

REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 15, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Arcadia City Council was held on March 15, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in Room D of the Way Building at 23 N. Polk Avenue. Councilmembers attending were: Whitlock, Heine, Fazzone, Goodman and Johnson. Also in attendance were: Administrator Strube, Attorney Holloman, City Fire Chief Rutherford, City Marshal Lee, Special Projects Coordinator Hewett, Grants Coordinator Weeks, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Waters, Ms. Way and Recorder Baumann.

Mayor Whitlock called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Reverend Ted Land from First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the Regular meeting of February 1, 2005 were adopted on motion of Johnson; seconded by Goodman and carried.

The minutes of the Special Work Session of February 15, 2005 were adopted on motion of Goodman; seconded by Johnson and carried.

Mayor Whitlock proclaimed Friday, May 6, 2005 as "National Early Care and Education Provider Appreciation Day" and urged all citizens to recognize and support our early care and education providers. Johnson moved to endorse this action; seconded by Fazzone and carried.

Pam Ames, President of the Main Street Association addressed Council stating that the Pinellas Park Christmas Association offered to donate 110 Christmas decorations to Arcadia. The Main Street Association will not be accepting the Christmas decorations since Florida Power and Light (FPL) informed Ms. Ames that they will not allow decorations to be placed on their light poles. Administrator Strube had previously told the Main Street Association that the City spends about \$5,000.00 per year on Christmas decorations. Ms. Ames is requesting that the City give the Main Street Association the \$5,000.00 to purchase Christmas decorations. Goodman asked Administrator Strube if the \$5,000.00 covered the entire City and was informed that it does. Goodman then stated that she would not be in favor of giving the funds to the Main Street Association as they would only be decorating the downtown area. Administrator Strube then reported that in the past the City has contracted with a company to provide Christmas decorations which cost about \$100.00 per pole. The company is responsible for the installation, removal, storage and maintenance of the decorations. Administrator Strube stated that if FPL will no longer allow decorations to be placed on their light poles this will affect the companies that supply the Christmas decorations as well as the towns that contract with them. Heine asked Administrator Strube to check with FPL and see what they will allow in Arcadia. Heine then moved that the request to turn over \$5,000.00 for Christmas decorations to the Main Street Association be tabled until Administrator Strube receives an answer from FPL as to what will be allowed in the way of Christmas decorations on their light poles; seconded by Fazzone and carried.

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Ms. Ames then addressed Council stating that the Main Street Association has been awarded a grant of \$40,000.00 from the Governors Hurricane Fund. The grant application requested \$30,000.00 to be allocated as a matching grant to upgrade the façade on the buildings downtown and \$10,000.00 to be used to upgrade the Tree of Knowledge Park. Ms. Ames is requesting Council approval to remove the asphalt around the tree and replace it with commemorative pavers which would be sold as a fundraiser. They would also like to add electric, water and new plants to the park. Fazzone moved to approve the request to upgrade the Tree of Knowledge Park using \$10,000.00 received from the Governors Hurricane Fund subject to Council review of final plans; seconded by Goodman and carried.

Mr. Rufino H. Rodriguez, President of the Comite Cinco de Mayo addressed Council to request permission to close Oak Street from Orange Avenue to Volusia Avenue on Sunday, May 1, 2005 for a parade. After discussion Heine moved to grant the request to close Oak Street from Orange Avenue to Volusia Avenue on Sunday, May 1, 2005 from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM for the Cinco de Mayo Parade; seconded by Johnson and carried.

Mr. Jerald Newberry, President of the DeSoto County Historical Society, Inc. addressed Council to request the use of the Tree of Knowledge Park and sidewalks on Oak Street for a Pioneer Day event on Saturday, April 2, 2005 from 9:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Mr. Newberry stated that he has already discussed this with the Main Street Association noting that they are in favor of the event. Heine moved to grant the DeSoto County Historical Society, Inc. permission to use the Tree of Knowledge Park and sidewalks on Oak Street for a Pioneer Day event on Saturday, April 2, 2005 from 9:30 AM until 4:00 PM ;seconded by Fazzone and carried.

Fazzone inquired if the Cinco de Mayo Parade would need to have insurance and name the City as additional insured and was informed that they should. Fazzone then moved to request that the Comite de Mayo have \$1,000,000.00 of insurance and the City is to be named additional insured; seconded by Heine and carried.

