

# *Village of Folsom*

## *Mayor - Bettye M. Boggs*

*Aldерwoman - Paulette Lee*  
*Core - Municipal Clerk*  
*Aldерwoman - Jill Mathies*  
*Killingsworth - Chief of Police*  
*Alderman - Lance Willie*  
*G. Talley - Village Attorney*

*Andree*

*Ronnie*

*Delbert*

**Public Hearing**  
**October 9, 2017**  
**7:00 p.m.**

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

Mayor Boggs called the Public Hearing to order and the municipal clerk established a quorum. Pastor Will Robbins from First Baptist Folsom led the invocation and Mayor Boggs led the pledge of allegiance.

### **Item 1 – Ordinance Adopting Codes Relative to Fire District #5.**

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CERTAIN CODES RELATIVE  
TO THE CREATION OF A FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION  
OF ST. TAMMANY FIRE DISTRICT 5

Mayor Boggs presented the above ordinance. There was no discussion from board nor from the public.

### **Item 2 – Ordinance Amending Ch. 16 Sewer Rates.**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16 ENTITLED "WATER AND SEWER"  
SECTION 18 ENTITLED "RATES" TO INCREASE THE SEWER RATES  
CURRENTLY CHARGED AS PER THE SCHEDULE SET FORTH HEREIN

Mayor Boggs presented the above ordinance. There was no discussion from board nor from the public.

### **Item 3 - Public Hearing on the Issuance of Sewer Revenue Bonds.**

Mayor Boggs read the resolution for the issuance of the sewer revenue bonds. Mayor Boggs asked if there were any questions from the board or the audience. There was no further discussion.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made from Alderman Willie to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Alderwoman Mathies, and the motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

## **General Meeting October 9, 2017**

*(General Meeting Following Public Hearing)  
(The quorum was established in the preceding Public Hearing.)*

**Approval of Agenda.** Mayor Boggs asked to amend the agenda. She would like to move Item #1 Curtis Environmental after the engineering report because he has another commitment to attend. Also, she would like to add all candidates running for office to the agenda. Alderman Willie made a motion to add Curtis Environmental after the engineering report, add the candidates, remove item #4 salary increases from old business to item #8 under new business. It was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies, and the motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

**Approval of Financial Statements.** Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the August financial statements. It was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies, and the motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the September financial statements. It was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies, and the motion carried. Mayor Boggs pointed out that everything other than general fund increased in revenue from August to September. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

**Approval of Minutes.** Alderwoman Mathies made a motion to approve the September minutes and seconded by Alderman Willie. The motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

**Approval of Special Meeting Minutes.** Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the August special meeting minutes. It was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

**Engineer Report.** Jay Pittman stated the plans have been submitted for the sewer improvement project and they are waiting to hear from the state engineer. He does not have any information from DOTD regarding the permit for the water lines for the highway widening project. There were no questions from the board or the audience.

**Certified Operator / Curtis Environmental (Mike Curtis).** Mayor Boggs introduced Mike Curtis with Curtis Environmental. He has acted as a part time operator for the Village in the past. Mayor Boggs asked him to provide a proposal to operate the village since we don't have a certified operator on staff. Mike instructed the village to let him know exactly what help the village needs. Alderwoman Mathies asked how long would it take to get someone certified. He stated it would take one year for someone to become certified as a class #1 certification. Jay Pittman stated that it would be best for the village to have a guy that is familiar with the system, and to train them versus training someone from the outside. He stated that we have a unique system.

The Village Attorney Talley asked if there is a problem with an non-certified operator to take flow sheets, Mike stated no. Alderman Willie asked if there is a certain time frame to have an operator as for as the state department requirements. Mike replied that they need to get covered immediately, and an operator should be available at all times. Mayor Boggs stated that she has been working on this and she has been in contact with DHH, and they know the Village is actively in search of filling the position.

Alderman Willie asked Mike to send a quote and Mike informed that he would have this sent first thing tomorrow morning. Mayor Boggs asked the board will this be in the budget. Alderwoman Mathies stated

the budget can be amended later but that this is extremely important and not an option. Alderman Willie stated they would give Mayor Boggs permission to shift funds if needed instead of trying to amend the budget, which will take two months to complete. Mike Curtis asked if anyone from the board or the audience had any other questions. There was no question or further discussion.

**Candidates Running for Office.** Mayor Boggs introduced three candidates running for office. Each candidate was allowed three minutes to tell the audience about themselves and their campaign.

1. Jay Adair running for Judge Division E for Washington and St. Tammany Parish.
2. Reginald Laurant running for Judge Division H for Washington and St. Tammany Parish.
3. Mark Wright running for State Representative House District #77.

