

**Village of Folsom
General Meeting
August 12, 2013
7:30 p.m.**

**Present: Mayor Phillip Bickham
Alderwoman: Jill Mathies
Alderman: Lance Willie
Alderman: Donald Burris
Attorney: Delbert Talley
CPA: Minda Raybourn**

The meeting was called to order and a quorum established. The invocation and pledge were led by Alderman Donald Burris. The Agenda was amended by Alderman Willie by removing Item 6 from New Business Flushing Sewer Lines on agenda which was motioned by Alderman Willie and second by Alderman Burris. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Old Business:

Item No 1 = Resolution = LGAP:

Mayor stated to the board that we need a Resolution to submit for grant writer Mr. Kinlaw to begin working on the LGAP grant, Motion of Alderman Burris except Item 1 Resolution for LGAP, second by Alderman Willie (3 Yeas, 0 Nays). The motion carried.

Item No 2 = Resolution = CWF:

Mayor stated to the board that we need a Resolution to submit for grant writer Mr. Kinlaw to begin working on the CWF grant, Motion of Alderman Burris except this Resolution for CWF, second by Alderman Willie (3 Yeas, 0 Nays). The motion carried.

Item 3 = Resolution Number = 2013-06-01

(Auditor request Accounting by Mayor)

Mayor stated that what this was during the last audit a question came up in reference to my usage of the town car and the board passed a resolution a couple month's ago wanting accounting I spoke to Mr. Talley (Village Attorney) on a couple occasions. As far as me trying to go back to 20011-2013 trying to give the board a day by day ledger of every meeting and place I had went. I pulled up the clerk's portfolios a lot of the meetings are showed there. Some are showed on the receipts themselves stated Mayor Bickham. As far as me having a ledger of where I have been, "I said it before and I say it again I don't have a ledger of everywhere I went there wasn't a policy in place and what ever the board decides they want to do I'm fine with it, I'm ready to move on."

Alderman Burris then stated that we didn't have a policy in place and part of the privileges as being Mayor and doing a job and when you got the car. Alderman Burris stated, "I do a lot of personal work especially on this building and it's town work it takes a lot of time, cost a lot of money and I don't see any reason that's my feelings and my opinion that we should get this thing passed and move on." Alderman Willie then stated I

sat down with you on a couple of these things and there are instances that you were in meetings and cross referenced to come up with a figure. I am going to leave that up to our accountant to come up with a figure. Alderwoman Mathies then stated so what are you asking of us to dissolve this? This was brought in by an audit and there are questions that we have and we don't want to look into it and dissolve it, we don't need any answers because there was no ordinance or policy. Mr. Talley said the auditors have asked for an accounting and there doing another audit they told us that there are 18 schedule of findings and we dealt with most of them and this is one we have not dealt with. Alderwoman Mathies stated do we have anything that we can even account for? Alderman Willie said here we are a town and we have one sewer pump and were trying to pass a Community center and trying to give raises and at that time there was frivolous spending with a credit card for the town use that shouldn't have been used and in my eyes it was being used for personal use. We can't afford this frivolous spending in a small town. All we have asked from you in the past almost a year was to come up with a number and in the past three or four months we have been questioned by the auditors and now Mr. Talley has given us a dead line and we need an accountant to pay back and that's what we are looking for, a pay back or an explanation.

Mayor stated, "I said again whatever the board is wanting to go with it I'm fine with it." I'm not just going to sit down here and just write anything and say I was here and I was there, I would think the best thing to do is to sit down with the attorney, and sit down with one of ya'll and we can go from there and whatever it is - it is. Alderman Willie stated yes we can meet with them and have our accountant come up with a figure. Alderwoman Mathies stated, I'm not sure where we left this. So were going to have another meeting? Mayor said "no." Alderman Burriss then stated so to get this cleared up meeting after meeting it's been almost a year in a half, so what were saying is with this frivolous spending if we say with this amount owed it will get this solved? And this is what ya'll want? I'm not going to speak for Mayor Bickham but whatever the dollar amount if he pays it then we can move on? Alderman Willie stated this is just for the audit. Alderwoman Mathies stated, I will not sit here and choose your restitution. That's not for me to say. I can't account for where you were only you can, I will not chose your restitution. That's my honest opinion of it. Mr. Talley said all I can say is that the auditor's asked for an accounting we can see if we can satisfy them with an accounting, we have our own accountant that can help us and all we can do is our best. Alderwoman asked so do we table this again. Mayor and Mr. Burriss both stated no we shouldn't, lets just close it. Mr. Talley suggested that whatever we come up with we go ahead and show it to the auditor and see if their satisfied with it. CPA Raybourn stated we need to come up with the charges that are in question and how are you all going to resolve it and present it to them. Alderman Willie stated, we need to meet with auditors then present at our next meeting what you came up with to the best you're your ability. Alderman Burriss motion to table this to get with the auditor and at our next meeting we will have all questions answered and resolved and we move on second by Alderman Willie. Mayor said well Resolution was passed this was just a follow up.

