

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA  
HELD ON THE 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER 2024.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Martinville, Louisiana met in Special Session on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 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

Janise Anthony, Councilman

Flo Chatman, Councilman

Allan L. Durand, City Attorney

THERE were absent: Jonas Fontenette, Councilman

Due to the absence of Lorrie M Poirier, Candy Bertrand substituted as Clerk of the Council.

Mayor Jason Willis presiding called the meeting to order. Written statements from Officers Lt Andrew Broussard, Detective Doug Simon and Detective Jason Boudreaux were provided to the council prior to the meeting.

Deputy Chief Cody Laperouse was given the option to discuss the incident that took place on August 26, 2024 between himself and Patrick Valsin, Jr in executive session; Mr. Laperouse stated he would like to continue with the discussion in public session.

Attorney Hunter Ahia spoke on behalf of Mr Laperouse requesting the council keep in the forefront of their minds two things while listening to testimonies of the witness of the incident presented tonight: what happened and did not happen as well as what should and should not have happened?

Chief Martin gave his statement and recommendation for termination of Deputy Chief Cody Laperouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> in command for the department as a result of him being unable to control his temper to the point **that he charged angrily at Patrick Valsin and threatened to kill Valsin, all of this occurring in the Police Station.** Chief stated that Laperouse walked aggressively toward **Valsin** but did not put his hands on Mr. Valsin **because he was physically prevented from doing so by Lt. Broussard.** **Their was an allegation that Valsin had threatened** the life of Laperouse's mother, **which was reportedly denied by Valsin.**

**Two police officers who witnessed the incident confirmed the Chief's report of what had occurred.**

**Laperouse was offered the opportunity to testify, but declined. No evidence was presented to suggest that the incident did not happen, or did not happen as described by the Chief and the two witnessing officers.**

Based on the information provided, it was moved by Flo Chatman duly seconded by Janise Anthony and unanimously carried that the employment of Deputy Chief Cody Laperouse be terminated effective immediately **based on the evidence presented.**

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

---

JASON WILLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

---

LORRIE M POIRIER, CLERK