

**AGENDA MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ARCADIA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014
6:00 P.M.**

The following minutes reflect action items of the City Council of the City of Arcadia. For a verbatim copy of the minutes, you may contact City Administration to obtain a copy of the recorded meeting.

INVOCATION& PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Larry Aument gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. with the following members and staff present:

Arcadia City Council

Mayor Judy Wertz-Strickland
Councilmember Susan Coker
Councilmember Joseph E. Fink

Deputy Mayor Frierson
Councilmember S. Delshay Turner

Arcadia City Staff

Interim City Administrator Beth Carsten
City Clerk Penny Delaney
City Attorney Thomas J. Wohl

Marshall Matt Anderson
City Planner Carl McQuay

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamations Regarding Florida First Responder Appreciation Week

(This presentation was added to the agenda due to the fact that the City of Arcadia did not receive notification of the designation of January 5-9, 2015 as being Florida First Responder Appreciation Week until after the agenda had been prepared and distributed.) Proclamations were presented to Captain Harvey Sweeting and Lieutenant Shawn Lucey of the DeSoto County Fire and Rescue Department; Marshal Matt Anderson of the Arcadia Police Department; Captain Craig Aument of the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office; and Trooper Brandon Brelsford of the Florida Highway Patrol.

CONSENT AGENDA

Agenda Item 1 –City Council Minutes for December 8, 2014

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Agenda Item 2 – City Council Minutes for December 16, 2014**Agenda Item 3 – Air-Cadia Flowage and Hangar Rent Report for November 2014****Agenda Item 4 – Special Event Permit – Car Show – Team Arcadia****Agenda Item 5 – Special Event Permit – Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade / Festivities**

Councilmember Coker moved to approve the Consent Agenda, but with two (2) changes. She stated that the minutes for December 8, 2014 and December 16, 2014, had the invocation and pledge of allegiance swapped. Councilmember Fink seconded the motion as corrected. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

ACTION ITEMS**Agenda Item 9 - Hold on Any New Action on City of Arcadia Property Until Hiring of New City Administrator**

Mayor Wertz-Strickland stated that Agenda Item 9 would be moved to the beginning of the action items to be discussed first. Councilmember Coker made a motion to move Agenda Item 9 to the beginning of the action items to be discussed first and the motion also included the pulling of Agenda Item 8. Councilmember Fink seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved. Councilmember Coker stated that in light of three (3) new council members and the search for a new City Administrator, she would like staff to provide City Council with a list of all the City's properties to be reviewed and discussed at a workshop. She felt a beginning point would be the City tax roll. Councilmember Fink agreed that it should be done and stated that he would like to see it as part of a larger scale with the entire City Council. He stated that with the bringing in of a new City Administrator with a consensus of the majority of the Council will not work because he/she will need marching orders with what the Council sees as their priorities. Mayor Wertz-Strickland asked Ms. Carsten to provide information to Council. Ms. Carsten felt she could possibly have something put together by the beginning of February. Deputy Mayor Frierson suggested they wait until Ms. Carsten has the information put together and then schedule the workshop. Councilmember Fink stated that he would also like to have an idea of what the insurance costs and other utilities costs are on the properties as well. Ms. Carsten stated she could provide an update at the next meeting regarding the status of the request. Councilmember Coker made a motion to direct staff to move forward on a list of the properties and other information requested and Deputy Mayor Frierson seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

Agenda Item 6 – Request to Use Old Livestock Market by L. Neville Smith

The City Planner stated that Mr. Smith was not present, but that Mr. Smith was requesting the use of the Livestock Market as a Flea Market or Open Air Market. Mr. McQuay advised that he had explained to Mr. Smith that it could not be used because of the contamination of the property from the animal vats. Mr. McQuay further advised this is the second time the use of the livestock market had been requested. Councilmember Fink stated that his recollection of when Dr. Miller, the previous administrator, was here, he had been told it had been declared a brownfield and he was working on getting assistance to decontaminate it. He suggested staff

