the discharge of their duties as specified in this charter, and their predecessors shall render to them a final report and turn over to them all books, papers, property, moneys and accounts pertaining to their respective offices and to the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana.

[15.] [*Same-Selection of Officers.*] The town council shall at its first meeting after their election and qualification to

office, elect a mayor pro tempore of the council who shall act in case of the absence, refusal or inability of the mayor to act, and in case of vacancy occasioned by his death, resignation or otherwise, act as mayor for the unexpired term and have the same powers and receive the same fees and compensation of the duly elected mayor.

[16.] *[Filling Vacancy in Councilmanic Office.]* Should a vacancy occur at any time in the office of any councilman by death, resignation or otherwise, the same shall be filled by appointment by the governor.

[ARTICLE III.] DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS*

f1.] *[Mayor.]* The mayor shall be the chief executive of the town; he shall affix the seal of the corporation to all his official acts; he shall countersign all warrants drawn on the treasurer or fiscal agent; he shall see that the laws and ordinances are properly and faithfully executed; he shall have jurisdiction over offenses, misdemeanors and violations of all ordinances adopted by the council and committed within the town limits of said town, and shall have power to enforce all penalties imposed by said ordinances, provided the fines be not higher than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and imprisonment not more than thirty (30) days for each offense or both at the discretion of the mayor; he shall be ex-officio justice and conservator of the peace; he shall have general supervision over all matters relative to the discipline and efficiency of the police, the protection of the public and private property, the preservation of the public order and peace and the enforcement of the ordinances relating thereto, the houses of refuge and correction and lighting of the town. He shall call . extra

—**Amendment** note-This part {designated Article III by the editor), "Duties and Powers of Officers" appears as amended by the Resolution of January 11, 1968. For other amendment history see the editor's note accompanying this charter compilation.

sessions of the council whenever he shall deem the same necessary or whenever three (3) members of the same shall, in writing, stating the object thereof request him to do so. He shall from time to time lay before the council a full statement of the affairs of the town. It shall be his duty to report to the council all officers and persons employed by the town who fail to perform their duties or who shall commit any act for which they should be removed from office and may, at his discretion, suspend any sub-officer or employee until the action of said council, to whom he shall report such suspension at their first meeting thereafter. He shall preside at the meeting of said council, but shall have no vote therein except when there is a tie, in which case he shall have the deciding vote; he shall sign and cause to be published all ordinances and all resolutions passed in due form by the council, and such ordinances and resolutions shall thereupon have the full force of law; he shall have general superintendence over the streets, alleys, wharves, landings and all public places under the police and control of the city. He shall, by and with the consent of the majority of the council, appoint all officers in the employ of the town. He shall exercise all the powers hereto vested in the mayor of the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, under existing laws not inconsistent or in conflict with this charter, or the laws of the State of Louisiana.

[2.] *[Secretary and Treasurer-Generally.]* It shall be the duty of the secretary and treasurer to attend every meeting of the town council and keep accurate minutes of the proceedings thereof in a book to be provided for that purpose, and to copy and enroll in a well bounded book all ordinances and resolutions of the town council; to take charge of and keep in order all books, records, papers, documents and archives of said council; he shall keep an account of all claims for or against the corporation; he shall issue warrants or checks upon the funds in the treasury, the same to be countersigned by the mayor under the seal of the corporation for the payment of all claims. All warrants and checks shall be numbered respectively and shall specify the amount, purpose and fund upon which they are drawn; provided, that in no case shall a warrant or check be drawn

except against actual cash in the treasury. He shall at least once a month or oftener if ordered by the council, make a report to the council of all claims and accounts against the town, and a full and correct statement of all his receipts and payments, showing the exact condition of the town treasury since date of last report. He shall also execute and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the town council and no assigned to other officers. He shall furnish bond with solvent security to the satisfaction of the town council.