Item 4 = Opening up Sabine Street:

We had a request to open up Sabine Street, and Habitat was wanting to build a home. Talking with the Parish that it is our responsibility to open up any streets to give citizens access to their property. Alderman Willie stated we want to help out people as much as we can in the town but when you open up a street for one person you will need to open it up for everyone else and that is my big concern. We just can't afford to open up streets

and even if its just gravel. If they want to open up their own street we will be happy to keep it maintain. Mayor stated the street belong to the village not to the resident. Alderman Willie stated let me give you an example and I have permission to use his name Barney Core wanted to open up a village street he told him he has to make up his own road and as long as it meets all the standards and criteria for the village of Folsom. Mayor asked was he developing back there or just build up a road to his house? Alderman Willie said he was just building a house same thing that is going on with this street. Mr. Willie Richardson from the audience commented that, so your saying you can deny someone from building a house. Alderman Willie said I can't deny them but if the town doesn't have the money. Alderwoman Mathies said at the last meeting we didn't have the money and what do we have in our road fund I was told less then \$1000. Mayor stated I spoke with the Parish and they said they were willing to take payments on them doing the work also there was a meeting that Mr. Talley, Clerk and CPA attended with the Sale Tax a percentage of that money has to be allocated for street funds. Attorney Talley said yes we have an agreement with parish and money has to be allocated for certain things such as streets. Alderman Burris claimed he spoke to Barney Core all he did was ask me about a 15 foot piece of property and he would go on and do what he had to do and all he did was ask he never came to a meeting. All we have gotten from the parish is an estimate of what the parish would charge to do hourly work not the cost of what it was to open the street. Alderman Willie stated again we don't have money in our funds. Alderman Burris stated this estimate is just on a sheet of paper no one has come out to give us an accurate estimate. Maintenance Supervisor Wesley Burris claimed he met with Davy Crockett he stated we have to pay for material, gravel, clay and everything. I asked him to give me a figure of how much clay we would need. Crockett told Wesley you can go in and put in half a road when those big truck come in there and they bog down the town will have to pay for it. When you build your road you have to build it to specs, I can't recall but I think he told me about \$16,000. Mayor Bickham stated we got a quote from Trilby with the parish not Mr. Crockett. Alderwoman Mathies stated that Mr. Crockett and MR. Shannon parish workers came out and looked at it and hypothetically gave a quote of an estimate of \$17,000. Mr. Richardson from audience said the bottom line is that the Village is responsible for it. Alderwoman Mathies said not if it's not there yet. Mr. Richardson said you own that right away and Alderwoman Mathies claimed but that doesn't mean we have to open that right away up. Mr. Richardson said you can't deny access to someone. Alderwoman Mathies claimed, I'm not denying you access I'm stating financially we don't have the funds and we are just now hearing of this last month. Alderman Willie stated all we can do right now is see where our funds stand and check with our attorney and see what we can do. Alderwoman Mathies stated I have many questions if were suppose to be allocating monies from Sales Tax to roads why haven't we. Is this our first priority or the holes in the road. I'm denying it at this moment until we check to see if we even have the funds. Motion of Alderman Willie to get with the parish to see what it will take to open this road and will make a decision next month. Alderwoman Mathies stated I have many questions of funds. If were separating the funds how long should this have been? How much money will we be allocating from Sales Tax into the streets funds? How much are we going to get? We can't say we are going to take on a bill when we don't even know how much money we will be putting in an account. Then will those funds be allocated for the problems we have on the streets now verses opening maintenance verses opening something new. I understanding the parish is offering payment plans but we can pay something if we don't have the funds. We can't keep financing. All we can do is look

into it. Mayor said let give the board an opportunity to review this matter so let's table this till next meeting. Alderman Burris motioned to table until our next meeting the opening of Sabine Street, second by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried

New Business:

Item No. 1 = Financial Report:

Alderman Burris motioned to accept financial report Second by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Item 2 = Introduction Ordinance = Chapter 6-2013-3: (Employee Work Hours/Paid Time Off)

An Ordinance Amending Folsom Code of Ordinances Section 6.9 to state that the maximum vacation hours that can be taken is up to 8 hours per day for regular 40 hour per week employees, less actual hours worked for that day, if any. All shift work employees I.E. police officers shall take the hours that reflect their schedule hours for that day. Mayor stated what this is saying is instead of an 8 hour day for our police officers if they work a 10-12 hour shift and they would be able to take those many hours for time off. This is an introduction.

Item 3 = LGAP Usage of Funds = \$6987.00:

Mr. Wesley Burris was commended by the Mayor for receiving a crystal plaque from LWRA in Lake Charles for Sneakers Prestige Award for his commitment to the Village. Mayor stated we have a grant for LGAP in the amount of \$6,987.00. We spoke to Mr. Marshall Harris that sold us the water meters about having the meters installed. The literature that is in the grant will allow for us to purchase as well as install meters with the grant funds. Our maintenance crew has installed a few but Alderwoman Mathies and myself feel it would be better off if we also have them install by a contractor. We have been pricing installation and waiting on quotes. Motion of Alderman Burris to use the LGAP grant funds for the purchasing & installation of meters, second by Alderman Willie. Mayor stated we don't need a motion this is just an approval by Common Consent.

Item 4 = Separate Account = Sales Tax Revenue:

Mr. Talley stated that we entered into an agreement with the Parish and were part of the Sales Tax District and the Parish is responsibility for making sure that funds we receive from the taxes that are collected are used in the correct manner. Parish agreed to accept for us to set up a separate account from the taxes received inside of Folsom and a separate account for taxes received in the Sale Tax Districts. CPA Mrs. Raybourn stated it stipulates that we need to have separate accounts for these purposes. Mr. Talley stated and this will allow for the Parish as well as us to easily monitor what funds are being used for. Alderman Burris motioned to except separate accounts for Sales Tax Revenues so that we can use these funds for the correct Village use, second by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried

Item 5 = Appointee for St. Tammany IG Task Force:

Mayor stated I wasn't aware that we needed to appoint someone for this IG Force, I thought it was just a recommendation. I spoke to AJ Crow he sent a request for Alderman Burris to be appointed to this board. Mayor stated I would like to appoint Alderman Burris to be put on the IG Task Force for the Village of Folsom. Alderman Willie motioned to except Alderman Burris to be put in the position for the IG Task Force, second by Alderwoman Mathies. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried

Item 6 = Flushing Sewer Lines:

Deleted from the Agenda per Alderman Willie.

Item 7 = Utility Issue

❖ Carolyn Condon

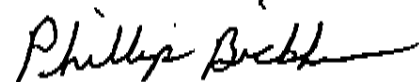
❖ Energy Express

Mayor stated that these people had requested the board to look at their utility issues/bills. No one was present for these matters. Alderwoman Mathies stated if Energy Express doesn't show up by 10 a.m. tomorrow morning I recommend that they be turned off. Mayor stated that he will give them a call tomorrow himself and find out with the Utility clerk when cut off is. Wesley Burris stated that Mrs. Shaw with Energy Express did sign an agreement with the utility clerk and is aware that if she doesn't get utility bill corrected she is responsible to pay bill the following day or be turned off. Mayor stated again he will contact them.

Further business, Wesley Burris had a concern about his mother's \$1000 utility bill that was found to be a leak under the slab. I don't feel that she used that water it was a leak and she shouldn't have to pay for that bill. We need to have something in writing for matters like this. Alderman Willie stated I understand Mr. Burris but according to the Attorney General we can't give away free goods. Attorney Talley stated it's the state it's not Folsom. It's a state law we not give away any goods or services.

Meeting was adjourned on motion of Alderman Burris, seconded by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Phillip Bickham, Mayor

I attest that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes taken at the General Meeting held August 12, 2013.

Attest:

Susan Willie, Municipal Clerk