

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
CITY OF ARCADIA
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2010
5:00 PM

The workshop was called to order at approximately 5:00 PM with the following members and staff present:

Arcadia City Council

Mayor Robert Heine

Deputy Mayor Keith Keene

Councilmember Sharon Goodman

Councilmember Roosevelt Johnson

Arcadia City Staff

City Administrator Lawrence Miller

Asst. City Administrator Judi Jankosky

City Marshal Charles Lee

City Recorder Dana Williams

City Attorney Jason Henbest

The Mayor announced the purpose of the workshop was to interview candidates for the unexpired term vacated by Councilman Dixon and that because a regular meeting was to follow, he asked that candidates limit their presentation to no more than ten minutes. He then called the candidates in alphabetical order.

TARA ANDERSON

Ms. Anderson talked about her educational background and having moved to Arcadia in November 1988 to take a position with the Parks & Recreation Department. She added she had 21 years of experience working for the City and coordinating the mobile home park, cemetery, and parks programming. Since July 2009, she has worked for DeSoto County and considers her strengths to be good public relations with colleagues, the community, organizations and businesses; communications with all of the above and that she is dedicated in her endeavors.

Ms. Anderson briefly spoke of her family, including two sons and her involvement with the board of DCYAA and Little League baseball. She also stated she does not believe there would any conflict of interest with having her husband serve with the Arcadia Police Department.

Ms. Anderson would like to see more grants pursued for such things as economic development, which she believes is so important and for which smaller towns now have the advantage. She would also like to work more with the DOT on maintaining the Highway 17 corridor and with the County to implement a trolley system.

In closing, Ms. Anderson stated she would offer compatibility, stability, would work well with staff and citizens alike, was a good listener and advisor.

JAMMARIUS BING

Mr. Bing did not make a presentation other to say he would appreciate the opportunity to serve, would like to move the city forward particularly on those things not pleasing or pleasant, and was available to answer any questions the Council may have.

MARTHA CRAVEN

Ms. Craven noted her familiarity with the Council as having been regularly seen in the audience at meetings and often times at the podium on important issues. She added she had previously run for a seat on the Council, had lost by only four votes and was aware of several letters of support which had been written on her behalf. She explained about her community involvement including the beautification committee, Arcadia Main Street, the Tourism Development Council, the Advisory Board of the Master Plan, the DeSoto County Mural Society, a guest editorialist for the newspaper and a member of the business community. Ms. Craven stated she had been involved in the service business all her life, that serving on the City Council would be an extension of the service business, and that she has both the passion and ability to make a difference.

The Deputy Mayor asked Mrs. Craven what she felt would be her greatest strength to bring to the Council, to which she responded her business ability and spending time on the analysis of a decision using both common sense and good judgment.

ALICE FRIERSON

Mrs. Frierson began that she was born and raised in DeSoto County and had lived in Arcadia all her life with the exception of three years in Gainesville. She has run several businesses, is enthusiastic and has a positive attitude. She believes those attributes begin at the top and filter down to all employees and that she continuously considers what she can do to make [my] business better today and to make customers keep coming back.

Mrs. Frierson stated she listens well to people, and has several employees who have worked for her and her husband for over 20 years, which is a testament to her managerial skills. She added she has the desire and time required to devote to the position and that she is anxious to assist with the budget. She also felt that some might think this city grows too slowly but that the Council has to do what is best for Arcadia and necessarily at the same rate as Charlotte County. She would like to get Arcadia on a positive path and she is enthusiastic about doing so.

Mr. Keene asked Mrs. Frierson what she felt she would bring to the table and she responded a positive attitude, business ability, time, desire, and a good work ethic.

MARIA MORENO

Ms. Moreno introduced herself as originally from Puerto Rico but having lived here in Arcadia for over twenty years. She was raised with a migrant family traveling back and forth to follow the crops and felt proud of that heritage. Ms. Moreno stated she enjoys politics and serves on the DeSoto County School Foundation Board but would love to be on the other side of "this" dais as well. She added she could offer fluent Spanish and English to the constituents and that she would welcome the opportunity to serve.

The Deputy Mayor asked the same question of Ms. Moreno as the others and she answered she would bring integrity, take the job seriously, use time wisely as well as add a bilingual and fresh dimension to the Council.

ERNEST MORGAN

Mr. Morgan began by saying he was born and raised in Arcadia before covering his academic credentials. He then began a monologue about a steadfast government, the direction it should take, goals behind the government and its leadership. Mr. Morgan believes the Council

should examine the facts and that rather than taking the City "up" it should be more about the citizens. He felt he could bring the Council leadership, adding that "all the materials do not define government."

The Mayor thanked all of the candidates, then asked the Council if they felt prepared to make a decision tonight during regular session. It was the consensus of the Council that they were.

ADJOURN

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

APPROVED THIS 7th DAY OF DECEMBER 2010.

By:



Robert W. Heine, Mayor

ATTEST:



Dana L.S. Williams, CMC, City Recorder