

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ARCADIA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Arcadia City Council

Deputy Mayor Alice Frierson	Councilman Joseph E. Fink
Councilman Robert R. Allen	Councilman Robert Heine-Absent
Mayor Keith Keene – Present VIA Phone	

Arcadia City Staff

City Administrator Lawrence Miller	City Recorder Virginia S. Haas
City Attorney William Galvano	Captain Matt Anderson
Asst. City Administrator Judi Jankosky	Marshal Charles Lee

Deputy Mayor Frierson gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

- December Employee of the Month – Fred Lewis, Systems Supervisor

Deputy Mayor Frierson presented Mr. Fred Lewis, Systems Supervisor, with the December employee of the month for his excellent service to the City. Dr. Miller thanked Mr. Lewis for his long time and devoted service to the City and was pleased it was Mr. Lewis who ended our 2011 year with such a valued employee.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the December 6, 2011 Workshop and Regular Meetings.
2. Check warrants from December 2, 2011, December 9, 2011 and December 21, 2011.
3. Air-Cadia Flowage and Hanger Rent Report for October and November 2011.
4. Mobile Home Park Monthly Report for November 2011.
5. Special Event Request for Masquerade at McSwain Park on February 25, 2012 (Leadership DeSoto)
6. Request for Street Closing of Oak Street between Polk and Monroe from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Monthly Car Show on Friday, January 13, 2012; Friday, February 10, 2012; and Friday, March 9, 2012.

A motion was made by Councilman Fink and seconded by Councilman Allen to approve consent agenda items 1 through 6. The motion carried 4-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Approval of Contract with Cintas for document shredding and compliance with Privacy Laws governed by FTC. (City Recorder)

Ms. Haas explained the Cintas Contract in their packets was the final contract as reviewed and approved by the City Attorney which includes a one year contract, one executive container with pickup and shredding once every 4 weeks at a cost of \$35.00 per month. City Attorney Galvano reminded that this contract would require review 60 days prior to its automatic yearly renewal and recommended each year to Council for approval.

A motion was made by Councilman Fink and seconded by Councilman Allen to approve the Contract with Cintas as outlined above. The motion carried 4-0.

8. Appointing Members to the Charter Review Advisory Committee and update on first meeting.(City Recorder)

Ms. Haas updated the City Council regarding the first Charter Review Advisory Committee meeting noting that only three members were present. The last appointed member by Council had declined service. She asked if any of the Council had more recommendations for this Committee and reported that the next meeting was scheduled for January 18, 2012 at 4 p.m. Mrs. Ann Pepper stated she had a list of names she would give to Councilman Fink.

9. Request from Pride of Arcadia Chapter #106 to adopt Orange Avenue.

Ms. Fontella Luther, Worthy Matron, Pride of Arcadia Chapter #106 stated this organization would like to give back to the community by adopting Orange Ave. and pledging to maintain the upkeep of the road as well as following all regulations given by the City. Deputy Mayor Frierson and Mayor Keene commended the request and hoped this idea would flourish throughout the City.

A motion was made by Mayor Keene and seconded by Councilman Fink to approve the request from Pride of Arcadia Chapter #106 to adopt Orange Avenue and to post signs on the street to reflect that effort. The motion carried 4-0.

10. Request for donation from DeSoto County Homeless Coalition, Inc.

Ms. Valerie Gilchrist, DeSoto Homeless Coalition, Inc. addressed the City Council and distributed a list of accomplishments for 2011. She distributed statistics on the poverty level in DeSoto County and information regarding grants for the homeless. She continued that in order to administer these type grants you need funding for overhead and operations. She responded to Deputy Mayor Frierson that there are currently 563 homeless in DeSoto County and with the last pool of funding they were able to assist at least 100 homeless, 200 including children. Councilman Allen stated he had no problem with the request, however, he would like to hear from Dr. Miller concerning the availability of City funds. Dr. Miller replied that the City recently garnered \$5,000 from the sale of surplus City vehicles. Ms. Gilchrist responded to

Deputy Mayor Frierson that typical administrative overhead is about \$6,000 per month and all staff volunteer. Councilman Fink reminded that the City would not be able to assist in this way each month.

