

**Village of Folsom
Special Meeting
March 11, 2013
7:30 PM**

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

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. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Old Business:

Item No 1 = Growth Management Agreement:

Mayor Bickham turned over topic to Mr. Talley to discuss. Mr. Talley stated we will need to set another special meeting to decide if we want to sign and except the revised agreement from the parish before the 31st of March. Mayor and board set up March 21st for Special Meeting and tabled agreement.

Item No 2 = Bidding proposal for Activity Building:

Mayor stated that since last meeting, board was given some time to look over options for the bidding process. Motioned carried by Alderman Burris to move forward our bid process for our Activity Center. Alderman Willie then stated that he has looked at a few things going on in the town such as the audit findings, employee raises, I would like to make a motion to put the bidding on hold for now, we have \$140,000 left and I don't see how this is going to finish the building. Also we need to see how each department sits with money and I just don't feel comfortable going into more debt with this building until things are settled and finalized with the town or next meeting. Alderman Burris stated that we already have the money for the loan and this will be a bid for a turn-key proposal. Alderman Willie stated that if we can't afford to give employee raises and their insurance plans are going up, how will the village be able to afford to build and maintain this building. Alderman Mathies also asked where will the money come from after the building is built, maintenance and funds? Mayor said, "you're asking about the operation of it", COAST is still wanting to enter into an agreement with us. Alderman Mathies stated today, I'm not so sure about entering into an agreement with COAST. Motioned carried by Alderman Willie to put this bid on hold until finances and audit are straight. Alderman Mathies stated that we need to hold up on bids because if someone gives us a bid now these bids will expire. Mayor asked if there is a second motion? Since there is no second motion we will not be advertising the activity center for bid.

New Business:

Item No 1 = Introduction of 2011-2012 Audit:

Mayor stated that Mr. Talley spoke with auditor and will discuss matter. Mr. Talley stated that we just received from auditors a second schedule of findings and they're wanting a response as soon as possible. I would need to meet with the board individually or I can give it to you at the meeting and basically if you agree with it to go ahead and approve it so I can get that to them, that will take care of part of the audit situation. The other things is we have another document that I was sent from the state auditor it's another audit form we have to answer the questions and state if were in compliance with a number of difference subjects and questions that they bring up. I need to get with Mayor and Susan and board you need to look over it and see if you have anything to report to us. If you would like to sit in on the meeting one at a time you are welcome this is the Village responding to this. As for the other letter from Griffin and Company we do need to execute that all its saying is that we agree with their procedure in doing the next audit which will be in June – July 2013. Once we get this document that I drafted tonight and the compliance letter to the state then they can complete the audit. Auditors were coming tonight but will be at the next meeting provided we get everything to them. Also we will have to get together in response to the auditors and decide at one of these meeting to discuss the compliance issues in which I said we will discuss and decide. All board members stated that they each want to sit in on the meeting between Mr. Talley, Mayor and Clerk. Alderwoman Mathies stated, I definitely want a copy of questionnaire before it is sent off, Mayor said and we will give you a copy and board can rotate throughout the process of meeting. Alderman Willie and Alderwoman gave Mayor common consent to sign agreement with for auditors.

Item No 2 = Employee Health Benefits:

Mayor introduce Chris Eustis with Eustis Insurance and Benefits he stated that the last legislative session in Baton Rouge they passed a law which enforced health insurers to release claims information on small groups. So now groups under 100 can get some claim information and give you some dollar values. So we got your renewal and went to Blue Cross and they ran it back 15 months the renewal increase of every dollar that was paid it was \$3 spent on claims. So your medical loss ratio was over or in the 300% range as per Blue Cross. So I made the decision not to go to other carriers and get bids because their numbers would be false until they received medical information on the group. If we move to another carrier they will rate us ac, I according to the 300% ratio. We went to Blue Cross plans and got some options for you all to look at that way you can choose from a high and lower plan option. Chris stated to keep your premiums for the village to keep your dollars in check I suggest that you give the employees a plan that you can afford as the employer and if they want something richer you can offer it to them but they will have to spend out of their pocket to reach that next level of benefits. Alderman Burris stated that his main concern is that employees don't pay any more out of pocket and if this plan is working for them we want to do what we can. Chris said you can renew as is or you can save the village some money and give the employees that option to have them

pay a little out of their pocket. Chris stated that he would like to have Jennifer come in to meet with each employee's. Alderman Willie stated that he would like to get the input of employees on benefits before anything is chosen. Mayor stated that if we could have Jennifer schedule a date with Susan to meet. Alderwoman Mathies, that our employees had to drop their dependents and that is where most of the employees are concerned about how much it will cost them to add their family members. Alderwoman then stated that she wanted to acknowledge that "what he said and I didn't say two weeks ago" and that I was perturb with our phone conversation and your response to me and Mayor did you have a chance to discuss with him and Mayor stated that "yes he did discuss it with him, I addressed it". Mayor stated we will have Jennifer meet with Susan and employees and go from there.

Item No 3 = Chez Bubba's Beer and Liquor License:

Mayor stated this is a local restaurant that wants to come into Folsom. Clerk Willie stated that he did come in and paid his Occupational and Beer and Liquor License tonight. He is asking that you please accept his application at tonight meeting. Alderman Willie stated I accept his Beer and Liquor License so he can start his business. Alderwoman Mathies asked is there anything in the area that would question church, schools, zoning issues just making sure that he meets all criteria. Mayor stated yes that he is 300 feet from church. Alderman Willie stated he wanted to make common consent to except his license.

Comment from Mr. Beard that Mayor call or he could have the director of counseling on aging Mrs. Mary Toti from Coast contact him. We could negotiate a monthly rental fee that could help with finances and they will have a team come in every Friday to do a cleaning. Mayor stated that he has spoken to Mrs. Mary and didn't want to speak to her about that until we get a bid and get this off the ground. Then I will have her come in and meet with all of the council.

Mr. Talley asked Mayor to get an approval from the board to send responses to the auditors, Alderman Burris motioned to send excepted responses to auditors second by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried.

Also, in other business Mayor thank local business for our First Annual St. Tammany Parish Municipal Association (WST, Home Bank, Discount Zone and Z Grill) we appreciate their support.

Meeting was adjourned on motion of Alderman Burris, seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. (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 March 11, 2013.

Attest:

Susan Willie, Municipal Clerk