[3.] [*Same-Ex-Officio Tax Collector.*] It shall be the duty of the secretary and treasurer who is ex-officio town tax collector to procure annually from the assessor of the State of Louisiana, for St. Martin Parish, or from the office of the recorder, duplicate lists of all property within the corporate limits of the town with valuation thereof, as made by the state assessor and approved by the police jury; he shall carry out on said rolls the taxes for the town as levied by ordinances of the council; he shall deposit and cause to be filed one of said rolls duly certified by himself in the office of clerk, ex-officio recorder, which when filed in said recorder's office shall operate as a lien in favor of the town on all property carried on said roll in the same manner as provided for state and parish taxes, and shall keep one in his own office. He shall collect all said taxes, in the same manner and at the same time in which state taxes shall be due and collectible. He shall collect all licenses levied by the town at the same time and in the manner prescribed by the state for the collection of licenses, and shall have for the enforcement of the collection of said taxes and licenses all the remedies and rights provided by the state for the collection of state taxes and licenses. He shall make all special assessments levied by the town council on all or any portion of property within the corporate limits of said town, for special purposes, not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Louisiana, and shall collect all levies and assessments made by the council for building of sidewalks or banquettes, the opening, widening, grading, straightening, paving or repairing the public squares, and other improvements, in accordance with the powers granted in

this charter. He shall keep correct separate accounts of all licenses, taxes, special taxes and assessments, carry the amount thereof in separate columns on the town tax rolls. He shall give receipts for all taxes, levies, assessments and licenses, on the blank receipts furnished him by the town, and shall receipt to the mayor for all such blanks, and be held accountable for same. He shall make a monthly settlement with the town council, in such manner as they shall by ordinance direct; he shall daily deposit with the fiscal agent of the town, the different amounts collected, specifying each different levy or assessment and take receipts for same which shall be his vouchers, said amounts so deposited to be subject to warrants countersigned by the mayor.

[4.] *[Town Attorney-Authorized.]* The town council may and shall have power to elect or appoint a town attorney, who shall hold his office until the expiration of the term of office of the members of the council by whom he was elected or appointed, it being the true meaning and intention of this section that each incoming or new council shall have the right of electing its own officers and employees.

[5.] *[Same-Qualifications and Duties; Additional Counsel.]* The town attorney shall be licensed in law, and shall be the legal adviser of the corporation in all matters in which legal advice may be necessary; he shall represent the corporation in all judicial proceedings and actions to which it may have an interest, and shall in all cases when required by the town council, furnish a written opinion of the legality of [or] the constitutionality of the law or ordinance to be submitted to, or pending before the council, or as to any question involved in the discharge of the duties of the respective officers of the corporation; provided that the town council shall have the authority to employ such additional attorney or attorneys as they deem necessary in important cases.

[6.] *[Depository or Fiscal Agent.]* The town council shall appoint and elect one of the banks of St. Martinville, in

- [(1)] To regulate and make improvements to the streets, alleys, squares, wharves, sidewalks, and other public property, and to provide for the lighting and watering of the same, and to order and direct the ditching, filling, opening, widening, and continuing of any street or streets, or alley or alleys, and if for such purpose the land of any person, or body corporate, is necessary to be had, the said town council shall have the right to purchase the same at reasonable prices, or cause the same to be expropriated according to the manner and formality prescribed by existing laws on the subject; to regulate the proportion of and make and repair all common sewers, drains, canals, public roads, levees, dykes, causeways, and bridges, notwithstanding any superintendent which might be set up by any corporation or individual over such work.
- [(2)] To determine the completion and dimension of the pavements of streets, sidewalks and alleys, to fix the squaring and to prevent the encroachment upon or stopping or obstructing of the streets, alleys, public squares, levies, public roads, wharves, or any part of the landing of the Port of St. Martinville, and to order any object, whatever may be its value, form or construction, which may encumber such places, or prevent and obstruct the free use of the same, to be torn down and removed or sold to whom it may concern, in the same manner and after such notices as shall be required by such resolutions.
- [(3)] To provide for the cleaning of the bayou within the corporate limits of the town, for the re-opening of such natural drains has been obstructed by the owners of adjacent property; of opening or filling up of any watercourse **which** is not navigable, for the purpose of carrying the highways over the same; provided no unnecessary injury be occasioned thereby to the neighboring inhabitants.
- [(4)] The town council shall be vested with the full power and authority to provide the means and regulations

for preventing and extinguishing conflagrations; to determine in what part of the town where wooden buildings shall not be erected, and prevent persons from reconstructing in wood, old and decayed wooden buildings and adjuncts under pretenses of repairing the same in parts of the town where it is lawful to build only in brick, stone and metal.

[(5)] And, to provide for the inspection, regulation and condemnation of any buildings which may be dangerous to life and property.

[(6)] And to regulate the police, or theatres, or public halls, taverns, places for shows and exhibitions, house of public entertainment, shops for retailing liquors, houses of ill fame, and to order the same to be closed whenever public safety and tranquility shall require, and impose such regulations and duties upon persons keeping such places as they deem proper and necessary, and to punish all vagrants.

