

## REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Arcadia City Council was held on November 15, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in Room D of the Way Building at 23 N. Polk Avenue. Councilmembers attending were: Heine, Goodman, Fazzone, and Whitlock. Absent: Council Member Johnson was ill. Also in attendance were: Administrator Strube, Attorney Holloman, Marshal Lee, Acting Fire Chief Wells, Special Projects Coordinator Hewett, and Recorder Baumann.

Mayor Heine called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Council Member Whitlock.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of September 20, 2005 and the Work Session of October 4, 2005 were adopted on motion of Goodman; seconded by Fazzone and carried.

Jerald Newberry, President of the DeSoto County Historical Society addressed Council regarding their request to transfer ownership of the John Morgan Ingram Home to the City. Attorney Holloman reported that the Council had requested a review of the Historical Society's insurance policy which would name the City as additional insured. Attorney Holloman stated that once the City is involved then the Historical Society would need to carry Worker's Compensation Insurance to cover anyone working on the home. Steve Weeks Grant Coordinator stated that the Historical Society needs to seek a planning grant in order to have an architectural study done which would bring the property up to current codes. After that they could then apply for a grant to assist with the renovation of the building. The grant application must be submitted by December 15, 2005. Mr. Weeks stated that there could be a problem if the City takes over ownership of the property as grant requires that the building be used as a museum for several years. Mr. Weeks noted that it appears the grant rules would allow for the Historical Society to retain ownership of the property and still apply for grant funds as DeSoto County and Arcadia are designated a "rural county". Mr. Newberry will check and see if the society can apply for grant funding and have the matching requirement waived. It was noted that the award amount for small grants is a maximum of \$50,000.00 and will not be available until June 2006. Attorney Holloman stated that if the City does accept ownership of the property then only licensed contractors should be used as opposed to volunteer labor. Mr. Weeks will see if grant funds are available to shore up the building and he suggest that Mr. Newberry check with the County Building Department to see if volunteers would be allowed to jack up the building.

A report of Police Fines and Forfeitures for the month of October 2005 indicates fines \$1,522.75.

Marshal Lee was asked about being able to issue citations for loud music coming from vehicles and he explained to the Council that the officer must hear the music in order to issue a ticket.

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Recorder Baumann addressed Council to request that Council re-appoint Gary Evans to serve as the Council's Appointee for a two (2) year term on the Police and Fire Pension Board such term will expire on December 31, 2007. Fazzone moved to re-appoint Gary Evans to the Police and Fire Pension Board; seconded by Whitlock and carried.

Recorder Baumann then addressed Council to request that they acknowledge receipt of the Annual Report of Investment Activity for the Police and Fire Pension Fund through September 30, 2005. Goodman moved to acknowledge receipt of the report as submitted; seconded by Whitlock and carried.

Administrator Strube addressed Council stating that the deadline will soon be up to submit a Community Affairs Planning Grant application in the amount of \$10,000.00. The funds would be used to address planning issues such as the Capital Improvements Element. Whitlock moved to authorize the Mayor to sign all necessary documents to apply for the Community Affairs Planning Grant; seconded by Fazzone and carried.

Steve Weeks, Grant Coordinator addressed Council to report that the Planning and Zoning Board as the Local Planning Agency will hold a public hearing to review the Evaluation Appraisal Review (EAR's) report on December 13, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. and that Council will also need to attend the meeting.

Genie Martin representing the Arcadia/DeSoto Beautification Committee addressed Council to make them aware of a recent editorial regarding trash pickup in the City.

Jerald Newberry, President of the DeSoto County Historical Society addressed Council stating that he has scheduled inmates to cleanup the old Roe property in order to be ready for the Remembrance Day Ceremony scheduled for November 30, 2005. Administrator Strube stated that this is the third time that the inmates have worked on this site. Both Administrator Strube and Attorney Holloman believe that this is a work site and is not a proper site for a public gathering. Acting Fire Chief Wells stated that burning the home will cause very thick smoke and suggested a bon fire at the City Park opposite the Ingram House. Attorney Holloman stated that if the smoke is thick there will be no place for people to go as the other areas still contain debris from the removal of buildings. Attorney Holloman recommends that Council not allow a gathering on the Roe property. Mrs. Newberry reported that Coca-Cola will donate 400 cokes to give away at the ceremony. The City will supply the wood for the bon fire and the Fire Department will do the burning. Fazzone moved to require the Historical Society to provide liability insurance with the City named additional insured for the event; seconded by Whitlock and carried.

Attorney Holloman then addressed Council to advise them of the need for an executive closed session. Goodman moved to hold a closed executive session on either Monday, November 21, 2005 at 12:00 p.m. or Wednesday, November 23, 2005 at 12:00 p.m.; seconded by Fazzone and carried.

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Fazzone noted that the Arcadia/DeSoto Beautification Committee was not scheduled to be on the agenda and he requests that if they have something specific to discuss that they have the item placed on the agenda. He then stated that the City is doing the very best that it can do regarding code violations and trash pickup.

Public Works Supervisor Reed addressed Council to report that every street and every pile of trash has been picked up. Mr. Reed then listed the tonnage for each section of the City that was picked up. He noted that anything out at the curb now has just been put out and that all stumps and trees from Hurricane Charley or Hurricane Wilma have been picked up.

Administrator Strube addressed Council stating that it is time to purchase an additional garbage truck. He estimates the cost at \$170,000.00 for a Mac Truck. The proposed dealer is on the State bid list. Whitlock moved to authorize the purchase of a new garbage truck; seconded by Goodman and carried.

Special Projects Coordinator Hewett addressed Council to report that the City met with FEMA regarding Hurricane Wilma and will meet again on November 29, 2005. The City will receive full funding for the removal of debris such as trees and stumps and for overtime worked by the Fire Department.

Mr. Hewett then reported that the contract for repair work at the airport is being reviewed by the contractor's attorney and once approved he estimates it will take five (5) months to complete.

Pastor Lorenzo Dixon Addressed Council to say that there are still large piles of debris on Orange Avenue that has never been picked up. After discussion it was noted that the area in question is in the alley way, only street right of ways have been picked up. Public Works Supervisor Reed will go to the area tomorrow to see what can be done.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

  
CITY RECORDER

  
PRESIDENT