

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA
HELD ON THE 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2023.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Regular Session on the 5th day of September, 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 Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that the minutes of the regular meeting held August 21, 2023, hereby be approved for publication in the Teche News, the Official Journal of the City of St. Martinville.

The following resolution was offered by Flo Chatman and seconded by Janise Anthony:

RESOLUTION

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "City"), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 29 thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the City on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (SALES TAX)

Shall the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "City"), be authorized to levy and collect a sales and use tax of 1/2% (the "Tax") (an estimated \$505,839 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), in perpetuity, beginning April 1, 2024, in accordance with Louisiana law, with the proceeds of the Tax (after paying the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of collecting and administering the Tax) to be used for any lawful corporate purpose of the City, including, but not limited to, establishing, acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating the City's waterworks plant and system, solid waste disposal facilities, sewers and sewerage disposal works, drains and drainage facilities, streets, bridges and sidewalks, electric transmission and distribution system, public buildings and recreational facilities within the City, including the necessary land, equipment and furnishings therefor, and shall the City be further authorized to fund the proceeds of the Tax into bonds from time to time for any one or more capital purposes, to the extent and in the manner permitted by the laws of Louisiana?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the official journal of the City once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Special Election, the Mayor is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 S. New Market Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana, on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023**, at **SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts set forth in the aforesaid Notice of Special Election are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the City will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Clerk of the City is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the Mayor and/or Clerk of the City are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of St. Martin Parish and the Registrar of Voters of St. Martin Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to levy and collect the sales and use tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

This 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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 5th day of September, 2023.

/s/ Lorrie M. Poirier
Clerk

/s/ Jason Willis
Mayor

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "City"), on September 5, 2023, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the City on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the City qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

**PROPOSITION
(SALES TAX)**

Shall the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "City"), be authorized to levy and collect a sales and use tax of 1/2% (the "Tax") (an estimated \$505,839 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), in perpetuity, beginning April 1, 2024, in accordance with Louisiana law, with the proceeds of the Tax (after paying the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of collecting and administering the Tax) to be used for any lawful corporate purpose of the City, including, but not limited to, establishing, acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating the City's waterworks plant and system, solid waste disposal facilities, sewers and sewerage disposal works, drains and drainage facilities, streets, bridges and sidewalks, electric transmission and distribution system, public buildings and recreational facilities within the City, including the necessary land, equipment and furnishings therefor, and shall the City be further authorized to fund the proceeds of the Tax into bonds from time to time for any one or more capital purposes, to the extent and in the manner permitted by the laws of Louisiana?

The said special election shall be held at the polling places for the following precincts, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, to-wit:

PRECINCTS

03(PART)
10(PART)
11(PART)
12(PART)
14(PART)
15(PART)
23(PART)

The polling places for the precincts set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$5,300.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 S. New Market Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana, on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023**, at **SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the City are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ST. MARTIN

I, the undersigned Clerk of the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana (the "City"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the proceedings taken by the Mayor and City Council of the City on September 5, 2023, ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of St. Martinville, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at St. Martinville, Louisiana, on this, the 5th day of September, 2023.

Clerk

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that Mayor Willis be authorized to enter into a 1-year agreement with La Louisianne as consultants for economic development at a cost of \$6,000.00 per month contingent upon review and approval of City Attorney Allan Durand.

Upon request of Dee Batiste on behalf of SSMH Quarterback Football Club, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that a permit be granted to hold the Homecoming Parade on Sunday, September 24, 2023, contingent upon proof of insurance being provided. City Attorney Allan Durand offered to pay the \$25.00 permit fee. After further discussion it was also decided to waive the fee for security provided by the City Police. Chief Martin will work with the organization to obtain insurance for the event and work out final details.

Councilwoman Janise Anthony stated she would like to table the discussion of the nuisance dog on Port Street due to the events that took place being out of context. Ms Anthony has met with the parties involved and will work to settle this matter.

It was moved by Carol Frederick duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that rental agreements for all City Building be amended to read that if alcohol is served, security must be obtained through the City Police Department at the current rate established by the department.

