

Village of Folsom

Mayor - Bettye M. Boggs

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

Andree

Ronnie

Delbert

Public Hearing
September 11, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Bettye M. Boggs
Alderwoman Paulette Lee
Alderman Lance Willie
Alderwoman 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 - Amending the 2016-17 Budget.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF SEPTEMBER 2017

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2017, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET ACT, LA R.S. 39:1305 ET SEQ.

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

Item 2 – Ordinance – WST Franchise Agreement.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF SEPTEMBER 2017

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO WASHINGTON ST-TAMMANY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (“COOPERATIVE”), ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, FOR A PERIOD OF 30 YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF ELECTRIC UTILITIES, ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES AND/OR TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS IN, THROUGH AND ACROSS THE VILLAGE OF FOLSOM LOUISIANA (“MUNICIPALITY”), AND FOR THE USE OF THE STREETS, ALLEYS AND PUBLIC PLACES OF SAID MUNICIPALITY, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, FOR THE GENERATION, TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY, FIXING THE TERMS, CONSIDERATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

THEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT BY COOPERATIVE (ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS) OF A SUM EQUAL TO FOUR PERCENT (4%) OF THE AMOUNTS RECEIVED BY SAID COOPERATIVE FOR THE SALE AND/OR DELIVERY OF KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRIC ENERGY AT RETAIL FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PURPOSES BASED ON RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL NET RATES (UNBUNDLED RATES IN THE EVENT OF DEREGULATION) BILLED FOR SERVICE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF SAID MUNICIPALITY (EXCLUSIVE OF TAXES AND ALL GOVERNMENTAL FEES AND IMPOSITIONS SHOWN ON SUCH BILLS), AS SAID LIMITS MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER LAWFULLY EXIST, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

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

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 September 11, 2017

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

Approval of Agenda. Mayor Boggs announced the item and Alderman Willie requested amending the agenda. He stated the first item is the Maintenance Report then the Engineer Report. He said to then move Item 1 to the beginning of New Business, move Item 7 to make an ordinance, and to add Executive Session to the agenda. Alderwoman Mathies asked for Item 1 & Item 2 to be switched so that the Engineer Report would come before the Maintenance Report. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Alderwoman Mathies and seconded by Alderwoman Lee. Motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

Approval of Financial Statements. Mayor Boggs asked for approval of the June Financial Statements. A motion was made to approve by Alderwoman Mathies, seconded by Alderman Willie and the motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)* Mayor Boggs asked for approval of the July Financial Statements. Alderwoman Lee stated she had a question but would email it to them tomorrow. A motion was made to approve the July Financial Statements by Alderwoman Mathies and seconded by Alderman Willie. Motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)* Mayor Boggs asked for approval of the August Financial Statements. Alderwoman Mathies made a motion to table the item and it was seconded by Alderman Willie. The approval of the August Financial Statements were tabled. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

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

Engineer Report. Mayor Boggs announced village engineer Jay Pittman from Spangler Engineering. Mr. Pittman stated that Spangler Engineering submitted contracts for A, B, & C to USDA for approval and expects to hear from them within two to four weeks. He said after that they will proceed to put together documents for advertising and bidding. Mr. Pittman mentioned that as of this point they are on the initial schedule to have a bid ready by the end of year. Mr. Pittman stated that as of the highway widening project and the water lines relocation they have not heard back from DOTD, so there is no update on that. He concluded by stating that they have the plans ready and are waiting on a DOTD permit.

Maintenance Report. Mayor Boggs announced that Scott Roth the Maintenance supervisor was here to address the audience. Mr. Roth stated that this is not a maintenance report, but he is here to inform everyone that he is here to give his resignation to the Village of Folsom. Mr. Roth said while working with the mayor we have accomplished a great deal of progress for the residents and businesses of the town since he started two and a half years ago. However, he feels it is necessary to move on from his position due to unnecessary interference and conflict with members of the Board to perform his duties and responsibilities. Mr. Roth said he wishes the board had provided the support of my knowledge and expertise as the mayor has shown. Mr. Roth stated that he will present his written letter of resignation to Mayor Boggs tomorrow morning. Mr. Roth thanked everyone for listening to him and left the meeting.

Old Business:

Item 1 – Ordinance - Amending the 2016-17 Budget.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF SEPTEMBER 2017

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2017, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET ACT, LA R.S. 39:1305 ET SEQ.

