

**CITY OF BELLE SLE, FLORIDA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** August 1, 2023  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** T. Grimm, Interim City Manager  
**Subject:** Streaming Council Meetings

**Background:** In 2021, the City Council approved replacing a modernized audio/visual system in the Council Chambers resulting from citizen complaints and Council frustration to hold efficient and effective meetings.

At the July 18 Council meeting and other occasions, we had connection issues with broadcasting City meetings. Some situations are easy to fix, and others are out of our control due to connectivity. The Council discussed canceling a Council meeting if streaming was unavailable because some believe it does not allow for transparency to the public.

There is an expectation that City meetings be recorded and broadcast. However, no requirement under the Sunshine Law requires a public board or commission to make streaming or video recordings, BUT, if they are made, they become public records.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff requests Council discussion and an Attorney's Opinion and recommendations on compliance with records/meeting sunshine law process.

**Suggested Motion:** I move to cancel a City Council meeting if it cannot be recorded and streamed to the public.

**Alternatives:** Alongside streaming meetings, staff can place the IPAD to video a meeting and post the link of the video and the audio to the City's website the following day.

**Fiscal Impact:** na

**Attachments:** na