Marshal Lee asked when the Special Master would be hearing cases and was informed by Attorney Holloman that Marshal Lee would need to notify either Vince Sica or Sandra Sanders that he has cases ready to be heard.

The Planning and Zoning Board sitting as the Citizens Advisory Task Force Committee at their meeting of March 8, 2005 recommend that the ten (10) applications for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to be used for housing rehabilitation be approved. Fazzone moved to accept the Planning and Zoning Boards recommendation that CDBG funds for housing rehabilitation be awarded to the ten (10) applicants as submitted subject to the property owners meeting all CDBG requirements; seconded by Heine and carried.

The Planning and Zoning Board at their meeting of March 8, 2005 also recommends that the request of Hospice of Southwest Florida be granted. Heine moved that the City Council finds that the proposed use of Hospice of Southwest Florida is necessary for public

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convenience and welfare and is in conformity with the spirit and purpose of Chapter 110 entitled Zoning of the City of Arcadia and therefore the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board that the request of Hospice of Southwest Florida to construct a residence with eight (8) bedroom suites in order to provide 24 hour end of life care and an office building for administrative services on property located on N. Arcadia Avenue be allowed by City Code Section 110-241 (7) be approved by Resolution No. 2005-6-A subject to meeting all City, County and State codes; seconded by Fazzone and carried.

RESOLUTION 2005-06 A

WHEREAS, Hospice of Southwest Florida a non-profit organization owns 4.5 acres on North Arcadia Avenue parcel number 25-37-24-0A00-018A-0000, presently zoned One Family Dwelling R1A, and

WHEREAS, Hospice of Southwest Florida wishes to construct a single level hospice house with eight suites for patients to receive 24-hour end-of-life care and a single level administration office, and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Board has recommended that Hospice of Southwest Florida be permitted to construct the 8 suites for end-of-life care and the single level office as requested, and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed uses of Hospice of Southwest Florida is necessary for public convenience and welfare and is in conformity with the spirit and purpose of Chapter 110 entitled Zoning of the City of Arcadia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Arcadia, Florida, that Hospice of Southwest Florida be granted approval to construct a residence with eight (8) bedroom suites where patients will receive 24-hour end-of-life care and also a single level administrative office building on the above described property on North Arcadia Avenue as per City code section 110-241 (7).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this approval be granted subject to all City, County and State codes and Regulations being met.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA, in Regular Session this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2005.

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(Resolution 2005-6A continued)

ATTEST:

CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA

By: /s/ RACHELLE M. BAUMANN  
 RACHELLE M. BAUMANN, CMC  
 CITY RECORDER

BY: /s/ PAUL P. WHITLOCK  
 PAUL P. WHITLOCK  
 MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY  
 DAVID C. HOLLOMAN  
 CITY ATTORNEY

Fire Chief Rutherford addressed Council regarding the annual Fire Department Golf Tournament and requesting the waiver of greens fees. Goodman moved to waive the green fees for the Fire Department Golf Tournament to be held on April 29, 2005; seconded by Johnson and carried.

The Flowage report of Air-Cadia, Inc. for the month of January 2005 for the Municipal Airport was presented.

Heine inquired about repairs at the Airport and was informed that work will begin as soon as contracts are signed, possibly next week.

Reverend Ted Land representing the DeSoto County Ministerial Association requests the use of Lake Katherine Park for a sunrise service on Easter Sunday at 6:30 AM. Johnson moved to grant the request to hold a sunrise service at Lake Katherine on Easter Sunday, March 27, 2005 at 6:30 AM; seconded by Heine and carried.

DeSoto County Administrator June Fisher addressed the Council stating that the County Commission at their meeting yesterday approved the basis of agreement concerning a regional wastewater facility. Ms. Fisher hopes that the Council will approve the agreement.

Ms. Mandy Heines, Coordinator for DeSoto County Administration presented a list of proposed projects and alternate projects using CDBG Disaster Funds.

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Ms. Fisher then reported that Grubbs will be back in the county to do a final pickup of only what has been left on the right-of-ways. They will be done and out of the area by April 20, 2005.

Administrator Strube reported that he is working with FEMA regarding the temporary mobile home park and water/sewer usage. At this time he estimates about \$24,000.00 in water/sewer usage to date that FEMA will pay. FEMA will also pay to install separate water meters on all of the mobile homes.