### **Old Business:**

**Item 1 – Resolution – Issuance of Sewer Revenue Bonds Declaring the Results of the Public Hearing.** Mayor Boggs read the resolution. Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. Motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

### **Item 2 – Ordinance Adopting Codes Relative to Fire District #5.**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CERTAIN CODES RELATIVE  
TO THE CREATION OF A FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION  
OF ST. TAMMANY FIRE DISTRICT 5**

Mayor Boggs read the above ordinance and asked for a motion to approve, mentioning that Chief David Pittman was present in the audience. Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the ordinance and seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. Motion carried. *(3 Yeas, 0 Nays)*

### **Item 3 – Ordinance Amending Ch. 16 Sewer Rates.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16 ENTITLED "WATER AND SEWER"  
SECTION 18 ENTITLED "RATES" TO INCREASE THE SEWER RATES  
CURRENTLY CHARGED AS PER THE SCHEDULE SET FORTH HEREIN**

Mayor Boggs read the above ordinance and there was no discussion. Mayor Boggs asked for a motion to approve the ordinance. Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the ordinance and it was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. Motion carried. *(3 Yeas, 0 Nays)*

### **New Business:**

**Item 1 - Village Market.** Mayor Boggs asked Alderwoman Lee to inform us information regarding this item. Alderwoman Lee stated that Ms. Tina Pierre was not able to be there, but asked if it was possible for the Village of Folsom to help her get some new flags for the Village Market. Ms. Pierre said the last purchase was in “2013” and the flags are starting to wear out. Alderwoman Lee said it would be around \$300.00 and would like for the village to help on purchasing them. Alderman Willie and Alderwoman Mathies agreed for the village to purchase them especially that she does not charge the village for anything. Mayor Boggs stated that we will need to get a quote for a purchase order to be done before purchasing them. The village has a purchase order policy for all purchases over \$100 and must be approved before a purchase. The village will contact Ms. Pierre to inform her of this information.

**Item 2 – Team Waste Contract for Recycling Program.** Mayor Boggs stated the Village of Folsom is currently working with Team Waste on our recycling program. She informed at this time all recycling is done behind Town Hall and we started monitoring this in September due to the fact we are getting more

recycling than the bins can hold. Mayor Boggs stated she recently met with the owner of Team Waste, Stephen Litton, regarding the recycling contract for the village. The village contract has expired and it is time to renegotiate our contract. However, the mayor said before renewing we have to come up with a plan in which a survey was decided for all residents. The survey will inform us on whether or not they would like curbside recycling in the village which will charge each person a month. Mayor Boggs stated this plan option is an all or nothing program and if approved everyone will have to pay 3.00 a month. She stated based on the survey numbers as of today, the majority of customers are not in favor of curbside recycling. Mayor Boggs stated that the board will need to make a decision on the results of the survey soon and decide on what option to do regarding our expired recycling contract.

**Item 3 – Proclamation for Red Ribbon Week.** Mayor Boggs announced that Ms. Deidre Perkins, Student Council Advisor at Folsom Jr. High School, contacted her about the Red Ribbon Proclamation that we do each year. The proclamation states the Village of Folsom values regarding health & safety of our citizens and whereas substance abuse that is particularly damaging to our most valuable citizens, our children. Mayor Boggs said this campaign was established in “1988” by congress and the mission is to promote healthy productive lifestyles and is prized in governmental businesses to “Paint the Parish Red”. Mayor Boggs read the title for this year, “Respect Yourself and Be Drug Free”, and stated therefore I Bettye Boggs, Mayor of Village of Folsom, hereby proclaim the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> thru October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as Red Ribbon Week here in the Village of Folsom.

**Item 4 – Appointment of Fire District #5 Board Members.** Mayor Boggs introduced Mr. Ken Wilt the chairman of the board for Fire District #5. She stated that Fire Chief David Pittman is also here with us tonight. She stated that she would like to ask the Board of Alderman to reappoint Michael Sanders and to appoint Sean Williams to the Fire District #5 Board. Mayor Boggs asked Mr. Wilt if he had anything to say and Mr. Wilt stated that Sean Williams was to take Terry Saux’s place who served the board very well and to reappoint Mr. Sanders would be greatly appreciated. Alderwoman Mathies made a motion to appoint Sean Williams and reappoint Michael Sanders to the Fire District #5 Board and Alderman Willie seconded. Motion carried. (*3 Yeas, 0 Nays*)

**Item 5 – Video of Meeting Ordinance.** Alderwoman Mathies stated that she asked for this item to be put on agenda and sent an email to Village Attorney Talley about creating an ordinance. She stated this is in reference to videoing at our public meeting and has asked for several guidelines to be placed in the ordinance. She said we all understand it is within guidelines to allow taping of the public meeting, but we would like for everyone to adhere to and set some guidelines for the ordinance. Alderwoman Mathies stated some guidelines would be a designated area without obstruction of the bathroom, doorway, and that we would be notified prior to the meeting.

Mayor Boggs stated that Attorney Talley addressed one of those items already in a memo to the board. Attorney Talley stated that in his opinion people have a right to video tape and under a statue it states that we can maintain a quorum and for an example tripods can get in the way and should not be blocking entrances or exits, but in his opinion to ask people before they come in what their purpose is could be considered intimidation and is not proper. Also, he thinks we cannot make people tell us beforehand what they are going to do. If using a cellphone and not leaving their seat, we cannot require them to give a prior notice that is one thing, but to set up a tripod we certainly can regulate that. He stated again that this is just his opinion.

