

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA
HELD ON THE 7th DAY OF JULY, 2025.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Regular Session on the 7th day of July 2025 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 Councilman Fuselier duly seconded by Councilwoman Frederick and unanimously carried that the discussion of trash pick within the City be added to the agenda of tonight's meeting.

It was moved by Councilwoman Anthony duly seconded by Councilwoman Frederick and unanimously carried that the discussion of illegal discharge of fireworks in violation of City Ordinance be added to the agenda of tonight's agenda.

It was moved by Councilwoman Chatman duly seconded by Councilman Fuselier that the minutes of the regular meeting held June 16, 2025 be approved as presented.

A substitute motion was made by Councilwoman Frederick duly seconded by Councilman Fuselier that the minutes of the June 16, 2025 meeting presented at tonight's meeting be amended to include the budget figures as they were originally presented and approved at said meeting. If any amendments to the budget need to be made, it will be presented at future meeting.

Councilwoman Frederick's motion being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was:

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

Nays: F.Chatman

Absent: None

Mayor Willis reported that Parish Councilwoman Tangie Narcisse was not in attendance and suggested if anyone wanted an update on the repairs of Seiber Rd, she would be speaking on the matter at the SM Parish Government meeting to be held July 8, 2025.

Upon recommendation of Planning & Zoning Coordinator Otis Chatman, it was moved by Councilman Fuselier duly seconded by Councilwoman Chatman and unanimously carried that Jared Normand be appointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission to replace Michael Formeller.

Following discussion of Grass Nuisance Ordinance, it was moved by Councilman Fuselier duly seconded by Councilwoman Chatman and unanimously carried that the council interprets the nuisance grass ordinance to prohibit all grass above 12-inch in height and applies to all grass within the City Limits, with no exceptions. Mayor further instructed Planning & Zoning Coordinator Otis Chatman to send letters to property owners with grass that is above 12 inches in height and have property cut as soon as possible in accordance with the ordinance.

It was moved by Councilman Jonas duly seconded by Councilman Fuselier and unanimously carried that Mr. Eddy Greig be granted until the 1st council meeting in August to continue cleaning the nuisance property he owns located at 2085 Terrace Hwy and present a plan for any remaining work necessary to bring property in compliance. Mr. Greig's son, Jeremy Greig was also present and stated he will be assisting Mr. Greig with cleaning the property.

Upon request of Sharon Batiste, it was moved by Councilman Fuselier duly seconded by Councilwoman Chatman and unanimously carried that she be granted 2 weeks to make a determination of future plans for the dilapidated structure located on her property located at 604 Ledoux. Ms. Batiste will either agree to continue with demolition through the City's current Clearance Grant, or she will inform the council of her plans.

The homes on the Clearance Grant were discussed. Planning & Zoning Coordinator Otis Chatman informed the council that Melia Hamilton requested to remove the dilapidated structure located at 609 Church Street from the Clearance Grant. A letter was sent to Ms. Hamilton to appear at this meeting; however, she did not show up. Based on the evidence previously provided by the City Inspectors, the council declares the property to be a nuisance. Mr. Chatman was informed to send Ms Hamilton a letter to abate the nuisance within 10 days.

Councilwoman Chatman requested the council consider using \$70,000.00 from the funds from the Opera House sale to demolish dilapidated structures that are on properties that have been adjudicated to the City. Mr Durand will review the list of adjudicated properties and determine which adjudicated properties have met the requirements for the City to be able to sell. No action was taken.

City Attorney Allan Durand reported that Judge Hamilton approved the injunction filed by the City against D. Daspit property located at 950 Seiber Rd. Judge Hamilton granted Mr. Daspit 75 days from July 2, 2025 to remove all removable items between the road and his fence, with the exception of the children's swing set, trampoline and any vehicle they own and in operable condition.

Mayor Willis removed the agenda item to execute an agreement with Mr. Frank Ledoux.

It was moved by Councilman Fuselier duly seconded by Councilwoman Chatman and unanimously carried that Mayor Willis be authorized to enter into contract with C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, LLC for field inventory of streets that are in need of repairs and preparation of an Opinion of Probable Construction Cost.

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE AUTHORITY
TO THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND
SUBMIT ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS
FOR THE TAP APPLICATION to LaDOTD**

WHEREAS, the City of St. Martinville is submitting a TAP Application to DOTD for widening sidewalks with pedestrian lighting from Madison Street to SSMH

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of City of St. Martinville that Mayor Jason Willis is hereby authorized to sign all the necessary documents in connection with said project.

Name: Jason Willis

Position/Title: Mayor

Telephone Number: 337-394-2230

Email Address: jwillis@stmartinville.net

Signature:

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Frederick, duly seconded by Councilman Fuselier, and upon being submitted to a vote, the vote was:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Resolution above was thereon declared adopted on the 7th day of July, 2025

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and fully correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the St. Martinville City Council on the date shown above.

