

**AGENDA MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF ARCADIA  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015  
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, CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. and gave the invocation which was followed by the pledge of allegiance. The following members and staff were present:

**Arcadia City Council**

Mayor Judy Wertz-Strickland  
Deputy Mayor Alice Frierson  
Councilmember S. Delshay Turner

Councilmember Joseph E. Fink  
Councilmember Susan Coker

**Arcadia City Staff**

City Administrator Terry Stewart  
City Clerk Penny Delaney  
Human Resource Manager Linda Lowe

Finance Director Beth Carsten  
Marshal Matthew Anderson

**PRESENTATION**

**Agenda Item 1 – Jim McKernan – 25 Years of Service**

Mayor Wertz-Strickland presented Jim McKernan with a certificate recognizing his twenty-five (25) years of service to the City of Arcadia.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Agenda Item 2 – City Council Minutes for November 17, 2015**

**Agenda Item 3 – Special Event Permit – Holiday Tour of Homes – Team Arcadia**

**Agenda Item 4 – Special Event Permit – Arcadia Main Street Wine Walk**

**Agenda Item 5 – Special Event Permit – Tater Hill Antique and Collectible Show**

**Agenda Item 6 – Renewal of Membership Agreement in NJPA**

Councilmember Fink made a motion to accept Items 2, 3, 4 and 6 as presented while pulling Item 5, and advised that he would recuse himself from voting on Agenda Item 5 and

Councilmember Coker seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

City Administrator Stewart explained that Item 5 was a special event permit which would normally be handled on the consent agenda unless there was a special issue about it. He advised that Councilmember Fink had recused himself from voting because he was connected with the applicant and he had expressed the reasons for it within the recusal form. City Administrator Stewart informed Council that it was a request to put on an antique and collectible show on Saturday January 30, 2016 from 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and it would not conflict with the current antique shows in the downtown district. He advised the applicant was in attendance if there were any questions or a need for additional information. Councilmember Coker stated that the information provided to Council stated that there were dumpsters which may be used and she asked if permission had been granted by the people who pay for the dumpster pick-ups. After some discussion, it was agreed by the applicant, Sheri Fink, to remove the section referring to the use of the dumpsters. Councilmember Coker made a motion to approve the special event permit for the Tater Hill Antique and Collectible Show on January 30, 2016 and Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 4/0, approved. Councilmember Fink advised that he had abstained from voting. Ms. Fink pointed out that this would be on the fifth Saturday of every month for next year so it would be five (5) different shows for the year. Councilmember Coker amended her motion to approve the Tater Hill Antique and Collectible Show for special event permits for five (5) times in the year of 2016 and Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 4/0, approved with Councilmember Fink abstaining from voting.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Nomination / Vote Regarding Mayor**

Mayor Wertz-Strickland passed the gavel to Deputy Mayor Frierson. Councilmember Turner made a motion to nominate Judy Wertz-Strickland. No one seconded the motion. Therefore, the motion died for a lack of a second. Deputy Mayor Frierson passed the gavel back to the Mayor and nominated Councilmember Coker. No one seconded the motion. Therefore, the motion died for a lack of a second. City Attorney Wohl advised that in the Charter, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor serve as leaders of the Council at the Council's pleasure. He further advised that if they were unable to agree on a new Mayor tonight, Mayor Wertz-Strickland would continue to serve as the Mayor of the City of Arcadia. Deputy Mayor Frierson pointed out that it was just ceremonial and it was not that they make any major decisions. Due to there not being a second on the motion, the motion died. There were no other nominations.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Nomination/ Vote Regarding Deputy Mayor**

Councilmember Coker made a motion that Deputy Mayor Frierson remain as the Deputy Mayor and no one seconded the motion. Therefore, the motion died for a lack of a second. There were no other nominations.

**Agenda Item 9 – Resolution 2015-13 Regarding Appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor**

City Attorney Wohl advised the resolution was moot due to no one being appointed.

**Agenda Item 10 – Possible Grant Funding from Walmart and Walmart Foundation**

City Administrator Stewart advised this was a request for staff to apply for a relatively minor grant of Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500.00) and it was a non-matching fund grant which was geared toward McSwain Park. Deputy Mayor Frierson asked if there were any use stipulations on the grant and Mr. Stewart advised staff had identified within the request what they were asking for and that would be what they would be required to use it for, but that there was not a requirement for it to be used for a specific item. Councilmember Fink made a motion to authorize staff to apply for the Walmart Foundation grant in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500.00) and Councilmember Coker seconded the motion. Mayor Frierson asked if the grant money would be funded to Desoto County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Arcadia or Leadership DeSoto. City Administrator Stewart stated that Leadership DeSoto was trying to raise funds to help with the construction of the bathrooms and staff would like to utilize the money for that purpose, but it did not have to be utilized solely for that purpose. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

**COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENTS**

Marshal Anderson asked the City Clerk to distribute the Police Department Monthly Report and explained that it was difficult to provide an accurate report with the new deadline for the Council agenda. He stated that if Council did not mind, he would provide the reports to Council at the meetings in the place of providing them in the Council's packets and no one objected. Marshal Anderson advised that three (3) juveniles had been arrested for vandalism over the weekend. He then stated he was there to address any concerns the City Council or public may have. David Wills, a non-city resident, asked the status of the body cameras. Marshal Anderson stated that through grants and budgetary line items, five (5) were currently being used and they worked well. Marshal Anderson stated that Shop with a Cop started today and five (5) or six (6) families had shown up. He provided the days and times if anyone was interested in helping with wrapping the presents.

The City Attorney advised that he would provide two (2) ordinances at the next meeting with the first regarding the decisions made on the ex parte communications and quasi judicial matters and the second regarding the abandoned vehicles or inoperative vehicles parked in yards. He stated that within the coversheet, there may be a need for Council input regarding exceptions for same. Councilmember Fink stated that he thought they had discussed putting it to licensure of the vehicle. City Attorney Wohl stated there may be an inoperable vehicle that has a current license that just sits in the yard. After further discussion, Councilmember Fink thanked him for the clarification. City Attorney Wohl advised he would be happy to revise it if necessary.

Mr. Wohl stated there was a legislative proposal to change election dates for local governments. He explained that initially the proposed language was to require all municipal elections be held in November of each odd year which would have pushed Councilmember Fink and Councilmember Frierson for an extension each. City Attorney Wohl advised he had contacted the Supervisor of Elections to discuss his concerns. He then stated they had backed off and basically said that if all cities in the county and the supervisor can agree; the elections can be whenever they want. He advised that if it passes, the proposed effective date would not be until January 1, 2017 so the regular elections would be held in 2016. He further advised that even if the bill passes, the Supervisor of Elections was okay with leaving it as is.

City Administrator Stewart stated he had another special event which he had just received that day. He advised that Friends of Arcadia Airport have an upcoming event on December 12, 2015 and there would not be another City Council meeting before that date. Councilmember Coker made a motion to approve the special event permit as presented and Councilmember Fink seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved.

Mr. Stewart advised that during the goal setting session, Council had heard that water quality was becoming a large issue, along with keeping the streets clean. He informed Council that the street sweeper was down. He advised it cost \$7,000.00 to get it in running condition with another \$13,000.00 for necessary full repairs which will be brought before City Council on December 15, 2015.

City Administrator Stewart advised Council that the public works compound had been broken into over the weekend and a trailer had been stolen which the prisoners use to haul the equipment around for work done throughout the City. He stated the trailer was found sitting on the side of a road in Highlands County. Mr. Stewart informed Council a dixiechopper mower was still in it, but everything else had been removed and the loss was estimated at Three Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$3,000.00). He stated staff would be bringing back a request to set up a special account to cover deductible loss such as this. He advised it would not increase the budget and they would recommend taking a certain amount out of contingency and moving it over to an account to cover any losses that the City might have in relation to deductibles.

## PUBLIC

Doris Twohig, a city resident, thanked the City Council for all the work being done and with everyone being on board. She stated it started at the top with Mr. Stewart and included the employees.

David Wills, a county resident, reiterated what Mrs. Twohig said. He also stated that he wanted to give the city an alert regarding the Syrian refugees and the effect it will have on budgets, etc. He stated he was not trying to make anyone paranoid, but that it was a non-violent revolution.

Michael Moon of Hanson Professional Services thanked City Council for the partnership they have enjoyed in working on the airport and the relationships they have with the City staff.

He stated that on behalf of himself and Hanson Professional Services, he wished the City the very merriest of Christmases and the most prosperous, safe and happy new year.

### MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Wertz-Strickland referred to all the posters on the wall of the Council Chambers and she explained that they were the result of the planning session the City Council had had with the Senior Advisors on November 19, 2015. She explained that Council had tried to develop a plan that they will be able to work with for the next couple of years. Mayor Wertz-Strickland thanked the Council and the City employees who took part in it.

Councilmember Coker reminded everyone that the Christmas parade was Saturday and advised she needed a head count of those planning to participate. She advised of the location and time of when the float would be decorated.

### ADJOURN

Councilmember Fink made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Coker seconded the motion. No discussion followed and it was unanimously, 5/0, approved. Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:43 P.M.

ADOPTED THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF December, 2015.

By:

Judy Wertz-Strickland  
Judy Wertz-Strickland, Mayor



Penny Delaney  
Penny Delaney, City Clerk