Alderwoman Mathies stated the Parish makes them give a notice and the board is aware in advance, the courthouse does it, and other small municipalities. She said but all of a sudden it is in our opinion that it is

intimidating or not appropriate. So, here we are again finding ourselves in one form of an opinion verses one side of an opinion. Alderwoman Mathies stated that the public has been seeing us deal with this for the past couple of years and here we are, we are going to question the public by asking them. However when it is directed to a specific board member, for a specific reason and that board member not be acknowledged of it that, well that is intimidation too and defies certain statutes and guidelines. Alderwoman Mathies mentioned again that other municipalities have these guidelines and we are not saying you cannot record, but putting guidelines on it. She said so here we are again pushing back what benefits others and it is just beginning to be a hindrance on the board and a mockery for our audience. Alderwoman Lee included that there is a designated area whether you are using a cell phone, video camera, or whatever and everyone needs to sit in a certain area.

Mr. Ken Wilt asked, why does that make a difference and Alderwoman Lee answered because it is the law. Alderwoman Mathies stated to Mr. Wilt she believes he was there when she was ranting around the room and could not get out of building because of a cellphone in her face. She informed that she has been dealing with this every month and that Mayor Boggs stated that she is having people do this for her purposes. Mayor Boggs stated that she did not say that and she does not know where she is coming up with this. Alderwoman Mathies asked Alderman Willie is that what Mayor Boggs said to you? Alderman Willie confirmed and said to Mayor Boggs that is what you said to me and we have it on a recording, stating that “you said your daughter is videotaping the meetings for the Village of Folsom. Mayor Boggs continued to deny the statement. Mr. Wilt firmly stated that he does not agree with what happened to Alderwoman Mathies concerning the cell phone being put in her face. Alderwoman Mathies stated that every month, everyone sits here and agrees, but yet she has been told how inappropriate it is and should file a complaint. She said the board has their rights too and should not have to put up with the intimidation and harassment that is coming toward her by this family, clarifying that it is only when she disagrees with certain subject matters that the camera comes out. Alderwoman Mathies stated to Attorney Talley that she will send him this item for an introduction of an ordinance next month.

**Item 6 – Utility Adjustments.** Mayor Boggs announced the following adjustments.

1. Summergrove Farm is requesting an adjustment of \$2,299.50 due to the meter being read incorrectly. Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Lee. The motion carried. (*3 Yeas, 0 Nays*).

2. A. Baldwin & Company requesting an adjustment of \$11.53 due to the bill being late because the Post Office being closed for a hurricane in Florida. Alderwoman Mathies made a motion to approve the adjustment, and it was seconded by Alderman Willie. The motion carried. (*3 Yeas, 0 Nays*).

**Item 7- Salary Increases.** Alderman Willie asked the board to agree to a 5% raise across the board for all employees. Village Attorney Talley stated that it will need to be done by ordinance, and they will need to amend the budget since it has not been budgeted for this year. Alderman Willie stated this is not just for a merit raise, but for a cost of living raise as well. Alderwoman Mathies stated she is in favor, and the reason she denied it in previous months was because of other cost that the village was expecting to endure, that has yet to take place. Alderman Willie asked Mayor Boggs if she thought it was sufficient to give the 5% raise across the board, and she stated yes the money has always been there. Alderwoman Lee stated she is not in favor of the raises at this time. She was out ruled by the other two board members that are in favor. Alderman Willie motioned to approve and seconded by Alderwoman Mathies.

**Announcements/Adjournment:**

Mayor Boggs asked if there were any announcements from the board or the audience. Mayor Boggs stated that she had an announcement, in which she read a resignation letter. Mayor Boggs informed everyone that she was resigning as the Mayor of the Village of Folsom and her last day will be effective

Friday October 13, 2017. Village Attorney Talley stated to the board that he has a packet for all of them and they have twenty days to appoint someone as mayor, or the governor would do so. A discussion regarding the correct procedures to follow took place. .

- Mayor Boggs stated she would leave a copy of her resignation letter on the back table.
- Deanna Mingo announced that she was shocked and said she is very appreciative of what Mayor Boggs has done in the village.
- Alderwoman Mathies announced some upcoming community events :
- Night Out Against Crime that will take place on October 17<sup>th</sup> at Folsom Jr. High.
- Magnolia Park will be having their Trunk or Treat on October 28<sup>th</sup>
- Village Market will be having their Trunk or Treat on October 28<sup>th</sup> during the market.
- Also, a Special Meeting was set for Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> for an appointment of a new mayor.

Donna Penton asked for an update regarding the culverts. Mayor Boggs stated the culverts have been delivered and we are waiting for the parish to install.

Alderman Willie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Mathies and the motion carried. (3 yeas; 0 nays) The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Bettye M. Boggs, Mayor /s/*

*I attest that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes taken at the Public Hearing and General Meeting held at Town Hall on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017.*

*Attest: Andree Core, Municipal Clerk /s/*