

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA
HELD ON THE 6th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Regular Session on the 6th day of February 2023 at City Hall, their regular meeting place, pursuant to the call of the Mayor.

THERE were present: Jason Willis, Mayor

Mike Fuselier, Councilman

Carol Frederick, Councilman

Jonas Fontenette, Councilman

Janise Anthony, Councilman

Flo Chatman, Councilman

Allan L. Durand, City Attorney

THERE were absent: None

Mayor Jason Willis presiding, called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Janise Anthony duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that the minutes of the regular meeting held January 17, 2023 hereby be approved for publication in the Teche News, the Official Journal of the City of St. Martinville.

Upon motion of Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that the bills to be paid by the City Finance Committee hereby be approved for payment.

Mr. Burton Kolder of Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC presented the Financial Report for the City of St. Martinville for the year ending June 30, 2022.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Carol Frederick and unanimously carried that the 2021-2022 Audit Report prepared by Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC be accepted.

Mayor Willis gratefully acknowledged Mr. Jimmy Johnstone with the Woodmen of the World for the lodge's donation to the Police Department in the amount of \$162,000.00. The donation will be used toward the purchase of department handguns, tasers and body cameras.

Upon motion of Janise Anthony, duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLUTION OF ACCEPTANCE

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZNG THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN ACT OF ACCEPTANCE FROM CONSTRUCTION PRO, INC. PERTAINING TO THE COMPLETION OF THE CONTRACT FOR THE “SEWER SYSTEM MPROVEMENTS, SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT, LCDBG FY 2022” FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARTNVILLE.

WHEREAS, CONSTRUCTION PRO, INC, as Contractor, has substantially completed the SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT, LCDBG FY 2020 FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE in accordance with the plans and specifications contained in the contract documents pertaining thereto; and

WHEREAS the CITY OF ST. MARTINILLE desires to accept the completed work, subject to the completion of the punch list.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE that the Mayor of said CITY OF ST. MARTNVILLE be, and is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to execute a Notice of Acceptance for and on behalf of the CITY OF ST. MARTINILLE, accepting the work as being substantially completed, and that he is authorized and directed to have a copy of said acceptance recorded in the Conveyance Records of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana.

THEREUPON, the above resolution was declared adopted.

CERTIFICATE

I, LORRIE M. POIRIER, Secretary of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville in Regular Session convened this day of February 6, 2023, at which time a quorum was present and voting.

LORRIE M. POIRIER
CLERK
CITY OF ST. MARTNVILLE, LOUISIANA

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN and especially all subcontractors, architects, engineers, master mechanics, mechanics, workmen, laborers, and furnishers of materials, machinery, and fixtures:

Public notice is hereby given, according to law, that the undersigned Owner has accepted as substantially complete the work done by CONSTRUCTION PRO, INC., on the "SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT, LCDBG FY 2020" FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE.

All subcontractors, architects, engineers, master mechanics, mechanics, workmen, laborers, and furnishers of materials, machinery, fixtures and supplies must assert whatever claims they have against the said Contractors or against the property growing out of the execution of the contract according to law, within forty-five (45) days from registration hereof.

JASON WILLIS, MAYOR
CITY OF ST. MARTNVILLE

DATE

It was moved by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that authorization be granted for McBade Engineers to prepare application to renew Louisiana DEQ Discharge Permit for Wastewater Treatment Facility.

It was moved by Carol Frederick duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that authorization be granted for McBade Engineers to prepare annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention audit required for DEQ discharge permit.

It was moved by Carol Frederick duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that Mayor Willis's signature on the contract with McBade Engineering & Consultants LLC for Durand Drainage Project Phase II (State project #50-MQ5-20-01) be ratified.

Mayor Willis's presented Brian Francis on behalf of Nathan Williams of Nathan Williams and the Zydeco Cha Chase a Proclamation and a Key to the City in recognition of the band's nomination for 2023 Grammy Award.

Upon request of Mike Bienvenu with Chico Men's Group, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Carol Frederick and unanimously carried that the council recognize the organization holding its Men's Day under the pavilion in Magnolia Park. Permission was also granted for the use of restrooms in the Magnolia Recreation Center throughout the day. Councilman Fuselier will be responsible for opening the building. This event is open to the public at no charge and the group will clean up following the event.

Mr. Lurry Sigue, property owner of 114 Oak Drive appeared before the Mayor and Council to ask the City Attorney's finding of research into a previous complaint of Public Works Utility Crew cutting branches of his live oak tree that were in the electrical lines. Mayor Willis informed Mr. Sigue that the City obtained an opinion from Horticulturist/Arborist Jim Foret. Mr Foret provided the City with a letter stating that in his opinion, Mr. Sigue's Oak Tree will not die from the cutting of said branches. He further stated that Live Oaks are very resilient, and he has never seen one die from over-pruning if it was just done one time. The general consensus of the Mayor, Council and City Attorney was that if Mr. Sigue would like he can file a claim with the City's insurance company.

