

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL
St. Gabriel Council Chambers | 5035 Iberville Street, St. Gabriel LA 70776
Thursday, April 3, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PRAYER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at approximately 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilman William Cushenberry, Jr.
Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr.
Councilman Jeffery Hayes, Sr.
Councilman Randall Johnson
Councilman Hoza Redditt, Sr.

5 of 5 Council members were in attendance for a quorum.

Presiding: Lionel Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Recording: Constance Barbin, City Clerk

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Johnson led with a prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

- a. Motion to Begin - Executive Session
- b. Motion to End - Executive Session and Return to Regular Meeting

On a motion by Councilman Hasten, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion was approved to enter into executive session. On a motion by Councilman Hasten, seconded by Councilman Redditt, motion was approved to end executive session and return to regular meeting.

Upon returning to Regular Meeting, Attorney Dallan Bush expressed that discussions surrounded a personnel matter and set an employee hearing for April 17, 2025.

4. BUDGET

Police Department Discussion...

Chief Ambeau discussed several police department budget concerns, overtime, need for officers, hiring process, roofing and a/c concerns. The Chief offered council information related to the 2024 Super Bowl event in which he expressed PD officers were not authorized to travel to New Orleans for the event in their units. He went on to use as an example that he had driven his personal vehicle to New Orleans to the event.

Chief Ambeau requested the opinion of the attorney general on several items, including definition of "on call," validity of ordinance limiting use of city vehicles outside city limits, and ability of council to request compensation for use of city equipment for private details.

On a motion from Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Hayes, the request was approved.

5. DISCUSSION

- a. City of St. Gabriel Code of Ordinance Section 2-32
- b. Reimbursement for Use of City Vehicles

These items were intersected in discussion of agenda item 4.

6. MAYORS REPORT

Mayor updated the council on the full implementation of the Purchase Order process. Mayor offered a review of policy introductions for the April 14, 2025 meeting on City Fleet Management and Mandatory Tragic Incident Debriefing and Therapy. Additionally, mayor discussed payroll procedures to better monitor overtime as well as Insurance renewal due by April 19, 2025.

7. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion from Councilman Hayes, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the meeting was adjourned.