

## **Town of Fowler Special Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2015 at 6 PM**

A Special Meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all the Board Members present. Also present were Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, Deputy Town Clerk Tami Gale, Highway Superintendent Mike Sweeney, Justice Paul Lamson, Laurina Greenhill, Mike Macaulay, Vicky Cappellino, Dustin Fayette, Debbie Tupper, Lisa Durham, Randy Durham, and Barbie Champine.

Supervisor Cappellino called the meeting to order at 6 PM. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter at 6:01 PM. All in favor and the motion was carried. The board returned back from executive session at 7:15 PM. Supervisor Cappellino stated that a "Higher Authority" needed to be contacted regarding the personnel matter.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that Hollow Dam won the lawsuit regarding the assessment, and that the School, County, and the Town of Fowler all have to pay back money. The town will need to refund Hollow Dam, and it will show up on the town chargebacks.

Debbie Tupper asked the board if the Assessors were aware of the lawsuit findings. Supervisor Cappellino replied "YES", and "that hopefully things will get better."

Supervisor Cappellino asked the board members, who of them wanted to be on the Teamsters Union negotiation board. Councilperson Spilman and Councilperson Simmons volunteered, and will be the two members of the Town Board to serve on this board. Councilperson Newvine and Supervisor Cappellino would both like the insurance representative to come and sit down for talks with the Highway Department employees.

Councilperson Newvine stated that the railroad tracks on Route 58 are going to be fixed in the upcoming week, and that the Balmat railroad crossing is scheduled to be fixed on 11/3/15, 11/4/15, and 11/5/15. Councilperson Newvine stated that this is a temporary fix and that the permanent repairs would be completed this summer.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that the bridge by Debbie Tupper's in Emeryville is being worked on.

Public comment was opened up to the people in attendance. Laurina Greenhill brought to the board's attention a letter that was sent to some of the Town's residents by Randy Durham. Mrs. Greenhill quoted a section of the stated letter and questioned it being seen as a political endorsement in favor of Randy Durham by the board. Councilperson Spilman, Councilperson Simmons, and Supervisor Cappellino all replied to Laurina Greenhill that the board did not endorse Randy Durham or the letter that was sent out by him, and that they had put a letter in the Tribune Press, as well as on the Town of Fowler website to publically state that the letter was not endorsed by the board. Laurina Greenhill commented that she was surprised that Randy Durham being on the Ethics Committee would send such a letter to some of the town people.

Debbie Tupper asked the board if they had heard anything new on the grants. Supervisor Cappellino stated that they had not heard anything. Peter Devine from CDBG, is being replaced by Brad Charlton. Supervisor Cappellino and the board are all concerned that Peter Devine was doing a lot of the grant work.

A motion was made by Supervisor Cappellino and seconded by Councilperson Newvine to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor

Natalie Spilman; Councilperson

Lynn Bishop; Councilperson

Rick Newvine; Councilperson

Karen Simmons; Councilperson

Tami Gale; Deputy Town Clerk