

**Village of Folsom
General Meeting
November 12, 2012**

Present: Mayor Pro-Temp Jill Mathies
Alderman Lance Willie
Alderman Donald Burris
Attorney Delbert Talley

Absent: Mayor Phillip Bickham

The meeting was called to order and a quorum established. The invocation and pledge were led by Alderman Donald Burris. The Agenda was approved on motion of Alderman Burris, seconded by Alderman Willie. (2 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item No. I – Resolution: Building Official - CBO

Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies gave a brief summary of last General Meeting with the status of Mr. Treadaway CBO and his rates of \$75 per inspection. Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated that last meeting the issue was tabled but since then she has spoken to someone in the St. Tammany Parish in reference to our inspections and they informed her that we can not have a plumber inspect plumbing & an electrician inspecting electric. We need to have a certified inspector in place to inspect these jobs at different levels and stages. We will be using the same process of coming to the Town Hall to request inspections and paying fees, these fees will need to be adjusted to meet his rates. Mr. Treadaway will be an interim inspector at a part time status until we can find another inspector or until decided on as our inspector. Motion Alderman Burris to accept the proposal by Mr. Treadaway, second by Alderman Willie.

Item No. II – Town Financial Discussion:

Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated that this was old business and turned discussion over to Alderman Willie. Alderman Willie went into brief detail that he hasn't heard or met with Mayor Bickham in reference to financial issues. Alderman Willie wants to carry by common consent till next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. I - A – Utility Red Tags:

Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies informed residents and board about the significant amount of Red Tags being hung on resident's doors that act as a last final notice before water is cut off. We are taking our men off of crews to hang these tags. Alderman Burris asked Mr. Talley if we have an ordinance in place, Mr. Talley said not on this issue if we want to place a fee on it you need to propose an ordinance and hold it over for 30 days. Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated the only thing she saw in the ordinance is that we do charge a cut off fee, and the only other fee is a late fee that is charged as a percent of their bill. We need to come up with an amount for this Red Tag fee which is to cover having them go out, rebilling them and re-telling them they are due. Alderman Willie stated he would like see each charge and to get a number of tags being handed out to get a better picture. Alderman Willie stated he wants to table it until he can get with Wesley Burris in reference to matter and then give him time to get figures.

Item No. I – B – Adjustments/Credits:

Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated that she knows that in the past couple of years there have been multiple discussions on adjustments and credits vs our water and sewer utility. I would like our

Attorney to give us direct reference to know what we are guided upon. Mr. Talley stated "that my initial opinion was that this has been looked at some months ago, if someone has a pipe that has bust and you subsidize them and give them a break and adjust their bill others are going to subsidize and pay that because you have to collect the money. That was my opinion in the first place and I've indicated since we can't donate services or the Village under State Law donate services or give anyone a free ride, we can't make those kinds of adjustments, this is my legal opinion, we couldn't have the rest of the people subsidize one individual who might have a problem. Mr. Talley stated I can look at it again but I did specifically tell the Mayor that was my opinion." Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated this has been a constant controversy in reference to how we are going to stand on this. A resident stated shouldn't there be a surplus for the sewer, and Mr. Talley stated that my understanding is that we don't run a surplus it's costing the Village as much or more to provide the water. Alderman Willie said we are in a whole with the water which makes the money for sewer department. Alderman Burris stated is this something the Alderman would have to put into an ordinance. Mr. Talley stated once again you would have to decide what you could do and make sure it complied with the State Law, people could put up separate meters it's expensive to do it. Alderman Burris stated we need to take a look at the water and sewage adjustments and credits that we also make sure we comply with the State Law.

Item No. II – Designation of 2000 Ford Crown Victoria donated by Causeway police:

Alderman Willie stated that he received a letter from the Causeway Police Lieutenant that was obtained by Mr. Sammy Prevost, and read letter to board and residents. (Copy attached to minutes). Alderman Willie stated so this is the designation of this Crown Victorian is for police use and at the time Chief Killingsworth needed a police vehicle and they still do, since then the Mayor has been using this vehicle but tonight we are designating that Crown Victorian where it should have been in the first place to the police department. Mr. Prevost asked if he could bring out a couple of points, Alderman Willie agreed, the car was donated on May 13, 2011 and received information from the Causeway that the car had 114,000 miles on it and in the last 18 months the Mayor has put 28,000 miles on this vehicle. Mr. Prevost then asked Mr. Killingsworth your vehicle that was obtained new in the last 4 years has averaged 12,000 miles a year. My point is that our police that patrol around Folsom put a 3rd of the miles that the Mayor put on the Crown Vic. Mr. Talley then stated that the ordinance provides on the police department that if it's on their inventory and it's their vehicle in order to get the fuel paid for they have to turning a voucher. There is no ordinance on any other vehicle or any other department has to my knowledge it's just the police department. There's also two provisions: one say's if a private vehicle is used it will be reimbursed at .28 cents per mile and then there is a superseding ordinance that say's that they will be reimbursed at the IRS rate for use of a private vehicle, but there is no ordinance that applies across the board to all the vehicles that are own by the Village of Folsom or no ordinance that provides about reimbursement for turning vouchers for any of those vehicles only for the police department. Obviously there needs to be a policy and procedure for all vehicles. Mr. Prevost stated that at the last meeting the Mayor advised everyone in this room that he had a log to show every mile that had been put on his car. Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated part of that old business Town Financial Discussion was tabled for next month because he is not here and that is what Alderman Willie stated he has not gotten in reference with Mayor and it has been tabled. Alderman Willie stated to Mr. Prevost I see where your going with this and your trying to say look at all these miles that have been put onto this car that are uncounted for. Mr. Prevost asked, why isn't the town using Fuelman? Mr. Talley stated there is no ordinance that say's they have to buy gas inside or outside of Folsom for their vehicles, there needs to be a discussion obviously to Policy and Procedure. Mayor Pro-Temp Mathies stated, we unfortunately understand Mr. Prevost that there are a lot of questions that aren't going to be answered tonight. Alderman Willie stated I can count that our next meeting I will get all these questions that you have and have them answered. Alderman board, Mr. Talley and Mayor –Pro Temp Mathies went into discussion trying to decided how they needed to utilize this designation of the Crown Victorian Vehicle. Mayor–Pro Temp Mathies stated that since we are not finding resolution

tonight is that we are not sure how this car is going to be utilized. I understand Alderman Willie you are assuming by this letter this is what it was given in good intent to us for and this isn't how it's been utilized and we do not have a board motion to put that resolution into place today that Chief Killingsworth be able to take this car until we discuss policy and procedures in reference to the vehicle. Alderman Burris then stated that everything we are trying to do is in good faith, the car has been parked, and I'm sure Chief Killingsworth and Mayor had an agreement of the use, and I'm going to tell you that if Mayor Bickham, he use a vehicle everyday back & forth going to Baton Rouge, and doing a lot of things, going to parish counsel meetings the use of this car for the Village of Folsom it don't take long to run up a lot of miles. Mayor-Pro Temp Mathies asked Mr. Talley since we are not in agreeance with the board-members don't have a second, how should be continue on with this. Mr. Talley stated you as a board of Alderman along with the Mayor for determining how the Village property is to be used, you make the decision and you make the rules but you need policy and procedures in place so that we don't guess and there needs to be a policy and procedure concerning the reimbursement on vehicles and fuel payments. Also a resolution or an ordinance which will state specifically who can use these vehicles, how they can be used basically the State Law is that if a vehicle is used and it belongs to the Village, then the Village has to get an equal benefit for the use of that vehicle if twenty dollars is spent for the use of that vehicle the Village should be getting twenty dollars worth of benefit but we don't have policy and procedures and it's not your fault they just were never in place, it's better to look at so you will know what you can and can't do then to guess about it, my opinion was park the vehicle get a policy and procedures. Mayor-Pro Temp Mathies since we don't have a second in reference to this matter being that we are missing a member of our board tonight this will be tabled for next month so that we can make a decision. Alderman Burris tabled this discussion until next month and we get policy and procedures in order.

Also, in other business Alderman Burris stated that our plans for the Senior Center are at the fire marshal office and once those are approved we will be moving forward. Attorney stated that he recommended to Mayor that we get at least three proposals. Mayor-Pro Temp Mathies thanked Mr. Ken Wilt for his service with the Planning and Zoning and that we did get his letter of resignation and wished him best of luck.

The meeting was adjourned on motion of Alderman Burris, seconded by Alderman Willie. (2 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Mathies, Mayor-Pro Temp

I attest that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes taken at the General Meeting held November 12, 2012.

Attest:

Susan Willie
Municipal Clerk