

TWO ITEMS AGENDA MINUTES
WORKSHOP – SUNSHINE LAW AND
STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ARCADIA
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017
5:00 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.

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. and the following members and staff were present:

Arcadia City Council

Mayor Judy Wertz-Strickland
 Deputy Mayor Jaccarie D. Simons
 Councilmember Susan Coker

Councilmember Robert W. Heine, Jr.
 Councilmember S. Delshay Turner

Arcadia City Staff

City Administrator Terry Stewart
 City Clerk Penny Delaney
 City Attorney T.J. Wohl

PRESENTATION

Agenda Item 1 – Sunshine Law Outline

City Attorney Wohl stated he wanted to do a refresher on the sunshine and public records laws and review what applies on the standards of conduct for public officers and employees as far as statutory ethics requirements. He then began reviewing the outline which had been provided to the Council Members (of which a copy is on file in the City Clerk's office) and stated that the Sunshine Law and Public Records Law were created by Section 24 of Article I of the Florida Constitution which is entitled Access to Public Records and Meetings. He further stated that the legislature clarified a lot of those issues of what is meant in the constitution and what was intended in the Sunshine Law which is found in Chapter 286 of the Florida Statutes and Public Records which is found in Chapter 119. City Attorney Wohl advised that all public records, with certain limited exceptions, are open for personal inspection and copying by any person. He stated that the basic requirements of sunshine is that public bodies must have their meetings open to the public, they must give reasonable notice to the public of when those meetings are going to occur and the minutes of those meetings must be taken, kept and

maintained by the City. He continued reviewing the outline which included the following: who or what the Sunshine Law applied to, who or what it did not apply to, the limited exceptions of the law, areas that are not exceptions to the law although some seem like they should be, notice of sunshine meetings, where sunshine meetings can be held, public participation of such, the authority to adopt reasonable rules, voting, roll call votes and minutes. He also reviewed the consequences of failure to comply with the sunshine law which included criminal penalties, noncriminal infractions, removal from office, attorney's fees, civil actions for injunctive or declaratory relief, and invalidity of actions taken in violation of the Sunshine Law and subsequent corrective action

Agenda Item 2 – Standards of Conduct for Public Officers and Employees of the City

Attorney Wohl then reviewed the standards of conduct for public officers and employees of the City which included the following: public policy, no solicitation or acceptance of gifts, no doing business with the City, unauthorized compensation, salary and expenses, misuse of public positions, conflicting employment or contractual relationship, exemptions, lobbying by former City officials, City Attorney, voting conflicts, financial disclosure and gifts.

ADJOURN

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:51 P.M.

ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF March, 2017.

ATTEST:

By:

Judy Wertz Strickland
Judy Wertz-Strickland, Mayor

Penny Delaney
Penny Delaney, City Clerk