[(7)] To regulate the proper governments of carts, drays, wagons, and other vehicles of other description; freight trains and passenger trains which run in the limit of the town.

[(8)] To every year, levy an equal tax, upon all real and personal property in said town, not to exceed for one year ten (10) mills of the assessed value thereof, which said tax shall be due and payable, and collectible and enforced in the same manner and at the same time as state taxes; and on the day annually thereafter impose an annual tax on trades, professions, business and callings, said license to expire on the thirty-first day of December in the year in which it was obtained, and which license tax shall be due and collectible from the first day of January inclusive; provided that all persons engaged in business after the first day in July, shall pay for the current year only one half of said license, which license tax shall in no instance

exceed the license imposed by the state, for the same time and nor shall any levy board impose or collect any assessment, contribution, or tax on property or persons within said Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana.

[4.] *[Publishing of Financial Statement Prior to Tax Levies.]* The town shall once in every twelve (12) months, before fixing and deciding upon the amount of taxes and licenses to be assessed and imposed for one year, cause to be made out a detailed estimate exhibiting the various items of liabilities and expenditures including the probable amount of contingent expenses during said year, and shall cause the same to be published at least thirty (30) days in the newspaper published in the town and such rate of taxation not exceeding one dollar (\$1.00) on every hundred of valuation shall at least thirty (30) days after first publication thereof be fixed and assessed so as with other revenues of the town, may be necessary to meet said estimated liabilities and expenditures.

[5.] *[Estimate, to be Followed.]* The adoption of said detailed estimate shall be considered stated, and no money shall be drawn from the treasury except in pursuance of such appropriation.

[6.] *[Tax Due Date and Collection.]* All taxes and licenses imposed by the Town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, shall be due and exigible at the same time as the state taxes and all articles and the laws of the general assembly passed thereunder regulating and relating to the collection of state tax and tax sales shall also apply to and regulate the collection of town taxes.

[7.] *[Authority of Police Jury.]* That the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Martin shall not have or exercise any jurisdiction within the limits of the said town, except it be over the courthouse, jail, drawbridge on Bayou Teche, and other property belonging to the said parish and in said town; and the said police jury shall have no power to levy,

impose or lay any tax or license within the limits of the said town and which is specially prohibited and said town is thereby exempt from parish taxes and licenses, and the inhabitants of said town shall not be liable to public road duty under the general laws of this state; and are hereby exempt from road duty, provided that the Police Jury of St. Martin, Louisiana, shall have the right to include the Town of St. Martinville, or any portion thereof in a drainage district organized by it under existing laws in the same manner that territory outside of said town is included within the confines of a drainage district by the police jury, and this and full jurisdiction of a drainage district by the police jury, and to this and full jurisdiction is vested in the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Martin, Louisiana.

[8.] *[Power of Council over Building, Repair of Sidewalks, Banquettes, or Curbing.]* 'The town council shall be and are hereby empowered to provide for, regulate and require the buildings and repairing of all sidewalks, banquettes, or curbing upon the streets within the corporate limits as may be hereafter provided by ordinances.

(9.) *[Improvement of Sidewalks, Banquettes, etc., Mter Failure of Abutting Property Owner To Do So.]* Wherever the owner of property in front of which a sidewalk, banquette or other walks shall have been ordered to be made, filled up, grading as required, shall fail to do so, within the time required by the ordinance or resolution of the town council, the town council shall order the same to be done at the expense of 'the owner or owners of said property and the town shall have a special lien and privilege on said property to secure the payment so due, which entitle the corporation to be paid in preference over any other claim, mortgage or encumbrance upon said property, recoverable before any court of competent jurisdiction. That all streets, except such parts as may be required to be kept up by the grantors of franchise, shall be kept in repair by the town, and all sidewalks or banquettes, shall be kept by the owners of the real property thereon.

[10.] *[Franchises.]* The town council shall have the power and authority to grant franchises over the streets of said town for the purpose of operating railways or streetcar lines, whether by steam, electricity, or other power to operate telegraph, telephone or electric light systems; to establish and maintain public market, and to provide for and maintain and establish waterworks and electric lights or to establish and maintain any of the same on their account; but any of the aforesaid franchise granted to persons or corporations shall be subject to such proper restrictions and regulations then and there after to be made as shall be preservative of public and private right; and said franchise shall not be granted except for public benefit and upon the due compensation to the town by the grantor or grantees nor for a longer period than twenty-five (25) years.