look into that as well. The City Attorney stated that Ms. Smith's request to lease the property didn't list any terms as to an amount, length of time, etc. to help the City determine what it would be getting in consideration and didn't know what they could do, especially with him not being in attendance. Councilmember Fink stated that he felt it was premature. Deputy Mayor Frierson felt they should investigate tearing it down. Councilmember Fink stated that with the age and composition of the structure, they could be dealing with lead paint, asbestos and all sorts of contaminants. He felt they could open themselves up to liability by just demolishing a building that is an eyesore. Public Works Director Steve Underwood stated that asbestos had been removed. Deputy Mayor Frierson stated that it was her understanding that they could tear the building down, pave over it and it would be fine. Mr. Underwood agreed and stated that as far as the vats were concerned, Councilmember Fink was correct; it is a brownfield contamination and they would have to look to the State. The issue of insurance was discussed. Councilmember Fink made a motion that after the Clerk researches that the property was indeed declared without any sort of contaminant on the building aspect, that they look into avenues of taking down the building. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. Further discussion was made of checking with the fire department to determine if they would like to do it as a demolition project. The City Attorney recommended reconfirming with the DEP and the health department to make sure there are no issues with tearing it down. Councilmember Fink thanked the City Attorney for his input and made that motion in addition to and Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

At this time, Mr. Smith arrived to address the City Council and apologized for being late. The City Attorney pointed out that the City Council had already voted that it was premature to entertain anything at that point. Mayor Wertz-Strickland advised Mr. Smith that he could come back at a later date and they'll have it worked out. Councilmember Fink stated that as a point of order it was to be put off as premature before they have a workshop.

Agenda Item 7 – CDBG Modification

The Interim City Administrator stated this modification was simply a date change because the bid had to be taken out for bid for a second time and it bumped the finish date from March 19th to June 30th of 2015. Deputy Mayor Frierson made a motion to accept the modification and Councilmember Coker seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

11. CITY MARSHAL

Marshal Anderson advised that the police department report had been provided to the Council in their packets. He pointed out that they had just a little under 9,000 of complaints for the year, which was down from the year before which was roughly almost 1200 complaints. He stated he was there to address any concerns the City Council or the general public may have. Tonya Paretas Barrera of 208 W. Winifred Street, Arcadia, Florida, stated that she had a concern with an issue that occurred on New Years. She stated there was a single vehicle car accident that

involved the driver and the passenger who was under 21 years of age and they were both intoxicated. She stated the driver was given a careless driving ticket and the APD went to pick up his mother to take her to the scene so she could have the vehicle taken. She felt that as an entity, the City of Arcadia is responsible for the actions or negligence of its employees and felt someone should look into it. She felt the driver was given a pass on a DUI because his mother works at the Sheriff's Department. Marshal Anderson stated that the matter is being looked into.

12. CITY ATTORNEY

The City Attorney advised the Special Event Ordinance had been posted on the City's website for comment and asked Council for direction. He asked if they wanted to have a workshop on the issue. Mayor Wertz-Strickland felt that it would be a good workshop item, but stated that there were other workshops that were more pressing and felt that it could be brought up at a later date.

13. INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

The Interim City Administrator advised that the Senior Advisors had agreed to help the City of Arcadia with its search for a City Administrator. She advised they had sent a packet of requirements and suggestions and they had recommended that the City start the search process over with them leading the way with the applications for the position. She felt they needed to have a workshop to discuss the information provided. Deputy Mayor Frierson made a motion to set the workshop for January 13, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., with it being a one-item agenda only and Councilmember Coker seconded the motion. The City Attorney asked if his presence was required and the City Council didn't feel that it his attendance would be necessary. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

Ms. Carsten also advised that Arcadia Main Street had applied for a grant on behalf of the City and it was awarded in the amount of \$50,000.00. She stated the City would be working with the Main Street organization to move forward with the administration of that.

