

# *Village of Folsom*

## *Mayor - Bettye M. Boggs*

*Alderman - Lance Willie*  
*Alderwoman - Jill Mathies*  
*Alderwoman - Paulette Lee*



*Susan Willie - Municipal Clerk*  
*Ronnie "Beau" Killingsworth - Chief of Police*  
*City Attorney - Delbert G. Talley*

### **Village of Folsom General Meeting January 12, 2015**

Present: Mayor Bettye M. Boggs  
Alderman Lance Willie  
Alderwoman Jill Mathies  
Alderwoman Paulette Lee  
Attorney Delbert Talley

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order and a quorum established. The invocation was led by Mayor Boggs, pledge was then led by Alderman Willie. The Agenda and financial statements were approved on motion of Alderwoman Mathies, seconded by Alderman Willie. The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

#### **Old Business:**

##### **Item I = Curtis Environmental:**

Mayor Boggs stated that we have a proposal from Curtis Environmental which was reviewed last month. That proposal is to provide sanitary system operation assistance, operator support, and compliance testing and reporting back to the Village, and that we are still in negotiation with Curtis Environmental. Mayor Boggs continued to say that she has also spoken to two companies, Utilities Partner out of Gulfport and Louisiana Water Company out of Baton Rouge. They have agreed to come in and give us a complete assessment of our water and sewer system. Alderman Willie stated that he also got back with Mr. Mike Curtis, and asked the board to approve letting Mayor Boggs accept this proposal when she feels comfortable after the testing comes through. Alderwoman Mathies asked are the other two companies going to be possibly instituting a proposal also? Mayor Boggs responded that Utilities Partner is simply coming in to give us free assessment of our water and sewer system and Louisiana Water can come in and access us and they are also an independent water and sewage provider. If we choose to avail ourselves to their services we may have the option to do so. Alderwoman Mathies stated my recommendation is to hold up on any agreements of any contract until we get a full picture. Mayor Boggs stated, "that she had meetings with several people this week and was told that our water ought to be money making, the fact that we have our own water and we don't have to purchase it, we should be making money and that's not our situation

now." I feel that it's a great concern for the village. I think we need to look beyond at the whole picture and find out why our sewer and water systems aren't providing the way it should for the village. Alderman Willie stated in detail that Curtis Environmental is to do Wesley's job and nothing to do with these two outside companies. They are coming in to give suggestions on water rates increase, or what issues we have with our water and sewage. I'm not asking to approve the contract tonight but get the board to approve Mayor Boggs to be able to sign off on this contract whenever she gets with Mike Curtis and she feels comfortable with it stated Alderman Willie. Mayor Boggs stated I have a meeting next Wednesday to meet with Mike Curtis at 9:00 if any of you would like to sit in. Alderwoman Lee asked how long will it take these two other companies to give you an assessment? Mayor Boggs stated that we will have to get them all the information and as soon as they get it and someone reviews it, they will send someone. On motion of Alderman Willie approved Mayor Boggs to be able to sign contract with Curtis Environmental, second by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

A comment was then made by Kiley Bates the Village's Engineer that they can provide us with the service analyzing the current rate structure and recommend a rate structure that would have the water and the sewer in the black, we do that for most of our other clients, all I would have to have is the last couple of year audits and what your customers current rates are for commercial, residential, in and out of town rate structures. I can do that analysis for you. Mayor Boggs stated, we would greatly appreciate that, and will get that information to you.

#### **Item II = Beer & Liquor License 2015 Renewal:**

Clerk Willie stated that last meeting we discussed El Milagro Mexican store, wasn't in compliance with their last years Beer and Liquor permits; and Occupational License for 2014 and now this year's Beer and Liquor 2015 license. After doing a little research we found out that he has made arrangements with the parish to pay his sales taxes and is supposedly in compliance with the Louisiana office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control. We have sent him several letters hand delivered to inform him that he isn't in compliance with the village, and yet gotten a response. Clerk Willie stated it's up to you all if we need to contact the state. The state was informed last year but they need to be informed about this year as well. Alderwoman Mathies stated that we take whatever recourse we need to at this point if they are over a year delinquent, Alderman Willie agreed.