A motion was made by Councilman Allen and seconded by Councilman Fink to donate garnered funds from the sale of surplus vehicles in the amount of \$5,000 to the DeSoto Homeless Coalition, Inc. The motion carried 4-0.

11. City Vision discussion on direction and goals for the City of Arcadia (Councilman Fink)

Councilman Fink reported that due to the recent change in City Council that the City Administrator should know how the present Council sees the City going forward and what needs to prioritize. He suggested a City Vision Workshop. Councilman Allen agreed and requested that a notice be placed in the newspaper for Citizen Participation. Mayor Keene agreed stating that the City needs a strategic plan, mission, review of goals and planning for the future. He asked if the Council may consider a Saturday workshop so that he could attend as well as utilizing a facilitator for the meeting. Councilman Fink agreed and suggested someone from School District or County. Councilman Allen suggested the Civic Clubs, Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs.

The City Council agreed to public advertisement of a Visioning Workshop on Saturday, January 28, 2012 at 9 a.m. in the conference room of the Way Building. Councilman Fink offered to contact the County regarding a facilitator for the meeting.

12. Proposed trash removal rebate (Councilman Fink)

Councilman Fink reported that he received complaints regarding the holiday schedules for garbage pickup and stated if citizens pay for 8 pickups then it would reason they should receive 8 pickups. He stated that citizens do not want to be charged for a service that it is not provided and those missed pickups could be prorated off the next bill.

Councilman Allen stated that Citizens know when holiday pickups occur and Deputy Mayor Frierson voiced that the City has more pressing issues. Ms. Ann Pepper indicated that normally her Monday holiday pickup occurs on Tuesday which she has no problem. Dr. Miller explained that Christmas Holidays sometime occur on Friday and Monday, however all garbage does get picked up. He continued that staff in the past worked on holidays, however now there is a holiday schedule. He stated as of today staff began picking up both Monday's and Tuesday's missed garbage. Ms. Ann Pepper noted that the City formerly placed ads in the newspaper. Mr. Gary Frierson stated that if he received 9 pickups one month would the City charge him for the extra pickup? Mayor Keene commented that he hoped to move on to the next item. There was some discussion regarding placing notices on the water and garbage bill. Holiday garbage pickup schedules are currently published in the Peace River Shopper and on the City Web Site.

COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

13. City Marshal – December 2011 Report Included.

Marshal Lee responded to Councilman Fink that there was a two car accident by Mills Avenue.

14. Attorney

Attorney Galvano reported that the City Administrator's contract expires January 11, 2012 and thanked the Council for their evaluations which he distributed along with the totaled scores. He noted that he did not receive Councilman Heine's evaluation. He explained that the City Council may extend another year or less however the contract does require Council to take action or the contract expires. Attorney Galvano responded to Councilman Fink that all have seen the evaluations except Mayor Keene.

A motion was made by Councilman Fink to extend the City Administrator's contract for 1 year. Mayor Keene seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Frierson stated that she felt Council should meet and discuss the evaluations and renewal of the contract. Councilman Allen agreed and added he would be willing to a 6 month renewal of the contract. Attorney Galvano added that the City Administrator would have to agree as well. Mayor Keene was not opposed to the 6 month renewal of the contract.

Councilman Fink amended his main motion to extend the City Administrator's contract for 6 months. The motion was seconded by Mayor Keene. Deputy Mayor Frierson stated again the full Council should be present. The motion carried 3-1 with voting as follows: Councilman Fink, Yes; Councilman Allen, Yes; Deputy Mayor Frierson, No; Mayor Keene, Yes.

Dr. Miller thanked the City Council for their confidence and mentioned that he too would like to have a discussion regarding his evaluation. Dr. Miler accepted the six month extension of his contract. Attorney Galvano stated he would send a copy of the evaluations to Mayor Keene for his review.

