

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA
HELD ON THE 24th DAY OF JULY 2024.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Special Session on the 24th day of July 2024 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.

Councilman Fuselier started the discussion of video cameras at City Hall by addressing who has access to video cameras. It was determined that Mayor Willis, Chief Martin and IT Coordinator Lynn Leger are the only personnel who have access to the cameras. There was further discussion of when videos have been accessed in the past and when it is appropriate to be used. The location of video and audio cameras were discussed. Mayor stated that the cameras are not used for disciplinary action, and he has never reviewed any cameras.

City Attorney Allan Durand advised that employees must sign consent forms in order for video cameras with audio to be installed and signs must be posted informing the public. Mayor Willis asked that it be on record that he does not agree with allowing the council or anyone to review the cameras to discipline employees. Mayor further stated that if City Attorney feels the council can view the videos, then he is ok with the council to view the video.

City Attorney Allan Durand informed the council that there is a lot of gray area in the law when it comes to the use of the audio/video cameras. Mr Durand did suggest if any video is watched, the council should limit their exposure by viewing it in executive session.

It was moved by Mike Fuselier duly seconded by Carol Frederick that based on the information provided by Chief Ricky Martin from Attorney Chester Cedars that the council be allowed to view the video from the dates Councilwoman Carol Frederick requested in executive session and treated like executive session by being kept confidential.

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

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

Nays: J. Fontenette and F. Chatman

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

JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LORRIE M POIRIER, CLERK