



ST. CHARLES PARISH

PAUL J. HOGAN, PE
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT IV

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 18, 2012

TO: MR. LEON C. VIAL, III
LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

FROM: PAUL J. HOGAN, PE
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT IV

RE: STREET LIGHTS IN NEW SUBDIVISIONS

I received your memo dated July 13, 2012, in response to my memo dated July 9, 2012. I concur with your assessment that the Code is silent on both questions. It being silent was the reason I requested the opinion from you to the questions stated in the July 9, 2012 memo. The July 9, 2012 memo stated the following:

Appendix "C", IV. Design Standards, E. Miscellaneous, 3. Electrical Service/Street Lights, "c" reads as follows:

c. The Parish of St. Charles shall not be responsible for maintenance of street light facilities until at least one (1) building or house is occupied on property adjoining the street light circuit serving that property.

Your opinion is requested as to whether or not these street light facilities are to be energized during the time period in which the developer is responsible for maintenance. Should your response be that they are not energized during this time period, please identify for me the section of the code which states that these facilities are not to be energized upon their installation.

In order for an item to be maintained it must be a finished and functioning product. With anything less than complete and functional, how would one know if certain parts need to be repaired or replaced? With street lights, for example, one would not know if there were failed light bulbs, photo cells, or fuses which need attention unless the streetlight was energized.

In light of the Code being silent on whether or not the lights are to be energized during the time period in which the developer is responsible for maintenance, your opinion is requested as to whether or not they should or should not be energized during this period in order for them to be maintained. Should your opinion be that they should not be energized during the maintenance period, please provide insight as to what your opinion is based upon and how would the Developer know if any electrical related parts need repair if the light does not have power. In that case, also provide your opinion as to when the lights should be turned on along with insight with regards to what your opinion is based upon.

PJH/CTM176:ag

Office

St. Charles Parish
P.O. Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057
(985) 783-5000
Fax: (985) 783-2067
<http://www.stcharlesparish-la.gov>

Residence

222 Down The Bayou Road
P.O. Box 250
Des Allemands, LA 70030
Phone: (985) 306-0085
Fax: (985) 306-0285
Cell: (504) 615-4862
E-mail: phogan@st-charles.la.us
E-mail: phogan@stcharlesgov.net