Ms. Carsten further advised the downtown intersection project will be beginning soon and there would be a public meeting on January 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the County Commissioner Chambers to discuss it with the community. Ms. Carsten stated that the contractors have said they will not be closing our streets during the day and on the weekend.

Regarding JimSpace, Ms. Carsten advised there had been a meeting last night and a build date had been chosen to build the new playground equipment. She stated they were looking at sometime in November of 2015 and there will be a kickoff event January 29th at the Turner Center where they will be designing it. Deputy Mayor Frierson pointed out that Rob Herron had spearheaded a lot of it and made it happen and commented that he had done a good job. Mr. Herron spoke from the audience and stated that there were a lot of other people involved.

PUBLIC

Bob Miller of 7895 NE Cubitus, Arcadia, Florida, spoke from the public and congratulated the new council members and introduced himself as a County Commissioner and the liaison for the City and County. He encouraged Council to feel free to call him if anyone has something they would like to talk about for the betterment of the City and County.

Rob Herron of 521 E. Pine Street, Arcadia, Florida, spoke from the public and commended the new council for taking a proactive role on property inventory of the City. He encouraged them to do a complete inventory of all the properties under City control.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MATTERS

Mayor Wertz-Strickland stated that regarding the parade on the 19th, if anyone is interested in participating, to please contact Ms. Carsten. She also stated that she felt there was a need for workshops regarding the inter-workings of the City, the property that the City has, the airport, employment manual, but she felt that the first and most important workshop would be the one regarding the Senior Advisors. She felt they needed to be set up very shortly.

Councilmember Fink stated that former Councilmember Keene did the Florida League of Cities legwork for the Council and one of the council members would need to take over that duty as appointed by Council. He further stated that Councilmember Heine and he sat as members of the Tourist and Development Council for the County which recommends the expenditure to the County Commission of the tourist and development tax that is added onto hotel rooms in our area. He stated that he also sits on the DeSoto County Drug Task Force Committee and the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Committee. He advised that his schedule is of such that it is more and more difficult for him to do all of those and he preferred to sit singularly on the tourist and development committee if that was agreeable with Council and he felt the others needed representation. Mayor Wertz-Strickland stated that she was going to the League of Cities class on the 23rd and stated she would be glad to do that one. Councilmember Coker asked what the Task Force Committee was. Councilmember Fink explained that the Task Force makes recommendations to the County Commission on the expenditure of the money collected by the County through hotel rooms, used for promotion of county tourism and that sort of thing. Deputy Mayor Frierson stated that she would volunteer for the Tourist and Development Council. Councilmember Fink confirmed that Deputy Mayor Frierson and he would be attending those because they have two (2) seats on that particular council. Councilmember Coker stated that she would volunteer for the Drug Task Force Committee. Councilmember Fink advised that the Charlotte Estuary Committee makes recommendations to the various bodies that border the river concerning fertilization next to the river, dumping, and also educating the children in the area through booklets and workshops. Councilmember Turner volunteered to serve on the Charlotte County National Estuary Committee. Mayor Wertz-Strickland asked for a motion and Councilmember Fink made said motion and Deputy Mayor Frierson seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

Councilmember also stated that he was very glad to hear that Mayor Wertz-Strickland was going to the class for the Florida League of Cities and stated that it was very important and a good way to not only increase skills levels and see what other areas are done, but it's also a wonderful way to network. He encouraged Councilman Turner and Councilwoman Coker to attend if they are not attending because it's not just for Mayors, but for all elected officials. He said it was a very good learning process and stated this is the first level and hopefully they would go to the advanced level as well. He stated they have city attorneys and managers there, along with city finance directions and they all explain your role through other eyes. Councilmember Coker stated that this particular one was full and that she would have to wait for the next one.

ADJOURN

Having no further business at this time, Councilmember Coker made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 P.M.

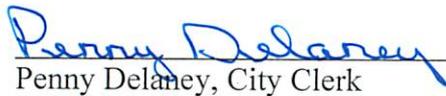
ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF January, 2015.

By:



Judy Wertz-Strickland, Mayor





Penny Delaney, City Clerk