

**AGENDA MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ARCADIA
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014
6:00 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.

INVOCATION& PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

William Bailey gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. with the following members and staff present:

Arcadia City Council

Mayor Alice Frierson
Councilmember Keith Keene
Councilmember Robert W. Heine

Deputy Mayor Joseph E. Fink
Councilmember Robert R. Allen

Arcadia City Staff

Finance Director Beth Carsten

City Clerk Penny Delaney

ACTION ITEM

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-9; A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED BY THE CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

The Finance Director advised there are two (2) resolutions which need to be adopted and they needed to be called in by motion to be read by title only. Councilmember Keene made a motion to read the Resolution by title only and Councilmember Heine seconded the motion. The Mayor instructed the City Clerk to read the Resolution by title only and she did so. Councilmember Keene made a motion to adopt the millage as outlined in the Resolution and Councilmember Heine seconded the motion. Deputy Mayor Fink stated that for the same reasons as in the last meeting, he could not vote for the millage rate. He didn't feel that raising taxes would be a correct action to take. William Bailey of 422 E. Magnolia Street, Arcadia, Florida, agreed with Deputy Mayor Fink and asked the Council to reconsider. Ernest Hewett of 3587 NW Poultry Street, Arcadia, Florida, agreed with Deputy Mayor Fink and Mr. Bailey and stated he was against the increase. No discussion followed and it was 4/1 approved with Deputy Mayor Fink casting the dissenting vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-10; A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Deputy Mayor Fink made a motion to read the Resolution by title only and Councilmember Heine seconded the motion. The Mayor instructed the City Clerk to read the Resolution by title only and she did so. Councilmember Keene made a motion to adopt the budget as presented and Councilmember Heine seconded the motion. Deputy Mayor Fink stated the same as the week before, he could not support it. He brought up the issue that the Main Street Association of the City of Arcadia had scheduled their first annual golf tournament at The Bluffs in Hardee County. He pointed out that the hospital holds their annual tournament there as well. He stated that reasons for tournaments not being held at the City Golf Course is because they claim people won't use it. He again stated that he could not vote for the Resolution knowing that they have not done due diligence in his mind. Mayor Frierson asked what could be done at the late date since no one spoke up prior to this meeting and Deputy Mayor Fink advised that he did speak up. He stated that he had suggested selling the property, but didn't get any response. Mayor Frierson opened the discussion to the public.

William Bailey stated that the golf course was in the red the year prior, but it broke even this year. He thought that maybe with a little tweaking, it could possibly be a win-win for the City, County and citizens. He stated that he would hate to see the City sell the golf course because he thought it could be a good asset for the City. Ernest Hewett stated that he agrees with the Mayor regarding what could be done at this late date. He stated that he agreed with Deputy Mayor Fink that it makes no sense to have tournaments at The Bluffs. He further stated that the golf course is a park and is an expense, but it does have economic return to the community. He then turned his comments to the budget and asked the Finance Director about reserves and contingency funds. The Finance Director responded by discussing amounts in contingency that are set aside for reserves, specifying amounts set aside in water and general. She discussed funds that were put aside in the surtax money to use for contingency which would also be toward reserve items, along with money in water and sewer for emergencies. Deputy Mayor Fink stated the Finance Director is hamstrung at this particular time because the audit from last year was so imperfect because of the way things occurred last year that it hasn't been completed. He stated when it is completed, Council will know where they stand and that's one of the reasons he would prefer to not adopt this, but last year's budget in place of this because Council doesn't know where they are until the audit is completed. He stated that is no fault of the Finance Director, but the Council because they are at the top of the feeding chain. He expressed that he is not suggesting they sell the golf course, but that they look at their options.

Bob Miller of 7895 NE Cubitis Avenue, Arcadia, Florida, as President of the Big Dog Club, addressed Council to advise that they have held their tournaments at different golf courses, other than the City Golf Course, because they have been told by participants that they will not play on the City Golf Course and they hold their events to raise money. William Bailey asked if Mr. Miller would be willing to speak to individuals sometime in the future and get their ideas of what they think it will take to improve our golf course to something that they might, at some point in the future, want to play at.

City Council Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2014

Page 2 of 3

No discussion followed and it was 4/1 approved with Deputy Mayor Fink casting the dissenting vote.

PUBLIC

Ernest Morgan spoke (indiscernible).

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

None

ADJOURN

Deputy Mayor Fink made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Allen seconded the motion. Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 P.M.

ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF October, 2014.

By:

Alice Frierson
Alice Frierson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Penny Delaney
Penny Delaney, City Clerk