#### **Item III = Utility Rate Study:**

Mayor Boggs stated she met last week with Paul Shoemaker of Louisiana Rural Water Association and discussed the utility rate study and we're waiting to hear from Tim Lemoine who did the study for us to further discuss. The rate study will also be part of the other assessments.

#### **Item IV = Intergovernmental Agreement (STPSO & VOF):**

Chief Killingsworth had Captain George Bonnet of the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office come to give a better explanation about the agreement they want to pass for the newer radio system. Captain Bonnet stated that every municipality is paying a different amount but their paying the same rate. We have determined the total system cost and then from each municipality they determine how many users are going to be on the system and total all those up and it was about 18,000 users, then divided the total system cost by that

amount per user fee and then however many users each group had and multiplied that out per radio cost. This allows users to carry a portable radio on their hip and have a mobile radio in their car, really its two radios per user. Alderman Willie asked if users are allowed to share radios like day and night shift. Chief Killingsworth stated that it's going to come up on radio as an ID as a safety precaution because we are assigned our own user ID number. Chief Bonnet also asked are you aware that we are partnering with the State on this system and will be part of the intergrading Louisiana radio network. You all are accounting for one quarter of one percent of the system so one four hundredth of the system cost. There could also be a safety issue if you begin to share radios and it allows for the radio dispatchers to identify who you are by your ID and radio Captain Bonnet stated. Alderwoman Mathies asked Chief Killingsworth if the radios we have now compatible with system we are using now, they are for the time being. Alderwoman Lee asked when will these radios go online or be approved. Captain stated sometime in the fall, construction has already begun but my best guess would be between August and October. Chief Killingsworth also stated another good thing is that we will have communications with other agencies as well as the State police that we haven't had in the past and even homeland security is taking part in this. Mayor Boggs asked if we have a motion to enter into the Intergovernmental agreement between St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office and the Village of Folsom. Motion by Alderwoman Mathies, to enter into the agreement, second by Alderwoman Lee. The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

#### **Item V = Water Meters:**

Mayor Boggs went into discussion that we are having some difficulty with our water meters we are presently trying to install. I have met with Marshall Harris with Louisiana Utility Supply Company. I have also gotten a count of the meters that are in the ground, a count of the meters sitting in the warehouse and approximate hours involved in installing them. At this point Mr. Harris is contacting the supplier for us and looking at whether or not they are going to be able to do something in terms of crediting or giving us some type of replacement on those meters that have gone bad. The majority cost of the meter is in the electronics; the bad part of the meter only costs about \$20-\$30 dollars and is possible to replace the bottom part of that meter that has the lead in it. I expressed to him that we have citizens that are very concerned about the lead in the meters and so we hope to work out an agreement with Mr. Marshall and the company that he represents in terms of getting an adjustment of those meters. No questions from board or residents.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Item I = Mayor's appointments:**

Mayor Boggs stated first it will be the election of the Mayor Pro-Temp. Alderwoman Mathies stated that the Mayor Pro-Temp is appointed by the board, and she would like to make a recommendation for Lance Willie to be our Mayor Pro-Temp, second by Alderwoman Lee. Motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Mayor Boggs stated our next appointment is for our Police Chief and I would like to make the appointment of Ronnie Beau Killingsworth. On motion by Alderman Willie, to appoint Ronnie Beau Killingsworth as our Police Chief, second by Alderwoman Mathies. Motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Mayor Boggs stated our next appointment is for our Village Clerk and I would like to appoint Susan Willie. On motion by Alderman Willie, to appoint Susan Willie as our Village Clerk, second by Alderwoman Lee. Motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Mayor Boggs stated our next appointment is for our Village Attorney and I would like to appoint Delbert Talley. On motion by Alderman Willie, to appoint Delbert G. Talley as our Village Attorney, second by Alderwoman Lee. Motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Mayor Boggs stated we now have some appointments to Planning and Zoning and we are filling three positions. First I would like to appoint Joseph Cyprian and he will be filling my expiring term. On motion by Alderman Willie, to appoint Joseph Cyprian as part of the Planning and Zoning Committee for the Village of Folsom to serve out Mayor Boggs remaining term, second by Alderwoman Mathies. Motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Mayor Boggs stated I have three other appointments to Planning and Zoning: DeAnna Mingo, Mark Nowe and Francie Stirling. On motion by Alderman Willie, to appoint DeAnna Mingo, Francie Stirling and Mark Nowe to Planning and Zoning, second by Alderwoman Lee. Motion carried. (2 Yeas, 1 Nays)

