

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
CITY OF ARCADIA
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2009
5:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:00 PM with the following members and staff present:

Arcadia City Council

Mayor Roosevelt Johnson
 Councilmember Sharon Goodman
 Councilman Lorenzo Dixon

Deputy Mayor Robert Heine
 Councilmember Keith Keene

Arcadia City Staff

City Administrator Markae Rupp
 City Attorney William Galvano (entered late)

City Recorder Dana Williams
 City Marshal Charles Lee

1. CITY ADMINISTRATOR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City Administrator opened the discussion by saying she had prepared a one-page list of her top or basic priorities for the City and asked the Council for any further direction in terms of additions to the list, comments on progress made to date or for discussion in general. The prepared list included the following:

- ❖ Ensuring the City is in compliance with all State and Federal Statutes and regulations as well as the City Code
- ❖ Building a qualified and experienced administrative team
- ❖ Beautifying the City with new street signs and concentrated efforts of cleaning parks and public areas on a daily basis
- ❖ Improving safety in the parks with proper signage and equipment and grounds maintenance
- ❖ Ensuring open communication throughout the community
- ❖ Ensuring fair and equitable treatment of all city employees, without partiality or favoritism
- ❖ Pursuing funding opportunities for Council desired projects
- ❖ Addressing issues noted in the annual audit
- ❖ Assisting the City in becoming "Disaster Ready"
- ❖ Encouraging community wide cooperation and cohesiveness through public relations, partnership and mutual concern

The Mayor, recognizing that several of the items were on going, requested the City Administrator provide an update on the status or progress made thus far. The Administrator did so, citing specifically the advertising for and hiring of administrative staff positions, new street signs along Oak Street, an open door policy and open communication with numerous community groups and county agencies, implementing or amending policies in the payroll system, pursuing funding for several different projects such as at the airport, street paving, CDBG, and water lines, addressing audit comments, and a recently completed (water) rate study. She also briefly covered the

formulation of a committee to make the City disaster ready and emergency training (NIMS, CPR and AED) for employees.

The Deputy Mayor mentioned the increased savings and accountability realized by changing the method for which City vehicles are fueled, which was implemented by the City Administrator. Councilmember Keene stated his appreciation for what all the Administrator has brought to the City and that the theme is a refreshed outlook to the City's interactions with outside agencies. He added he also appreciated the up-to-date Human Resources aspect of implementing bi-weekly payroll and looks forward to direct deposit.

Councilmember Goodman echoed those sentiments, adding that often times representatives from other organizations make it a point to express their appreciation of the efforts made by the Administrator to move the City forward. Dr. Goodman also complimented the Administrator on her team building, but suggested both equity and diversity be incorporated as a component. The Mayor thanked the Administrator saying she has done a good job and adding the list of goals and objectives provided to the Council will give them criteria to consider in the future.

2. VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT FOR ELECTIVE OFFICERS

The Mayor stated he had reviewed State Statute and the Attorney General opinions concerning retirement benefits to elected officials and that basically all information abided by the twenty years of *consecutive* service rule. He did add that it was within the Council's purview to make a determination of amending the policy if that was their desire, but that any such action should be done during the regular session.

3. OTHER

The Mayor asked the Marshall if he had seen the advertising for a new car wash opening at the corner of Monroe and Palmetto Streets, calling the ad cards risqué. He felt the Council should be aware there is work being done at that location and as part of their advertising campaign, they are putting those cards on parked vehicles. The Marshal had not seen the advertising but agreed to look into it.

The Administrator stated although it is not listed on the agenda, she will be discussing the Smith Brown Center at the regular meeting.

(The City Attorney entered the meeting at this point.)

In addition, the Administrator noted she had met with Jan Brewer and Chris Rogers of the County on the Interconnect Agreement having seemingly reached an agreement. She requested a special meeting be called for Tuesday, November 24th at 5:30 PM to finalize the agreement with the County.

The Administrator also reminded the Council of the Thanksgiving Pot Luck Luncheon on Monday, November 23rd.

ADJOURN

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 PM.

APPROVED THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER 2009.

By:



Dr. Roosevelt Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Dana L.S. Williams, CMC, City Recorder