

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA  
HELD ON THE 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2018.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Regular Session on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018 at City Hall, their regular meeting place, pursuant to the call of the Mayor.

THERE were present: Melinda Mitchell, Mayor  
Mike Fuselier, Councilman  
Craig Prosper, Councilman  
Dennis Williams, Councilman  
Juma Johnson, Councilman  
Edmond Joseph, Councilman  
Allan L. Durand, City Attorney

THERE were absent: None

Mayor Melinda Mitchell presiding, called the meeting to order.

Upon recommendation of Mayor Mitchell, it was moved by Juma Johnson duly seconded by Mike Fuselier that the discussion of hiring a Park Maintenance Laborer be added to the agenda of this meeting.

Upon motion of Dennis Williams duly seconded by Juma Johnson and unanimously carried that the minutes of the regular meeting held October 15, 2018 hereby be approved as written and prepared for publication in the Teche News, the Official Journal of the City of St. Martinville.

Upon motion of Dennis Williams duly seconded by Mike Fuselier and unanimously carried that the bills to be paid by the City Finance Committee hereby be approved for payment.

Upon motion of Dennis Williams duly seconded by Juma Johnson and unanimously carried that the council approved the budget to actual expenses as of September 30, 2018 as presented.

The Council and Jim Poche, consultant, discussed changes to the contract which had been requested and agreed to by Cleco.

Upon motion of Craig Prosper duly seconded by Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that the following ordinance be given preliminary approval.

ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CONTRACT WITH CLECO

*An Ordinance by the City Council of the City of St. Martinville approving a contract with CLECO under certain specified conditions*

WHEREAS the City of St. Martinville desires to enter into a contract for the purchase of wholesale electrical power for resale to its residents, and

WHEREAS Cleco has offered a contract to sell wholesale electricity to the City beginning January 1, 2019 which is acceptable to the City, and

WHEREAS, preliminary reading and approval having been given to the contract at the regular meeting of this Council on November 5, 2018,

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

The City of St. Martinville hereby accepts and contracts with Cleco for the purchase of wholesale electrical power according to the terms of that contract providing for the sale of wholesale electricity for the period beginning January 1, 2019, and the Mayor is authorized and directed to sign said contract.

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, duly seconded by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, and upon being submitted to a vote, the vote was :

Yeas:

Nays:

Absent

:

The Ordinance was thereon declared adopted on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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MELINDA MITCHELL, Mayor

Councilman Joseph joined the meeting.

Mike Duffy of Enterprise Rental gave an informative presentation regarding the vehicle lease program offered by Enterprise. Mr Duffy will present a proposal for replacing a few of the vehicles for the police department in the near future.

Mr. Frank Hebert of LED Pro made a presentation of the benefits offered by their company to convert the lighting of City owned buildings. The general consensus was to revisit the program in the near future.

Upon request of Stephan Menard, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that permission be granted to waive the fee for the use of the Magnolia Recreation Center to hold a program called Unite the Community to Stop Violence on Monday, December 10, 2018 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Upon request of Menda Batiste of Notre Dame Sisters in Christ, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that approval be granted for the fire trucks, dance school, and SMSH Band to escort Santa Claus on Saturday, December 1st from the corner of Main Street and Gary Street going east to the Notre Dame Cafeteria where the annual Christmas party will be held.

Upon motion of Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Juma Johnson and unanimously carried that permission be hereby granted for Notre Dame Sisters in Christ to hold a red light drive on Saturday, April 6, 2019 to benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Luke Bradley of Main Street Association requested the council consider adopting portions of the International Building Code for only the Historic District. After discussion, City Attorney Allan Durand suggested that the association present proposed language in writing.

Upon recommendation Chief Ricky Martin, it was moved by Craig Prosper duly seconded by Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that the employment status of Chase Guidry be changed from part-time to full-time with a rate of pay of \$13.97

Upon recommendation of Mayor Mitchell, it was moved by Edmond Joseph duly seconded by Dennis Williams that the employment status of Shedrick Berard be changed to Chief Administrative Officer, with a pay grade of 117 and a 6 month probation period. Councilman Williams stated he supported Mayor Mitchell's recommendation if she felt Mr. Berard could do the job. Councilman Fuselier and Councilman Prosper stated they could not support Mayor Mitchell's recommendation due to the fact that the City's auditing firm felt Mr. Berard was not qualified for said position once they reviewed his application and conducted an interview. City Attorney Allan Durand recommended that the City's auditing firm be contacted to make a presentation to the Mayor and Council of the requirements of the position prior to voting on a replacement.

Mr. Joseph's motion being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was:

Yeas: D.Williams, J.Johnson, and E.Joseph

Nays: M. Fuselier, C.Prospier

Councilman Fuselier tabled the following items that he requested be on the agenda.

- A. Interfaith Prison Ministry request permission to hold 5K run on October 26, 2019
- B. Discuss Grass Cutting Procedures
- C. Discuss Use of City Vehicles

Upon recommendation Superintendent Kirk Lasseigne, it was moved by Craig Prosper duly seconded by Edmond Joseph and unanimously carried that the employment status of Mike Martin be changed to Carpenter with a pay grade of 108.

Upon recommendation Superintendent Kirk Lasseigne, it was moved by Dennis Williams duly seconded by Craig Prosper and unanimously carried that the employment status of Bryson Mitchell be changed to Water/Wastewater Laborer with a pay grade of 101.

Upon recommendation Superintendent Kirk Lasseigne, it was moved by Edmond Joseph duly seconded by Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that the employment status of Lamont Wilson be changed to Park Maintenance Supervisor with a pay grade of 103.

It was moved by Juma Johnson duly seconded by Craig Prosper that the City Council go into executive session to discuss litigation matters pertaining to worker's comp claim and Denise Davis law suit and personnel matters for Frank Sonnier and Cody Mallet.

The City Council reconvened after executive session upon motion of Dennis Williams duly seconded by Mike Fuselier.

Following discussion in executive session and upon recommendation of City Attorney Allan Durand, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that consent be given to settle the worker's comp claim for Frank Sonnier.

The employment status of Frank Sonnier was discussed in executive session. After review of the April 16, 2018 minutes, it was concluded that no action was needed due to the fact that the council had previously voted that Mr. Sonnier would be terminated immediately and automatically should he have two unexcused absences within any calendar month thereafter. Therefore his employment is automatically terminated.

The Mayor and Council discussed the unlawful activity of Police Officer Cody Mallet in executive session. Mr. Mallet has since resigned his position with the Police Department; therefore, no action is needed.

Following discussion in executive session and upon recommendation of City Attorney Allan Durand, it was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Dennis Williams and unanimously carried that consent be given to settle the Denise Davis suit.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and City Council, Mayor Melinda Mitchell adjourned the meeting upon motion of Craig Prosper duly seconded by Juma Johnson.

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MELINDA MITCHELL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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LORRIE M POIRIER, SECRETARY