Administrator Strube then addressed Council regarding the proposed regional water treatment plant stating that it will benefit both the City and County. He recommends that Council approve the joint venture. Fazzone moved to authorize the Mayor to sign all necessary letters and documents regarding a joint regional water treatment plant subject to review by the City Administrator and Attorney; seconded by Goodman and carried.

Steve Weeks, Grants Coordinator addressed Council to present a rejection list of CDBG clients. Mr. Weeks then stated that he recently received an E-mail asking that all Council Members contact their legislators to request that the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) release funds set aside for critical recovery needs following the 2004 Hurricanes. Johnson moved to approve Resolution No. 2005-6-B; seconded by Goodman and carried.

RESOLUTION 2005-06 B

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REQUEST  
TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO RELEASE 100.9  
MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)  
TO FUND CRITICAL RECOVERY NEEDS FOLLOWING  
THE 2004 HURRICANES.

WHEREAS, the City of Arcadia desires to rebuild its' infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has such funds for this activity provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development following the 2003 hurricane season

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Arcadia, Florida, as follows:

1. The City of Arcadia City Council formally requests that the State of Florida release the 100.9 million dollars to provide to the State by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Community Affairs.

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(Resolution 2005-6B continued)

2. That the Department of Community Affairs be allowed to provide said funding to qualified applicants in an expeditious manner.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA, in Regular Session this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2005.

ATTEST:

CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA

By: /s/ RACHELLE M. BAUMANN  
RACHELLE M. BAUMANN, CMC  
CITY RECORDER

BY: /s/ PAUL P. WHITLOCK  
PAUL P. WHITLOCK  
MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY  
DAVID C. HOLLOMAN  
CITY ATTORNEY

Martha Craven representing the Main Street Association reported that they will be having a fund raiser by selling tickets for a tour of Main Street and a cookout.

Ann Ryals with Hospice of Southwest Florida thanked the Council for their support and approval for the construction of a Hospice Center in Arcadia.

Fazzone reported that the March Rodeo was very successful.

Heine inquired about lights on US 17 South and was informed that the contractor will be here in May.

Special Projects Coordinator Hewett addressed Council to report that the Department of Transportation (DOT) has additional funds and will be replacing some of the traffic lights in town with the "arm held" style lights.

Mr. Hewett then stated that the second floor windows in City Hall will be refurbished under the current schedule of restoration work being done. He noted that the old window AC units will be removed and requests that the units not be put back in place after the windows are restored. The second phase of City Hall restoration calls for the placement of a new central heat and AC unit at an estimated cost of \$30,000.00. If the work is done during Phase I the

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unit could be retro fitted to be used in Phase II noting that only additional duct work would be needed. The City has received some insurance funds for the 5 ton unit which was destroyed during the hurricanes which could go to help off set the \$30,000.00. Administrator Strube is not in favor of updating the heat and AC for the second floor at this time. He wants to have the work done in Phase II in order to apply for grant funds to off set the costs. If we do the work now the entire cost must be covered by the City. It was noted that not all of the old window units are available to be used again and that they need both heat and air as the second floor is now the living quarters for firefighters from Station I and Station II. Administrator Strube stated that the refurbished windows could be removed and stored until Phase II is underway in order to protect them from potential damage that could be caused by reinstalling the window units.

Mr. Hewett then reported that a check for \$1,100.00 was sent to the Ronald McDonald House and thanked the Council and Attorney Holloman for their generous contribution of \$100.00 each.

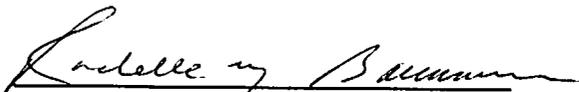
It was noted that on March 10, 2005 Ms. Way celebrated her birthday and sixty-three (63) years of continuous employment with the City of Arcadia.

Goodman asked when repairs to Martin Luther King Jr. Park would begin and was informed that the contractor is scheduled to begin work next week.

Johnson reported that he will be in Tallahassee on March 29, 2005 and March 30, 2005 to attend Legislative Action Day.

Mayor Whitlock announced that a work session of the City Council will be held at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 22, 2005.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

  
CITY RECORDER

  
PRESIDENT