Attorney Galvano reported that he spoke to Councilman Heine and addressed the concerns Council brought forward at the last meeting. Councilman Heine told Attorney Galvano that he has health issues, which he felt were excused, and is optimistic in attending the next scheduled Council Meeting on January 17, 2012. Attorney Galvano reviewed the items in the Charter pertaining to absences and noted there was some discretion in determining an excused versus an unexcused absence. He continued that Council could set a policy or adopt a resolution addressing excused and unexcused absences. Attorney Galvano responded to Mayor Keene that a Resolution would be best avenue to address this issue.

A motion was made by Councilman Fink and seconded by Councilman Allen directing the City Attorney to draft a resolution defining an excused versus an unexcused absence. The motion carried 4-0.

15. Administrator

- a. Update on Interlocal Agreement Fire & Emergency Services, Amendment 1. Meeting date to be set with County Administration.

Dr. Miller reported that a meeting was set with the County for January 23, 2012 and asked

if the Deputy Mayor could attend. Dr. Miller stated he would inform the Deputy Mayor of the exact date, time and location.

b. Voluntary Recycling Program Update.

Dr. Miller reported that he spoke with Waste Management and a consultant firm which he has future meeting dates scheduled. He added that there is a new plant in Tampa that accepts paper, plastic, and all recyclables at the same facility. He continued that Public Works is working with a private company regarding access to recycling bins. Councilman Fink reported that the County Administrator also wants to start a recycling program in the County. Dr. Miller stated that Waste Management spoke of a Regional Site and mentioned the old Livestock Market and possibility of a USDA Grant. Attorney Galvano reported a possible conflict of interest as he represents Waste Management. Councilman Allen stated he was against recycling because he is aware of several people in town who pickup recycling.

c. Arcadia Housing Authority – PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) program.

Mr. Paul Bennett Seusy, PA, representing the Arcadia Housing Authority, explained the PILOT program and condition of the properties located on Jordan and Baldwin Avenues. The offer in essence is: Should the Housing Authority successfully transfer the properties to a third party, the Housing Authority will pay the disputed property taxes. The City of Arcadia would receive approximately 1/3 of taxes paid (\$17,202.48) by the Housing Authority. In return, the City of Arcadia will forgive any past due PILOT payments owed by the Housing Authority through 2011, and the Housing Authority would continue making payments under the PILOT agreement thereafter. Attorney Galvano asked for time to review the agreement and be prepared to present a recommendation at the next City Council Meeting.

d. Preferred Govt. Ins. Trust Audit Credit.

Dr. Miller reported that the City received a credit of \$10,492.00 from Preferred Governmental Insurance Trust following an audit of the Cities' workers compensation and employer's liability coverage. He noted this was in addition to the equipment insurance and adjusting of the Cities assets list.

e. Citizens Satisfaction Survey.

Dr. Miller reported there is now a Citizens Satisfaction Survey available in all departments and on the City Web Site for Citizens to report on any issues or services rendered by City departments.

Dr. Miller reported that the Church of Nazarene would open at 7 p.m. tonight for anyone needing shelter from the cold temperatures.

PUBLIC (PLEASE LIMIT PRESENTATIONS TO FIVE MINUTES)

Ms. Ann Pepper stated she would not be in favor of a Regional Recycling Center at the Livestock yard.

Dr. Miller stated that a Regional Recycling Program was just an idea put forth by Waste Management and on the subject of Tremron that he is continuing negotiations with Tremron and if unsuccessful other measures would have to be taken in order to resolve the situation.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MATTERS

Mayor Keene thanked the Deputy Mayor and Council for their service and was looking forward to the visioning session.

Deputy Mayor Frierson, Councilman Allen and Councilman Fink had no report.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 17th DAY OF JANUARY, 2012.

By:



Keith Keene, Mayor

ATTEST:



Virginia S. Haas, City Recorder