

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA  
HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Regular Session on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023 at City Hall, their regular meeting place, pursuant to the call of the Mayor.

THERE were present: Jason Willis, Mayor

Mike Fuselier, Councilman

Jonas Fontenette, Councilman

Janise Anthony, Councilman

Allan L. Durand, City Attorney

THERE were absent: Carol Frederick, Councilman

Flo Chatman, Councilman

Mayor Jason Willis presiding, called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that the minutes of the regular meeting held September 18, 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 Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that the bills to be paid by the City Finance Committee hereby be approved for payment.

## ORDINANCE 23-05

### *An Ordinance by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville*

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville has previously adopted rules and regulations by ordinance relating to the Historic District of the City, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that certain amendments are appropriate to accommodate the efficient administration of the Historic District,

THEREFORE, be it ordained that the following Miscellaneous Ordinance is adopted, amending a replacing the original provisions related to the same subjects:

#### ***Authorized Parties to Apply for Certificates of Appropriateness***

Certificates of Appropriateness constitute an agreement between the property owner of record and the St. Martinville Historic District Commission, thus only the property owner of record can submit a certificate of appropriateness for approval. Individuals with rental, rent to own, or any other form of property residency agreement, other than that of recorded ownership, are not authorized to submit a certificate of appropriateness, unless the owner of record and the secondary party enter a legally binding agreement by which the owner of record and the secondary party agree that the secondary party is authorized to enter such agreements, and understands by doing so, is taking responsibility for required repairs and restoration, as per the articles of the St. Martinville Historic District Commission. Furthermore, the owner of record understands and agrees that by entering such an agreement, they forfeit the right of directive in terms of materials, methods, and color palette utilized in fulfilling the required restoration. Any form of agreement will require witness and authorization by a legally recognized notary public.

#### ***Window Tinting and Window Coverings***

Window tinting is acceptable in the historic district under the following guidelines:

- The degree of window tint will not exceed 35% and the window tinting will not obscure the sidewalk view of the building interior, with the only acceptable means being curtains, blinds, or shades with the ability to be opened and closed.
- The color of the window tinting will be charcoal grey, bronze, or within a similar color palette. Under no circumstances is colored window tinting acceptable, i.e., red, blue, green, purple etc.
- During periods of construction, cardboard or paper covering over windows is acceptable, though will be immediately removed once construction is completed and replaced with an acceptable means of window covering, i.e., tinting, curtains, blinds, or shades. Under no circumstances is paper covering to be maintained on buildings during periods of soliciting rental, sale, occupancy, or periods of vacancy.

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

Yeas: M. Fuselier, J. Fontenette and J. Anthony

Nays: None

Absent: C. Frederick and F. Chatman

The Ordinance was thereon declared adopted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2023.

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JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

Upon recommendation of Mayor Willis, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony that the following items be added to the agenda of tonight's meeting:

1. Discuss and possibly take action on property owned by Hildred Durand located in 700 Block of St. Ann Street.
2. Resolution for LCDBG Clearance Demolition Grant Program
  - A. Identifying each structure that is to be demolished in the project and approving the demolition of said structures.
  - B. From the City agreeing to pay legal fees incurred by LCDBG Clearance Demolition Grant Program
  - C. From the City to utilize its own staff for administration and to cover any costs associated with the administration of the LCDBG Clearance Demolition Grant Program
3. Consider Lease of Maison Duchamp to Maria Stella Classical School

Upon request of Danielle Fontenette of Main Street Association, it was moved by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that permission be granted to close Evangeline Blvd east of Main Street and South New Market Street on Friday, December 1, 2023 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual This Old Town Christmas Tree Lighting beginning at 4:00 pm. Vendors will be set up around the Evangeline Oak.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that the utility gone list/ uncollectable bills for 2023 in the amount of \$ 30,834.42 be written off, however collections were not waived.

Upon recommendation of CRT Director Danielle Fontenette, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that Esther Perkins be hired as part-time docent with a rate of pay of \$10.30 per hour.

Upon recommendation of Chief Ricky Martin, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that the position of Lieutenant be created with a pay of \$42,500.00 annually.

Upon recommendation of Chief Ricky Martin, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that Sgt Andrew Broussard be promoted to Lieutenant with a pay rate of \$20.43/hr. This appointment is a provisional appointment.

Upon recommendation of Chief Ricky Martin, it was moved by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that Emily Segura be promoted to Records Clerk with a pay rate of \$14.30/hr. This appointment is a provisional appointment.

Following successful completion of the Police Civil Service test, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that Jory Gary be promoted to Sergeant in Patrol with a pay rate of \$18.90/hr.

Following successful completion of the Police Civil Service test, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that Alicia Zanois be promoted to Sergeant in Detectives with a pay rate of \$19.81/hr.

Upon recommendation of Chief Ricky Martin, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that Eligous Ledet be hired as full-time Police Officer with a pay rate of \$16.57/hr.

The following resolution was introduced by Mike Fuselier and duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously adopted:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville intends to submit budget requests to the Division of Administration for Capital Outlay Funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville does not have the financial resources necessary to fund projects of this size; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville has selected and authorized the submission of the following State Capital Budget Requests for year 2024-2025.

