

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA  
HELD ON THE 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2026.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Regular Session on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2026 at City Hall, their regular meeting place, pursuant to the call of the Mayor.

THERE were present: Jason Willis, Mayor

Brad Horton, Councilman

George Choplin, Councilwoman

Jonas Fontenette, Councilman

Monica Charles, Councilwoman

Flo Chatman, Councilwoman

Allan L. Durand, City Attorney

THERE were absent: None

Mayor Jason Willis presiding called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Councilwoman Chatman duly seconded by Councilwoman Charles and unanimously carried that the minutes of the regular meeting held August 31, 2026, hereby be approved for publication in the Teche News, the Official Journal of the City of St. Martinville.

Mayor Willis asked if anyone had questions regarding the Financial Report prepared by CFO Katy Bujard and included in council packets. Councilman Choplin inquired about the balance in the Recreation Saving Account. There were no other questions.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST  
FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OPINION**

*A Resolution by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville authorizing the City Attorney to request an Opinion from the Louisiana Attorney General’s Office*

WHEREAS the City of St. Martinville has traditionally taken advantage of *La. R.S. 33:2933* which authorized the City to charge an additional fee when City utility bills were paid with various types of non-cash payments; and

WHEREAS the Legislature has passed a new statute, *La. R.S. 51:3081* which is very broad and seems to place a blanket prohibition on the charge of such fees by any provider of services or goods; and

WHEREAS the City Council desires the City Attorney to ask the Attorney General for her opinion on the resolution of this apparent conflict between the two statutes.

THEREFORE be it resolved that City Attorney Allan Durand be and the same is hereby authorized to request the Louisiana Attorney General’s Office to issue an opinion on whether *La. R.S. 51:3081* nullifies the apparent authority granted to municipalities by *La. R.S. 33:2933*.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilman Fontenette, duly seconded by Councilman Choplin, and upon being submitted to a vote, the vote was :

Yeas: B.Horton, G.Choplin, J.Fontenette, M.Charles and F.Chatman

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Resolution above was thereon declared adopted on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2026.

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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 Councilman Choplin duly seconded by Councilwoman Charles and unanimously carried that the authorization to enter into contract with KB Consulting Service, LLC for grant administrative consulting services be tabled to allow time for City Attorney Allan Durand to get clarification on charges.

City Attorney Allan Durand exited the meeting.

Upon request of Cornell Zeno of SMSH Alumni Association, it was moved by Councilman Fontenette duly seconded by Councilwoman Charles and unanimously carried that permission be granted to hold the Homecoming Parade and Fall Feast on Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 2:00pm. The parade route will be from SMSH to Denier Street . The Fall Fest will take place in Magnolia Park following the parade. Permission was further granted to hold Tiger Fun Day on Friday, October 16, 2026, from 2:00 – 6:00pm at Magnolia Park. Mr. Zeno stated he had confirmed dates with Park & Recreation Director Danielle Fontenette and coordinated security with Chief of Police. Insurance will be provided to Chief. No alcohol will be involved at the events.

Upon request of Mary Desormeaux with St. Martinville Chamber, it was moved by Councilman Horton duly seconded by Councilman Choplin and unanimously carried that permission be granted to install a directional sign on Evangeline Blvd. Woodmen of the World will cover the cost of three signs. One will be placed on Evangeline Blvd, one on the north end of the city and one on the south end of the city. Each sign will provide directions to public properties.

Mary Desormeaux with St. Martinville Chamber also requested permission to install a ‘WHY’ wired litter abatement basket in front of the old Tiny Tot Playground. Mayor stated that there are plans for the old Tiny Toy area but suggested the smaller piece of property on the northern corner of Gauthier Street and Main Street.

Mary Desormeaux with St. Martinville Chamber further requested that the City frame the ‘Home of Governor Landry’ signs at the entrances of the City Limits. Mayor recommended Ms. Desormeaux research the price of the project and get back with the City.

Upon request of George Choplin, it was moved by Councilman Horton duly seconded by Councilwoman Charles and unanimously carried that permission be granted to hold po-boy sale to help pay expenses for SM Christmas Parade Security.

Otis Chatman, Director of Planning & Zoning updated the council on nuisance property located at 725 N Martin Luther King Drive, owned by Anthony Lang. At the August 17, 2026, council meeting, the council granted Mr. Lang 30 days to clean up said property and issue citation if not completed in time granted. The work was not completed therefore a citation was issued to Mr. Lang; however, it was issued with the wrong violation. A new citation will be issued, and Mr. Chatman was advised to seek guidance from City Attorney Allan Durand for next step and continue to monitor this matter.

It was moved by Councilwoman Charles duly seconded by Councilwoman Chatman and unanimously carried to table that the introduction of Ordinance 26-08 prohibiting tractor trailers from entering Ledoux Street and Governor Mouton Street until the next meeting in order to obtain more information.

#### Mayor's Report

##### Michelle Broussard, Tourism Director -

- \* Love Our Water Ways – Clean Bayou Teche from PD going south to old boat landing
- \* City Wide Garage Sale October 3<sup>rd</sup> 7:00am – noon  
Vendors will be set up on the church side of Evangeline Blvd
- \*Cancer Walk will be held October 17<sup>th</sup> beginning on Gary Street onto Main and end on New Market St.
- \* Main Street Assoc sponsoring Art Walk on October 24<sup>th</sup>
- \* Trunk or Treat will be held October 31<sup>st</sup> from 2:00pm to 6:00pm in front of City Hall
- \* Beautification of Evangeline Blvd has collected \$16,650.00 in donations
- \* Creole Festival will be held October 17<sup>th</sup> in Magnolia Park

##### Councilman George Choplin -

- \*Fence line in Magnolia Park along State Park is being cleaned
- \*Currently Police Department closes gate in park at 10:00am and reopens gate at 6:00am
- \* Residents ask that gate be open at 6:00am. Mr. Clarence Hypolite volunteered to open the gate at 4:00am

##### Floyd Johnson, Director of Administration –

- \*Spoke highly of City Employees

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 Councilwoman Charles.

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JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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LORRIE M POIRIER, CITY CLERK