[11.] *[Other Powers.]* The enumeration of the foregoing powers shall not be understood to exclude or restrict any other power, general or specific, belonging to municipal corporations as such, or which are necessary to the proper exercise of its corporate functions nor those powers which are necessary and essential to the objects and purposes of this corporation, all of which are hereby specially reserved.

[ARTICLE V.] MISCELLANEOUS PROVISION[S]

[1.] *[Removal of Appointed Officers and Police Force Generally.]* The town council may suspend or remove by a vote of the majority of the members, all appointed officers for incompetency, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, or when the services of such officer are no longer required or necessary to the public interest. The town council shall have power to organize, appoint, uniform and commission a police force, and to appoint as many officers as may be necessary, to fix the salaries and compensation of all officers and employees appointed by them, under the restrictions contained in this act.

[2.] *[Regular Council Meetings, Recording of Proceedings, Publication of Resolutions and Ordinances.]* The town council shall hold regular meetings on stated days every month; their proceedings shall be duly recorded and all resolutions and ordinances shall be published and promulgated in a newspaper published in the town.

[3.] *[Statement of Financial Condition.]* The town council shall further at least ten (10) days before the expiration of such fiscal year, cause to be published in a town newspaper, a correct and full statement of the receipts and expenditures from the date of the last annual report, the funds where derived and showing for what purpose disbursed, the condition of the Treasurer [treasury], together with such information as may be necessary, and a full statement of the financial condition of the town.

[4.] *[Special Procedures For Passage of Ordinances Levying Tax, Appropriating Over Five Hundred Dollars or Buying, Selling Real Estate.]* No ordinance levying a tax, making an appropriation over five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or providing for the purchase or sale of real estate, shall be passed except by a majority of the entire Council, nor shall a final vote of same be taken except at a regular meeting, subsequent to previous regular meeting at which the same bill have been introduced and passed to its second reading and the said ordinance together with the vote on the same, and the names of the members voting yes or nay, shall be recorded and published in a newspaper of the town, except in case of invasion, insurrection, pestilence or inundation.

[5.] *[Contracts for Public Works, Materials or Supplies to be Awarded by Bid.]* All contracts for public works or materials, or supplies ordered by the town council, when the same exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00), shall be offered at public auction and given to the lowest bidder who can furnish security satisfactory to the council, or the same shall be advertised for sealed proposals in writing, to be opened by the mayor in the presence of the council, and the

contract shall be given to the person making lowest proposal therefor, provided that should there be only one bid, the same may be accepted by the council, as reasonable and fair for the work advertised; provided further, that the town council shall have the rights to refuse, reject and qualify any and all bids or proposals.

[ARTICLE VI.] PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND WORK*

For the purpose of enabling the town to purchase, contract and pay for any improvements of a general nature not herein provided for, and for the purpose of erecting and constructing public buildings, bridges, causeways, drainage canals, wharves, quays, dykes, water works, electric lights, power and plants, sewers and sewerage disposal plants, and for the purpose of opening, building, making, improving, grading and repairing public roads, making and repairing bridges, within and without the corporate limits of the Town of St. Martinville, when conducive to the best interest and welfare of the town, and in general, any work of public utility not herein enumerated, the town council may, in the name of the Town of St. Martinville, create road districts, sub-road districts, one or more sewerage districts, within the limits of the municipality, to enlarge such districts after they are created, and to consolidate them in pursuance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, and the said Town of St. Martinville, or road districts, sub-road districts, or sewerage districts so created, as the case may be, may incur debt and issue negotiable bonds for each and any of said purposes, subject to the conditions, provisions and limitations of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and amendments thereto, and in accordance with the provisions, conditions and limitations of the laws of Louisiana now in force or hereafter enacted.

***Amendment** note-For amendment history to this part (designated Article VI by the editor), "Public Improvements and Work," see the editor's note accompanying this charter compilation.

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**CHARTER COMPARATIVE TABLE
ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

This table shows the location of ordinances and resolutions amending the Charter.

Ordinance Date	Section	Disposition	
4-20-87	1	Art. II, § 9	
Ordinance Number	Date	Section	Disposition
92-2	6- 1-92	1	Art. II, § 9
94-2	7- 1-94	1	Art. II, § 9
98-2	4-20-98	1	Art. II, § 9