Upon motion of Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that 45 days be granted to Mr Hildred Durand, property owner of 743 St. Ann Street, to demolish and remove the dilapidated structure located on said property. Meanwhile, bids will be obtained to demolish and remove said structure in order to proceed if work is not complete in the 45 day period.

Upon motion of Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that 30 days be granted to tear down the dilapidated mobile home owned by Mr. Aaron Alexander, located at 309 Honore Street owned by Mrs. Rita Lewis. Meanwhile, bids will be obtained to demolish and remove the said structure in order to proceed if work is not complete in the 30 day period.

City Attorney Allan Durand informed the Mayor and Council that a suit is being prepared to St Martin Parish Sheriff's Office to sell the property located on St. Martin Street adjacent to the St. Martin Parish Clerk of Court's Office. The records of the Assessor show the property is owned 92% by the city and 8% by Marilyn Willis. The city attorney advises that any co-owner can ask the court to put up for sheriff sales any property that cannot be divided equally between the co-owners.

CRT Director Danielle Fontenette presented Mayor and Council a report from Tourism. It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that the museums be opened on Sundays from 11:00am to 3:00pm. These hours will be for a trial period of 90 days and then will be revisited.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that permission be hereby granted to close S. New Market Street and Evangeline Blvd. on April 13, 2023 (from St. Martin Street and Catfish Alley) for the annual Cycle Zydeco Event.

Upon recommendation of Chief Ricky Martin, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that the employment status of Ivanna Francois be changed from Dispatcher Supervisor (\$12.83/hr) to Part-Time Dispatcher with a pay rate of \$9.75 per hour.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that the employment status of Dale Theriot be changed from part-time Support Clerk to full-time Accounting Clerk with a pay grade of 107(\$13.10/hr).

It was moved by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that Mayor Willis be authorized to sign contract with St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office for one crew to aid in picking up trash, debris, waste, etc.

Upon motion of Carol Frederick duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that the following Corporate Authorization Resolution hereby be adopted:

Corporate Authorization Resolution

This is to certify: That a meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, LA, duly called and held on February 6, 2023, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that Payroll Account be opened and all checks of this corporation drawn on any bank and orders for transfers or withdrawal of funds of this corporation on deposit in said Bank, in whatever form, shall be signed by either two of the following representatives:

Jason Willis, Mayor
Avis D. Gutekunst, Chief Administrative Officer
Katy Bujard
Kimya Cruz

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Bank is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks so drawn as above set forth, whether or not such checks be payable to the order of one of the foregoing persons either in his individual or official capacity or deposited to his individual credit.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed by name as Clerk and have caused the corporate seal of said corporation to be hereto affixed this 6th day of February, 2023.

I, Lorrie M. Poirier, Executive Administrative Assistant to Mayor and Council of said corporation, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a copy of the resolution passed as therein set forth.

Clerk/Executive Administrative Assistant
Mayor/Council

Upon motion of Mike Fuselier , duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLUTION

A resolution requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to accept the City of St. Martinville Improvements Project for Main Street-Hwy 31 as part of its Transportation Alternatives Program.

WHEREAS, the St. Martinville Main Street-Hwy 31 project would enhance approximate 5 mile area by providing safe and improved access for bikers and walkers from city limit to city limit while furthering the comprehensive vision for revitalization of Main Street and its emerging Town Center;

WHEREAS, the Main Street-Hwy 31 Project is part of the approved St. Martin Walkable Community Audit which was developed with parish-wide community input; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville desires and is committed to improving the quality of life of its residents by implementing transportation mobility improvements which foster safe and comfortable transportation, promote a healthy lifestyle, protect the environment, provide connectivity between neighborhoods, parks and commercial centers, and integrate walking and biking alternatives into the transportation network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Martinville City Council, the governing authority of said municipality:

SECTION 1. That the City of St. Martinville will serve as local sponsor and prepare and submit an application for Transportation Alternative Program projects in accordance with the DOTD's Transportation Alternatives Information.

SECTION 2. That the City of St. Martinville is requesting eligible construction costs to be shared as 80% Federal funding and 20% local sponsor funds.

SECTION 3. That the City of St. Martinville will provide ongoing maintenance with its existing work force and accept liability for the pedestrian facilities.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: M. Fuselier, C. Frederick, J. Fontenette, J. Anthony and F. Chatman
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was declared to be adopted on this the 6th day of February, 2023.

I, LORRIE M. POIRIER, CLERK, City of St. Martinville, Louisiana do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville in Regular Session convened this 6th day of February 2023, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS 6TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2023.

Seal

LORRIE M. POIRIER, CLERK
CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that approval be granted for out-of-town travel for Danielle Fontenette and Councilman Mike Fuselier to New Orleans on Wednesday, February 8th for the screening of Evangeline Movie that was filmed here in St. Martinville.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and City Council, Mayor Willis adjourned the meeting upon motion of Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Flo Chatman.

JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LORRIE M POIRIER, CLERK
EXEUTIVE ASSISTANT