The following resolution was offered by Mike Fuselier and seconded by Jonas Fontenette:

ORDINANCE 23-04

An Ordinance by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville Providing for Rent Free Use of Recreational Facilities for Funeral Repasts for Deceased City Employees

WHEREAS the City of St. Martinville has very few appropriate and available spaces to hold a funeral repast, and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that it would be an appropriate benefit for City employees to allow them to use City recreational facilities for a funeral repast for a deceased City employee,

THEREFORE be it ordained that the following Miscellaneous Ordinance is adopted:

The family of any deceased full-time employee of the City of St. Martinville may obtain the use of any City recreational facility to hold a funeral repast for a deceased City employee, upon making the normal security deposit for such an event, but without payment of any rental fee. Any such request shall be presented to the Mayor to ensure compliance with the intent and purpose of this Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Mike Fuselier, duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette, and upon being submitted to a vote, the vote was:

Yeas: M. Fuselier, C. Frederick, J. Fontenette, J. Anthony and F. Chatman

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Ordinance was thereon declared adopted on the 5th day of September, 2023.

JASON WILLIS, Mayor

The following resolution was offered by Mike Fuselier, duly second by Jonas Fontenette

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND SUBMIT ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH Act 465 2023 REGULAR SESSION CAPITOL OUTLAY APPROPRIATION TO THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville has received a 2023 Act 465 Capitol Outlay appropriation of \$135,000 and

WHEREAS, the program requires the City of St. Martinville to complete a plan, scope of work and budget to the Department of Facility Planning and Control in reference to the use of appropriated funds, and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville, intends to use the funds to complete the Main Street Enhancement Project, Planning and Construction, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville, that the Mayor Jason Willis is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the City of St. Martinville in all matters pertaining to this project, including certifying request for State disbursements.

YEAS: M.Fuselier, C.Frederick, J.Fontenette, J.Anthony and F.Chatman

NAYS: Non

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the Council meeting held on September 5, 2023, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Lorrie M Poirier
City Clerk

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried to table amending the mobile home ordinance pertaining to the acceptable age to allow time for Planning & Zoning Commission to perform research and present recommendation to the council at the October 2nd council meeting.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that the following preliminary budget for Recreation Bond Funds be adopted and each project be presented to the council for final approval at the time of commencement:

MAGNOLIA PARK:

Pavillion Restroom	\$35,000
Pavillion Fans	\$ 2,000
Pavilion Water and Electricity	\$ 500
Walking Track Water Fountains	\$ 1,000
Skate Park Cleaning and Painting	\$ 300
Tennis Court Lighting	\$ 300
Volleyball Court Restoration(sand,lights,nets,border)	\$ 3,500
Pickleball Court Addition (2)	\$ 4,000
Fence (New Front and repairs around playground)	\$ 7,000

ADAM CARLSON MEMORIAL PARK:

New Pavilion	\$110,000
Pavilion Fans	\$ 2,000
Youth Basketball Court(New goals, fence ,painted court, lights)	\$ 17,000
Playground Equipment Repairs	\$ 3,500
Bleachers for Football	\$ 4,000
Restrooms	\$ 25,000

Total	\$215,100.00
Current Amount in Fund	\$225,515.29

Fund Balance	\$ 10,415.29
--------------	--------------

It was moved by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that the following preliminary equipment budget for the expenditure of Appropriation Funds (\$50,000.00) approved by officials during the recent legislature’s session be adopted. It was further approved to purchase 22’ utility trailer with 8k axle & 12k trailer capacity (\$10,808.75) and 7’ X 12’ dump trailer (\$10,487.74) from Big Tex and all other purchases be presented to the council for final approval at the time of acquisition:

Project Name	Amount
Trailer to haul heavy Equipment	11K
Zero Turn Lawn Mower for Guys at the Pond	5K
End Dump	11K
Tim, Kerry, Harvey, Lynn Tools	25K
Total	52K

It was moved by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Flo Chatman and unanimously carried that the following preliminary budget for the expenditure of Appropriation Funds (\$400,000.00) approved by officials during the recent legislature’s session be adopted and each purchase be presented to the council for final approval at the time of acquisition:

Project Name	Amount Budgeted
City Hall Roof Repair	50K
Police Station Roof Replacement	40K
Complete 2nd Floor Offices	20K (includes AC Unit)
Maison Du Champ AC	10K
Consultant Fee	144K
Police Station AC (conference Room)	4K
Master Plan (If not Funded by Grant)	50K
Backhoe	55K
City Cameras	18K
Salary Supplement for Kerry	10K
Total	401K

It was moved by Carol Frederick duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that the approval of pay increases for City employees be tabled until the next council meeting.

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

JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LORRIE M POIRIER, CITY CLERK