



# City of St. Martinville

P.O. Box 379  
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BIRTHPLACE OF ACADIANA

## Mayor

Jason Willis

CFO: Kathryn

Bujard

Executive

Assistant/Clerk:

Lorrie Poirier

## District 1

Mike Fuselier

## District 2

Carol Frederick

## District 3

Jonas

Fontenette

## District 4

Janice Anthony,

Mayor Pro Tem.

## District 5

Flo Chatman

**March 6, 2026**

**Dear Citizens of St. Martinville,**

We recognize that the recent increase in the electric portion of utility bills has created a financial burden for many of our residents. This increase is largely due to a substantial rise in the fuel charge, which is a pass-through cost associated with the price of fuel used to generate electricity. While this cost is outside the City's direct control, we fully understand the challenges that unexpected increases in monthly expenses can bring.

Please know that we hear you, and we share your concerns. As residents of this community ourselves, we understand the strain this increase can place on families, seniors, and individuals who are already working hard to make ends meet.

In response, the City Council and I held a special meeting on Friday, March 6, 2026, to discuss ways to provide relief to our citizens during this difficult time. During this meeting, the Council approved a **three-month payment plan option** to assist residents who may be struggling with the increased electric portion of their February 28, 2026, utility bill, which reflects the January electric usage.

This option will allow qualifying customers to divide the electric portion of their February 28, 2026, bill into three equal payments, to be paid during the months of March, April, and May of 2026. Our goal is to help lessen the immediate impact of the increase while giving residents additional time to manage the cost.

To qualify for this payment plan:

- The utility account must be current and active.
- The account cannot have an outstanding balance prior to the February 28, 2026, bill.

Residents who qualify and choose to participate in this payment plan will **not be charged late fees or penalties** on the February 28, 2026, utility bill while the payment arrangement is in place.

In addition, the City will be reaching out to **SMILE and other assistance agencies** to determine whether additional funding or resources may be available to help residents during this challenging time. We are committed to exploring every option within the law to help lessen this burden on our community.

The City of St. Martinville remains committed to supporting our citizens and working together through challenges such as these. We truly appreciate your patience, understanding, and continued support as valued members of our community.

If you would like to participate in this payment plan or need additional information, please come by or contact the St. Martinville City Hall Utility Department at **337-394-2230**.

**Sincerely,**

**Jason B. Willis**  
**Mayor, City of St. Martinville**