Lorrie M. Poirier, City Clerk

Upon recommendation of Mayor Willis, it was moved by Councilwoman Frederick duly seconded by Councilman Fuselier and unanimously carried that Mayor Willis be authorized to execute a 2-year contract with McBade Engineer & Consultants, LLC.

RESOLUTION

A Resolution by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville

WHEREAS, communities across the nation are increasingly using electric vehicles for transportation and enjoying the benefit of clean, affordable travel; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Clean Fuels runs a free program called Charging Smart that helps communities plan and prepare for electric vehicle charging; and

WHEREAS, Charging Smart is an EV-readiness program for local governments and plays an important role in establishing policies, procedures and programs that impact EV charging deployment in their communities.

WHEREAS, Charging Smart Team is committed to transforming the transportation system in ways that positively benefit people, the environment, and the economy.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Mayor Jason Willis be authorized to sign a commitment letter indicating the intention of the City of St. Martinville to pursue a Charging Smart designation.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilman Fuselier, duly seconded by Councilwoman Chatman, 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 Resolution above was thereon declared adopted on the 7th day of July, 2025.

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and fully correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the St. Martinville City Council on the date shown above.

Lorrie M. Poirier, City Clerk

The following ordinance was introduced:

ORDINANCE NO. 25-09

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A NEW CODE FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF AMENDING SUCH CODE; AND PROVIDING WHEN SUCH CODE AND THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. The Code entitled "Code of Ordinances, City of St. Martinville, Louisiana," published by CivicPlus LLC, consisting of chapters 1 through 46, each inclusive, is adopted.

Section 2. All ordinances of a general and permanent nature enacted on or before Dec. 18, 2023, and not included in the Code or recognized and continued in force by reference therein, are repealed.

Section 3. The repeal provided for in section 2 hereof shall not be construed to revive any ordinance or part thereof that has been repealed by a subsequent ordinance that is repealed by this ordinance.

Section 4. Unless another penalty is expressly provided, every person convicted of a violation of any provision of the Code or any ordinance, rule or regulation adopted or issued in pursuance thereof shall be punished according to code Sec. 1-8. Each act of violation and each day upon which any such violation shall continue or occur shall constitute a separate offense. The penalty provided by this section, unless another penalty is expressly provided, shall apply to the amendment of any Code section, whether or not such penalty is reenacted in the amendatory ordinance. In addition to the penalty prescribed above, the city may pursue other remedies such as abatement of nuisances, injunctive relief and revocation of licenses or permits.

Section 5. Additions or amendments to the Code when passed in such form as to indicate the intention of the city to make the same a part of the Code shall be deemed to be incorporated in the Code, so that reference to the Code includes the additions and amendments.

Section 6. Ordinances adopted after Dec. 18, 2023, that amend or refer to ordinances that have been codified in the Code, shall be construed as if they amend or refer to like provisions of the Code.

Section 7. This ordinance shall become effective _____

Passed and adopted by the _____ this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilman Fuselier discussed his concerns of missed garbage services for the July 4th holiday.

Councilman Anthony discussed complaints received regarding a private fireworks display that was held on the corner of Honore and Theater on July 1st and the debris in the pool as a result of the display causing the pool to be shut down for a few days. The display was a violation of the City Ordinance which only allows for discharge of fireworks on the 4th in the month of July.

RESOLUTION

A Resolution by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville

WHEREAS the City of St. Martinville by vote of its citizens has adopted the Lawrason Act in place of its Legislative Charter, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to appoint the following Municipal Officials,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the following people are appointed to the following positions:

Chief of Police	Ricky Martin
City Clerk	Lorrie M Poirier
Street Superintendent	Brian Francis
Utility Superintendent	Mike Douet
Tax Collector	St Martin Parish Sheriff Office/St. Martin Parish School Board
Attorney	Allan Durand

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilman Fuselier duly seconded by Councilwoman Anthony, 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 Resolution above was thereon declared adopted on the 7th day of July, 2025.

JASON WILLIS, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and fully correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the St. Martinville City Council on the date shown above.

Lorrie M. Poirier, City Clerk

It was moved by Councilwoman Chatman duly seconded by Councilwoman Frederick and unanimously carried that Councilwoman Janise Anthony be reappointed as Mayor Pro-Tempore for one year to act in the absence of the Mayor.

Mayor's Report

- Report Major Water Leak – Commend workers for hard work
- Clearance Grant under way
- Financial Reports will be given at 2nd council meeting each month
- Neighborhood Flooding – Residents assisting with litter in neighborhoods could help with drainage during flooding

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

JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LORRIE M POIRIER, CITY CLERK