<b>Priority #1</b>	
Sewer to SLCC for Future Development	\$2,000,000
<b>Priority #2</b>	
City Road and Street Maintenance	\$ 800,000
<b>Priority #3</b>	
Land Acquisition for Police Station	\$ 200,000
<b>Priority #4</b>	
New Police Station	\$ 600,000
<b>Priority #5</b>	
New city barn and service storage for barn equipment/ vehicles	\$ 800,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Martinville, in regular session convened this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023, does hereby certify to the Division of Administration, Facility Planning and Control, that it does not have cash or bond funding available to fund these projects.

This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, thereon was as follows:

YEAS: M.Fuselier, J. Fontenette and J. Anthony

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: C. Frederick and F. Chatman

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023.

Jason Willis, Mayor  
City of St. Martinville

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that the position of Bernell Hypolite be declared vacant.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that based on the photographic evidence provided for the property owned by Mr. Hildred Durand located in 700 block of St. Ann be declared as a nuisance and a hazard. It was further decided to obtain three bids to remove said structure and award to lowest bidder.

The following resolution was introduced by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously adopted:

CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE  
P.O. BOX 379  
ST. MARTINVILLE, LA 70582  
PHONE: (337) 394-2230

WHEREAS, the Louisiana CDBG has announced that applications are being accepted for the Clearance Demolition Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana CDBG offers grants to eligible municipalities and parishes for a wide assortment of projects to improve public health, public safety, living conditions and for economic development purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville may be eligible for a grant up to \$500,000; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and proper for the City of St. Martinville to submit an application to the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development under the Clearance Demolition Grant Program to assist residential and commercial property owners to demolish their blighted property within the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville that the Honorable Jason Willis, Mayor, is hereby authorized to sign and submit an application for the following properties that have been condemned to the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development under Clearance Demolition Grant Program

	126 S MLK St.	Parcel #17201I4618 700 Block St Ann S
	729 Knight St.	726.5 St Ann St.
225 Gov. Mouton St.	1005 Govern Mouton	1604 MLK Dr.
Parcel #17201B1397 Honore St.	215 Stagg St.	204 Governor Mouton St.
112 Labbe St.	112 Denbas St.	522 Governor Mouton St.
134 Labbe St.	106 Denbas St.	910 Governor Mouton St.
138 Labbe St.	330 Dernier St.	608 Ethel St.
410 W Hamilton St.	817-A MLK Dr.	931 Governor Mouton St
402 W Madison St.	1001 MLK Dr.	314 LaSalle St
416 N MLK St.	340 Randoplh St.	516 MLK Dr.
501 N Theater St.	822 South Main St.	805 Pratt Dr.
130 St Bernard St.	1330-B Soutn Main St.	700 Pratt Dr.
609 Church St.	604 Ledoux St.	224 Dernier St.
215 Honore St.	813 St Ann St	
211 E. Hyacinth St.	745 St. Ann St.	
245 Stagg St.		

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and caused to affix the Great Seal of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023.

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Jason Willis, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lorrie M Poirier, City Clerk

The following resolution was introduced by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously adopted:

CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE  
P.O. BOX 379  
ST. MARTINVILLE, LA 70582  
PHONE: (337) 394-2230

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville has the opportunity to secure state funding to clean up abandoned and dilapidated structures in the City, all of which are dangers to health and safety, but owned by deceased persons and

WHEREAS, in order to legally identify the landowners and heirs, it is necessary that certain proceedings be instituted and completed in District Court, and

WHEREAS the state funding will not absorb such costs, but the Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to absorb such legal costs in order to secure the funding, which otherwise would not be available,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville that the Honorable Jason Willis, Mayor, is hereby authorized to contract Allan Durand, City Attorney, to undertake such work on behalf of the City.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and caused to affix the Great Seal of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023.

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Jason Willis, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lorrie M Poirier, City Clerk



The following resolution was introduced by Jonas Fontenette duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously adopted:

CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE  
P.O. BOX 379  
ST. MARTINVILLE, LA 70582  
PHONE: (337) 394-2230

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville accepted applications for the Louisiana CDBG Clearance Demolition Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana CDBG offers grants to eligible municipalities and parishes for a wide assortment of projects to improve public health, public safety, living conditions and for economic development purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville may be eligible to receive funds; and

WHEREAS, City of St. Martinville is committed to utilize its own staff to administer the application to the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development under the Clearance Demolition Grant Program and all paperwork associated with the project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville that the Honorable Jason Willis, Mayor, is hereby authorized to utilize City Staff as he sees fit to submit application to the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development under Clearance Demolition Grant Program

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and caused to affix the Great Seal of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023.

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Jason Willis, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lorrie M Poirier, City Clerk

Upon request of Father Vidrine on behalf of Maria Stella Classical School, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Jonas Fontenette and unanimously carried that City Attorney Allan Durand apply for a waiver with the Department of Interior for the school to utilize Maison Duchamp for educational purposes.

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 Mike Fuselier.

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JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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LORRIE M POIRIER, CITY CLERK