#### **Item II = Resolution - Bank Authorization Signature Cards:**

Mayor Boggs stated we have authorized the bank to accept the Mayor, Village Clerk and Mayor Pro-Temp. Alderwoman Mathies stated she would like to have it stated "that I would recommend that other board members also be put on the signature cards, I think it would be just a safe process for us to follow. I think that the clerk should only sign checks in an absolute as a needed urgent basis if no one else is available." Mayor Boggs stated she appreciated her concern but in the process of implementing more quality control from a business stand point, the more signatures on a signature card the less control you have, so I feel like the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Temp and the Village Clerk is always here and actually makes out the checks. I have total trust in Susan Willie or I wouldn't have appointed her as Village Clerk. Alderwoman Mathies stated it's not a trust issue in reference to the clerk. Mayor stated, "I appreciate that and I will take it under advisement." On motion of Alderman Willie approved to pass a resolution to put Mayor, Village Clerk and Mayor Pro-Temp on the signature cards and the signing of the checks, second by Alderwoman Lee. The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

#### **Item III = Resolution for Community Water Enrichment Fund Grant:**

Clerk Willie stated that this is just a Resolution to allow our Mayor the ability to sign off on any grants that have to do with the CWF. Mayor Boggs asked if we have an upcoming grant regarding this? Clerk informed Mayor that this grant is for March and it was advised by our grant writer to pass the Resolution at this meeting. On motion of Alderwoman Mathies to accept the Resolution seconded by Alderman Willie. The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

#### **Item IV = Training Center Gravel:**

Mayor Boggs informed board that we received a bill for \$375 for gravel that was dumped on the Training Center Rd. Mayor asked that Village Attorney Mr. Talley explain the legality. Mr. Talley stated he checked to see if the road that is in question here was a dedicated road and if it had been accepted. It appears from the records of the court house it was filed by mayor it was either a formal dedication or a tacit dedication. If you look at the document that was filed, it says the village will be responsible for the upkeep and that would include the road in question. In my opinion we should go ahead and pay this bill since it's the village's responsibility. The previous mayor decided this had to be

done and the other question is whether other funds need to be spent to take care of the situation that exist now, but I am not aware of the need at this time stated Mr. Talley. Mayor Boggs then asked Mr. Talley if gravel is dumped out there without our authorization then we will not be liable for paying for it, is that correct. Mr. Talley stated no because it's a contract it has to be approved by the board and because of this \$375, the previous mayor had authorized to do it, but the board has to approve it. On motion of Alderman Willie to pay the \$375 to Joey Addison for the gravel on Training Center Rd. seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Alderman Willie spoke briefly about the slab that was built in the alley way behind Gus's and the Montessori School, and asked have we gotten any further information. Mayor Boggs then stated that I know that they haven't come thru planning and zoning like they are suppose to have. So we will get our building inspector out there and get some measurements to see how much has been infringed and to look at the zone. Alderman Willie stated his main concern is if we have to get a fire truck through there.

Mr. Beard, then asked if board and Mayor could use a microphone during meetings because it's hard to hear them speak at times. Then he asked if the outside light in the parking lot could be replaced because it went out and that causes a safety issue. Mr. Beard also informed residents that the Folsom Senior center has about 10 opening and their accepting applications between 8:30 and 10:30.

Further business, Mayor Boggs introduced Greg Saurage to discuss our 2015 Mardi Gras Parade for Folsom. Mr. Greg stated the theme this year is Hollywood South. King and queen is usually a silent hero, people that do things for our community, but they have not yet been picked yet. Our Grand Marshall is Lance Willie and this year the parade is being dedicated to Wesley Burris. The parade started in 1975, so this is our 40 year parade. Clerk stated that Mardi Gras applications will also be available here at the Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion of Alderman Willie, seconded by Alderwoman Lee. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Bettye M. Boggs, Mayor

I attest that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes taken at the General Meeting held January 12, 2015.

Attest:

Susan Willie  
Municipal Clerk