Mayor Boggs presented the above ordinance. Alderwoman Mathies stated that if a 5% variance is over in any line item there needs to be a request for fund guidelines. A discussion followed. A motion was made to approve the ordinance by Alderman Willie and seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. (3 yeas, 0 nays)

Item 2 – Ordinance –WST Franchise Agreement.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF SEPTEMBER 2017

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO WASHINGTON ST-TAMMANY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (“COOPERATIVE”), ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, FOR A PERIOD OF 30 YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF ELECTRIC UTILITIES, ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES AND/OR TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS IN, THROUGH AND ACROSS THE VILLAGE OF FOLSOM LOUISIANA (“MUNICIPALITY”), AND FOR THE USE OF THE STREETS, ALLEYS AND PUBLIC PLACES OF SAID MUNICIPALITY, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, FOR THE GENERATION, TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY, FIXING THE TERMS, CONSIDERATIONS AND LIMITATIONS THEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT BY COOPERATIVE (ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS) OF A SUM EQUAL TO FOUR PERCENT (4%) OF THE AMOUNTS RECEIVED BY SAID COOPERATIVE FOR THE SALE AND/OR DELIVERY OF KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRIC ENERGY AT RETAIL FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PURPOSES BASED ON RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL NET RATES (UNBUNDLED RATES IN THE EVENT OF DEREGULATION) BILLED FOR SERVICE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF SAID MUNICIPALITY (EXCLUSIVE OF TAXES AND ALL GOVERNMENTAL FEES AND IMPOSITIONS SHOWN ON SUCH BILLS), AS SAID LIMITS MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER LAWFULLY EXIST, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

Mayor Boggs presented the above ordinance. There was no discussion from the board nor from the public. A motion was made to approve the ordinance by Alderman Willie and seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. (3 yeas, 0 nays)

Item 3 – Chapter 6 Personnel Ordinance. Mayor Boggs introduced the item. Alderwoman Mathies

stated there was a special meeting held a couple of weeks ago and she has a compiled list of those changes they have agreed upon and will share with all before they are sent to Municode. She stated the changes approved and sent to them will be compiled into the personnel ordinance and will then be approved by the board before adopting the book. Alderwoman Mathies stated to the Municipal Clerk that at this time she may take the ongoing personnel ordinance off the agenda. Alderwoman Mathies then asked if there were any questions. There were no response or questions. Mayor Boggs asked if she had included Attorney Talley and Alderwoman Mathies replied that yes all meant the village attorney, too.

Item 4 - Salary Increases. Mayor Boggs introduced the item and stated she is turning this over to Alderman Willie. Alderman Willie asked the mayor if there was any progress concerning the employee evaluations and Mayor Boggs replied that she will not do any evaluations until the money is put in the budget. Alderwoman Mathies stated that the village ordinance states that the evaluations are to be done, it does not say whether you want to do them or not and her stance stands. Alderman Willie stated the evaluations are not to reflect what each employees will be given, it should be a 5% across the board.

Mayor Boggs stated she initially recommended a 5% raise and it was turned down and when the budget was adopted there was a 4% raise discussed and at one time it went to a 3% raise. Mayor Boggs stated however when the budget was passed there was no money put into the budget for employee raises. Mayor Boggs said if we give employees raises, it is not dependent on an evaluation. She informed she will give raises according to what the board puts in the budget. Alderman Willie stated his concerns again on giving 5% raises across the board and that would include not only their merit raises, but a cost of living raise. Alderman Willie asked the board if they could be in agreement with this and Alderwoman Mathies replied that she does not have anything else to say. Alderwoman Lee stated that she is not saying that the village employees are not hard working, but there are still too many questions and the village is in litigation. Mayor Boggs stated they are discussing the litigation tonight in executive session and it is over. Alderwoman Lee made a motion to take salary increases off the table and Alderwoman Mathies seconded it. The motion carried. *(2 yeas, 1 nay- Alderman Willie)*

New Business:

Item 1 – Introduction of Candidates for State Representative: Mayor Boggs introduced the item. Casey Revere introduced himself and that he is running for State Representative in this upcoming October election. Mr. Revere stated he is a conservative republican and lifelong resident of Madisonville, Louisiana. Mr. Revere said he has been a Justice of the Peace since he was 24 years old and has presided over about 300 civil cases. Mr. Revere stated his concerns regarding infrastructure, education, and taxes here in south Louisiana. Mr. Revere asked everyone to considering voting for him and thanked everyone for their time.

Item 2 – St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Boggs introduced Lacie Taledano and Ms. Taledano said it was a privilege to be here in Folsom which is a part of St. Tammany and that they represent all of St. Tammany West. Ms. Taledano is the CEO for thr Chamber of Commerce for the past 18 years. She recognized new member Abby Duway a financial advisor with Edward Jones. Ms. Taledano said they are the voice of business and have 1000 members with a budget just under \$ 70,000 a year. She distributed brochures saying that it reads like a magazine and contains information on upcoming events. The brochure provides information on the Board of Directors, Financial Advisors,

Insurance Professionals, and Restaurant Tours. Ms Taledano asked if there were any questions and Alderwoman Lee asked when are the meetings held. She informed there is a monthly luncheon and a monthly breakfast at different locations. She announced this Thursday, October 14th there is a "State of Health" meeting which is statistics on heart disease, strokes, diabetes, etc. and how health professionals are addressing it. Ms. Taledano said if anyone is interested in attending any event, they are welcome to email or call her at anytime for additional information.

