

Village of Diggins

Board Meeting Minutes for

June 9th, 2025

PRESENT: Chairman Michael Newman

Trustees-David L. Bowers, Beth Joyce

Absent-Trustee Kevin Knifong, Trustee Teresa Coday, City Clerk Penny
Bowers

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING: REF: Rezoning of Property from Residential to Commercial
On Palmer Street for the purpose of building a garage.

-This meeting was called to order by Chairman Michael Newman at 5:30pm.

-Present were the owners of the proposed business, Crystal Fore, Courtney
(daughter).

-There was discussion between the Chairman and owners. No opposition voiced by
anyone in attendance.

-Chairman Newman stated that he wanted to further discuss the proposal with the
total board and would have an answer to the owners within 2 weeks.

-Public Hearing Closed at 6:00pm.

REGULAR MEETING:

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Newman.
- Meeting was opened with invocation by Pastor Gary Dedmon of the Baptist Church.
- Pledge of Allegiance was initiated.
- The meeting notes were taken by Trustee David L. Bowers due to the City Clerk, Penny L. Bowers attending a conference in Columbia.
- Roll call: Chairman Newman present; Trustees David L. Bowers and Beth Joyce present; Trustees Kevin Knifong and Teresa Coday absent.
- The Chairman requested approval of the Minutes of the May 12th, 2025 meeting:
Trustee David L. Bowers-first; Trustee Beth Joyce-second.
Minutes were approved as stated.
- The Chairman requested approval of the Financials:
Trustee David L. Bowers-first; Trustee Beth Joyce-second
Financials were approved as stated.

-Water and Sewer Information (Brent and Jodie Daniels)

-Mr. Daniels stated that Colt had been working on Lakehill Road at a residence in an attempt to locate some lines. He felt that CCW (Colt Wilson) would need to do additional work there which could include a fire hydrant and 2 meters, and requested the Board for approval to obtain a bid for the work.

Chairman Newman with Trustees present agreed and requested that Brent confer with Colt and obtain bid for the work.

-Continuing Mr. Daniels advised that a meter was changed out on 'O' Highway at the Jessen property.

-Over 60 'One Calls' had been initiated during this past month with the construction of the new road going in on the north side of the Village.

-Water and Sewer Information (Brent and Jodie Daniels) CONTINUED

-Tomorrow (06-10-25) there will be a water outage for the Village of approximately Three to four hours due to the installation of new valves which had been approved at the May Board Meeting.

-Sludge removal from the Treatment Plant was not done this past month due to increased volume of rain.

*Trustee Kevin Knifong came in during the discussion of Water-Sewer.

-Park Department

-Trustee David L. Bowers presented that there would be a Park Board Meeting held at 6:30pm next Monday evening (06-16-25). The main topic of discussion will be the upcoming FOUNDERS DAY FESTIVAL which will be held July 12th, 2025 from 9am-3pm.

-The Festival will be similar to Festivals held over the past few years with multiple vendors, food booths, merchandise, etc.

-The Zion Lutheran Church will be serving ice cream again this year; the Diggins Baptist Church will be serving Catfish and hushpuppies; the Diggins Greater Life Church will possibly be serving dessert again this year.

-Music will be held throughout the day with various groups and will be coordinated by Marcia Curtis.

-A Patriotic Service will initiate the entire program.

-The Museum of Heart will be open during the Celebration.

-Clerks Report

-Due to the absence of the City Clerk, the Trustees were advised to read the materials which had been placed in their packet which had been provided by Clerk Penny L. Bowers.

-Some of the information contained therein was representative of a Clerks Conference she attended this past month in which multiple sessions addressed various topics of concern relative to Clerks, Trustees, Villages, Cities, etc.

-Citizen Input

-Gerald Street inquired about the mowing of the Park, and if someone had been hired to do it. Chairman Newman stated that we had in fact hired Chris Helms and he had mowed it once or twice, and was scheduled to mow again this week.

-James Halpert (?) spoke to the Trustees regarding the problems he was having with water lines, etc. This is the same property that Mr. Daniels from the Water-Sewer Department had been discussing with the board regarding having Colt Wilson (CCW) to get a bid on. Chairman Newman advised the resident that the Board would await a bid from CCW and determine the best way to resolve any/all issues. He further directed that he would be notified of the decision and that if wished to attend the upcoming board meeting in July, a resolution should be finalized.

-Trustee Kevin Knifong brought information together regarding Ivyl Davis Road near the Bob and Julie (Schroeder) Smith residence. He had discussed this with Colt Wilson, and due to the extreme amount of rain, no action had been taken at this time; however, as soon as possible, Colt was to contact Kevin when he could work on that stretch of road for repairs.

-No further Citizen comments.

-Old Business

-Chairman Newman stated that the proposed Website for the Village of Diggins should be up within the next few weeks, and that information was begin gathered to post on it.

-Planning and Zoning: Codes, permits are now in place for the Village and will soon be uploaded and accessible on the Webpage.

-Ethan Merritt has submitted his permit and plans for new construction on Ivyl Davis Road (Old Marshall Kanel Residence).

-Highway 60 Expansion: Plans going forward. There is considerable amount of work at present on various telecommunications lines, sewer and water lines.

-Insurance Proposal: Present is Mason Foley with Higginbotham Insurance Company who currently holds our policies.

-Discussion was had regarding the present damage to the ceiling in the Community Center. Mr. Foley will contact Mike Otto who handles the claims for our insurance company and have him to go ahead and submit a check to us for damages as discussed; roughly \$2400.00.

-Mr. Foley made a presentation regarding renewal of our policies in general. Chairman Newman signed the necessary forms required, and Mr. Foley was advised that the City Clerk would endorse a check in the amount of \$3,473.00

. Mr. Foley will pick the check up on Thursday in order to keep the insurance policies current. The cost of the insurance is approximately 5% increase from last year. One element stated by Mr. Foley is that at present there is no contents coverage on the building. The Trustee Board agreed that this is something which should be addressed due to the evaluation of the building and contents in general.

New Business:

-Budget: Tabled for this meeting. Will hold a Special Meeting.

-Ordinance 494-Landlords Responsibility: Tabled and will revisit at new months meeting.

Discussion: Among Board Members

-Discussion was held regarding utilizing the proposed Webster Electric Grant for the purpose of roof repairs and construction as opposed to the new bathrooms on the west side of the property.

-Chairman Newman suggested making one large bathroom, ADA accessible, open to both male and female or parents. This would be transitioned by tearing down the walls along with the small closet in the Community Center. Storage could be obtained by building in the new restroom area.

-Need to obtain bids for the construction of additional rafters, perlins, etc. in the existing roof line, along with the remodel of the ceiling area.

-Further discussion to take place regarding this issue.

Calls for Adjournment:

-With no further open topics for discussion, Chairman Michael Newman asked for a call of adjournment for the meeting. Trustee David L. Bowers made a motion, and was seconded by Trustee Beth Joyce.

-Meeting Adjourned.