

**Village of Folsom
General Meeting
October 14, 2013
7:30 p.m.**

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

**Absent:
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 approved on motion of Alderman Burris, seconded by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried. Mayor also asked board to approve financial statements was motioned by Alderman Burris and second by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays)

Old Business:

**Item No. 1 = Resolution Number = 2013-06-01;
(Auditor request Accounting by Mayor)**

Alderwoman Mathies stated she welcomed to take this resolution off our agenda from here on out. We have sent out a letter to State Attorney General Office requesting how to address this issue and about the responsibility and authority of the board in the mater. We will wait for their recommendation. Mayor stated, "ok we don't need this motioned it's a resolution."

Item No. 2 = Opening up Sabine Street:

Mayor stated we know that last month this issue came before the board. It went before Planning and Zoning there was a recommendation from them. Alderman Willie and Alderwoman Mathies both stated that they have spoken to Mrs. Boggs and are comfortable with her recommendation. Representative Bettye Boggs from P & Z spoke and informed the board that their recommendations was the opening of Sabine Street but that did also make it very clear that this was just a recommendation to the opening of the street and it had nothing to with funding of the street. Mayor then asked what is the board pledging here? Alderman Willie stated, how are we going to go about this Mr. Mayor this is asking about the opening of the street not the funding. Mayor stated that when we spoke with the parish they gave us an estimate for opening the entire street not partial opening of the street. Mrs. Boggs stated. yes they only want to open 300 feet. Alderman Burris stated, that up to 4 ft of your property is clear. Alderwoman Mathies stated the biggest question, "I think everyone is in favor of the opening of the street but the question of funding." Mayor asked the board what if we were to get the parish to come back and revisit and give us an estimate only for the 300 ft. of opening would you all be in favor of that? Alderman Burris stated, I recommend that we get the parish to give us an estimate

for the 300 ft. Alderwoman Mathies stated, let's remember we were given by our attorney that once we fund one street were on a contingent to do the same for anyone else. Alderman Burris claimed I think we need to take this one street at a time and take this as it comes up and handle those request in the same manner. Alderman Willie stated, I see what Mrs. Mathies is stating that if we do one street we must do others and we have many issues like that. Mr. Talley gave us paperwork on a New Orleans case where they opened one street and got sued for not opening up another. I feel the same if we open one street we will have to open others and funding isn't there, claimed Alderman Willie. Alderman Willie asked clerk how much do we have in the street fund? Clerk stated, we are down to \$500 in street fund. Mrs. Boggs stated, the issue here is the precedence that the board is going to set. If they choose to grant and pay for the openings of this street then you have libeling yourself to open and pay for any other dedicated street. You can not arbitrarily choose to take care of this one situation and not take care of another when it comes along because you have set a precedence. The issue is, is the Village going to assume the responsibility for these dedicated streets? We do also have an ordinance claimed Mrs. Boggs, that the opening of the street is the responsibility of the developer. Why should Mr. Barney Core pay for the opening of his street? We want to treat everyone fairly. Alderman Willie stated I am in favor of opening up the street but I am not in favor of financing it, because if we do it for one, we need to do it for someone else. There were a few more comments from the residents with concerns and suggestions. Village attorney Talley stated, that if the board votes to open the street and it becomes part of the street system then Folsom if an contingent isn't made then you run the risk of having to open anyone in similar circumstances and have the risk for paying for the first street and all of the others streets. If you make a contingent on someone other then the Village paying for it that's a different situation claimed Mr. Talley. Alderwoman Mathies asked and how does that in the future wise if we have a situation and make these decisions on contingency of another financial burden. Mr. Talley claimed that we as a board can't not act arbitrarily so if someone is in the same situation down the road we have to open for each as well. Mayor stated, that there was a statement made about if they can make a variance where there can be a gravel street. Mrs. Boggs stated, that at the P & Z meeting they did ask for a variance but your village ordinance say that any new roads that are constructed must be paved. However part of that ordinance also gives that the planning commission the authority to grant a variance to that pave road. We voted to grant a variance to Sabine and/or St. Claude. Mrs. Boggs husband, also brought to the attention of the board that the same law that was brought up also directs that the developer's responsible for maintaining the road for two years. Mayor stated, Mrs. DeAnna they have granted a variance for a gravel road go back to the parish and look at what they are willing to do. I know it's a dedicated street for the village and we would have to authorize the parish to come in or even if your contractor is willing to put down gravel we have to look at it in another angle. Alderman Willie stated from where we stand lets stop beating around the bush, if we open up one road we have to do it for all others and we don't have the money to do it. Alderman Burris gave a suggestion about possibly asking the near by neighbor to seek permission to use his driveway as an entrance into her property. Alderman Burris motioned to open Sabine Street at no cost for the Village of Folsom and also granting the variance for the gravel road at 300 ft., second by Alderman Willie. Mayor stated that it has been moved and second that we have granted for Mrs. DeAnna a variance to open Sabine Street at her own expense and as a gravel road. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried

Item No. 2 = Opening Willow/St. Claude St.

Mayor stated that they also met with Planning and Zoning. Mr. Jack Mendheim representative for Mr. Barney Core spoke to board & Mayor briefly and showed them a land survey map of the streets he wishes to be opened on Willow and St. Claude Street. Mr. Mendheim stated all we are requesting is the ability to open those portions on those streets in subject of a variance for gravel in which Mr. Core will pay for himself. Mayor asked Mrs. Boggs, if she also had met with Mr. Core and Mr. Meindheim. Mrs. Boggs stated, "yes", the only thing she had a concern was that there are different surveys that show Greenwood and Willow are the same street. I do not think there are two distinct streets back there. Alderman Burris stated, that for a long time that street was Willow but then renamed it to Greenwood. If you look at it Willow was a very short street like two blocks that was never opened. Some surveys show change others don't claimed Alderman Burris. Mayor asked, Mr. Core if he is going to maintenance, build and pay for his own road. Mr. Core replied "yes, sir." Alderman Willie motioned to approve to set the variance for these streets Willow and St. Clause without the village's obligation for any expenses, second by Alderman Willie. (3 Yeas, 0 Nays) The motion carried

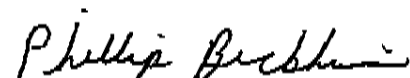
New Business:**Item No. 1 = Sewer Pump**

Alderman Mathies stated, that she did ask clerk to put this on the agenda but Mr. Wesley Burris isn't here so we can disregard this off the agenda.

Announcements, Alderman Burris commented about the Fall Garden Festival that was held at the end of the month and how it was a very successful event. Then Alderman Burris went into a discussion of the senior center and how Mr. Willie did meet with Mr. Baham a contractor to ask a few questions about the building. Alderman Willie did bring about that he is concerned about the one issue with someone owning a small portion of the property. Mr. Talley stated, there is a dispute that whether she has any interest in that strip of land which doesn't involve the area in which the building will be. Alderman Willie also suggested that he would like to see some of the contractors in a meeting so that we can all ask questions about the construction of the building. Mrs. Boggs requested a copy of the plans for viewing. Mr. Talley recommended that he can prepare one form to give to contractors to get estimates on the construction of the activity center and you will know exactly what you will be getting. Mr. Talley also stated we can advertise this form in the paper and ask for estimates. Alderman Burris asked for this form to be done for the review and approval of the board by the November general meeting. Mr. Talley said he will have it done for their review and approval by next meeting.

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 October 14, 2013.

Attest:

Susan Willie, Municipal Clerk