Item 3 - Introduction of Ordinance Adopting Codes Relative to Fire District #5. Mayor Boggs introduced and read the ordinance for Adopting Codes Relative to Fire District #5.

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

Mayor Boggs stated that a public hearing will be held and will be voted on at the October meeting.

Item 4 – Introduction of Ordinance Amending Ch. 16 Sewer Rates. Mayor Boggs introduced and read the ordinance for Amending Ch. 16 Sewer Rates to amend Chapter 16 Sewer Rates.

ORDINANCE
CHAPTER 16 - No. _
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 stated there will be an increase effective as of January 1, 2018. Residential customers will increase from \$25.00 to \$35.00 for the first two thousand gallons, and a increase from \$4.00 to \$5.00 per one thousand gallon after that. In addition, for Commercial customers it will increase from \$45.00 to \$60.00 and from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per one thousand gallons after that. Mayor Boggs stated the village was required to do this to apply for a grant and USDA loan. She stated a public hearing will be held and it will be voted on at the October meeting.

Item 5 – Culvert Update of Jackson Street. Mayor Boggs stated that the clay, limestone, and culverts have been ordered. Alderwoman Lee stated that the size of the culvert is in question. Alderman Willie stated it was agreed to purchase a culvert the same size as the previous culvert. Alderman Willie asked Mayor Boggs why was this not done. Mayor Boggs suggested he speak with Scott regarding this the following day. Mayor Boggs stated that two companies came out to give quotes and they recommended it. Mayor Boggs informed that the purchase order was signed by Alderwoman Lee. Mayor Boggs stated that Bayou Construction recommended two 36 inch culverts. Alderwoman Lee stated she feels the wrong culverts were ordered intentionally. Mrs. Penton stated that previously it was discussed in a past meeting that two 48 inch culverts would be ordered. A discussion followed. Mayor Boggs said she would gladly meet with Alderman Willie tomorrow morning to discuss this matter further.

Item 6 – Radios. Alderman Willie asked Chief Pittman if the Fire Department has any old radios and a base available for the village to use on their own channel. Chief Pittman stated he does have a few and would be glad to talk to them about it. Mayor Boggs stated that the maintenance department already has cell phones and did not see the need for radios. A discussion followed.

Item 7 – Utility Adjustments. Mayor Boggs requested an adjustment of \$ 33.46 for Richard Newman because the customer’s meter did not read electronically. The customer was added to the reread list to read manually. She stated the maintenance dept. couldn’t read the meter manually due to a ditch being full of water. The reading was estimated by the utility clerk, which caused it to be higher than normal. Mayor Boggs stated after the customer’s complaint Scott went out to data log it and get the correct reading of 56695. Alderman Willie made a motion to approve, it was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

Mayor Boggs requested an adjustment of \$ 2,299.50 for Summergrove Farms because the meter was read incorrectly. Mayor Boggs stated that Scott data logged the dates of service, and it showed total usage of 32,980 gallons. Alderman Willie made a motion to table the adjustment until they could get more information. It was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

Mayor Boggs requested an adjustment of \$ 4.22 for Jordan Schroeder because the customer never received her bill because the clerk forgot to change the city from the the previous owners. Alderman Willie made a motion to approve the adjustment, it was seconded by Alderwoman Mathies. The motion carried. *(3 yeas, 0 nays)*

Item 7 - Changing Meeting Day. Alderman Willie stated he would like to change the monthly meeting day to the third Wednesday or Thursday of each month. He stated by doing this it would give the municipal clerk and CPA time to complete the financial statements so they will not have to table them each month. Alderman Willie asked the village attorney to write up an ordinance for this. Mayor Boggs asked if anyone in the audience had any question regarding this change. The board decided to wait until they have a permanent day before the ordinance is drafted. Mr. Talley stated that he will wait to hear from them regarding a date to complete this ordinance.

Announcements/Adjournment:

Alderwoman Mathies stated that Mrs. Joyce Core passed away a few weeks ago. Mrs. Joyce worked many year and was a previous clerk for the Village of Folsom. Alderwoman Mathies said we are all saddened by her loss and would like for everyone to keep her family in their prayers during this difficult time.

Executive Session: Mayor Boggs announced at 8:14 pm they will go into Executive Session. Alderwoman Mathies stated that we need to state what will be discussed for village record. Mayor Boggs advised that a matter of police personnel and pending litigation will be discussed in Executive Session.

Regular Session was resumed at 8:42 p.m. Alderman Willie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Lee and the motion carried. *(3 yeas; 0 nays)* The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

*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 September 11, 2017.

Attest: Andree Core, Municipal Clerk /s/