

done.”

Asked how he had made contact with Starks, Lopez said, “I called him. I said, ‘Listen, can you help us out with this over there?’ He has a lot of branches [presumably meaning, connections] within the city.”

Lopez said he asked Starks, Could you advise me? Lopez also called Marie Green, and gave two numbers for her. [This name may not be correct, as the investigator did reach a woman named Green at the first number, but who said her first name was not Marie.]

Asked about Starks’ fee, Lopez said, “We pay him nothing. Zero, zero, zero.” He said there was no implied contract or consideration of some unspecified exchange or compensation in the future.

He said his business utilizes a septic tank. “Whatever we [the business owners] have gathered here is it because we need the street. We’re not organized. We’re still not organized.”

Lopez said a business toward the south end of Cairo Lane lost half his stock in a fire because there were no hydrants close enough for fire fighters to use.

Lopez: They told us they [the city] got the money [for the road reconstruction].

Asked about a tax assessment district, Lopez said that three to five years ago there was a special task force formed. Mayor Taylor was trying to lead group [to create] a special taxing district. Lopez asked, “Why? We pay taxes. People got afraid of what we’re going to pay for. If you have been paying taxes for 10-15 years...”

Lopez said the first time the owners came to a council meeting together, “Mayor Taylor got very rude with us. This was about four weeks ago.”

END INTERVIEW