

TOWN OF ARCADIA LAKES
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 5, 2012

Town Council of Arcadia Lakes met on July 5th at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall Conference Room.

ATTENDING were Mayor Richard Thomas; Mayor Pro tem Rusty Onley; Council members: Tom Clark, Linda Jackson, and Mark Robertson. Attorney Charles Cook; Town Clerk Christine Murphy, Barbara Covington, Deputy Raul Ortiz; Also attending were Town residents: Cathy Cook, Frannie Larsen. Bernie Gaudi, Peggy and Bill Smith, George Geckle and Shelley Smith, Mary Helen Spradlin, Arch and Jenny Fowler, George Derrick, Steve Brown, Anne Newell, and Steve Wade.

Mayor Thomas opened the meeting by welcoming residents, and said that the ones who have signed up would get a chance to speak at the end of the meeting, for five minutes each.

DEPUTY'S REPORT: Deputy Ortiz reported that CAT Deputy Margaret Fisher was unable to attend the meeting, due to a minor automobile accident. He reminded residents to keep their garage doors closed at all times, to keep potential burglars from seeing what is in them. Residents are asked to keep their outside lights on at night, especially in dark areas. Also, call 911 to report any suspicious activity, Deputy Ortiz said.

JUNE MINUTES: Mayor Thomas asked if there were any corrections or additions to the June minutes. Mayor Pro tem Onley moved that the minutes be accepted as received; Mayor Thomas seconded the motion, which was approved.

COG REPORT: Mr. Norm Whitaker, Executive Director of Central Midlands Council of Governments, reported that he and Wayne Shuler had worked on the study for the Town. All of the goals that council developed about a year ago, pretty much cover the concerns of the citizens, according to the workshops and surveys, he said. The report shows a summary of the citizen's survey. Mr. Whitaker said that they had concluded their assignment, but part of his job is to attend council meetings and work with local governments. He said if he is needed to come back to help work on goals, etc. he will be glad to do so. Mayor Thomas asked Mr. Whitaker if they will put the report in PDF form for the web site.

He said the COG's services include updating and designing web sites, city planning, Comprehensive plans, review zoning code. Mayor Thomas said council might be interested in having them look at the Comprehensive plan, which is required by state law to be updated every ten years, with review every five years.

GARBAGE SERVICE (Town Payment Continuing): Mayor Thomas said they will Review the budget scenerio to see if the Town can pay garbage for another six months, which amounts to \$56,500, and would be an addition to the budget. Mr. Robertson said it would have to come out of the Town's unrestricted Reserves. After budget review and discussion, it was agreed that Council could pay for residents garbage service only through July, 2012. Ronnie Yandle will be sending out quarterly statements.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW: Mr. Robertson reported that he is meeting monthly with Barbara and Christine, to review all bank statements and financial transactions. He said that everything seems to be in very good order, well organized and understandable. Mayor Thomas said he will back him up.

WEB SITE: Mr. Clark reported that he had sent out nine requests for proposals. He said he got a very low and very high proposal, ranging from \$1,630.00 to \$39,000.00. Tom suggested that maybe a citizen's group could be drafted to help decide who to choose, and what will be on the web site. Mr. Robertson said it could be in the form of a recommendation from a citizen's group, but council would make the final decision. Mr. Clark said he will call Norm Whitaker for the COG's web site information for consideration, also. Mr. Clark said he will check around for some volunteers for the type information that is wanted on the web site. Ms. Jackson suggested that residents e-mail Christine with suggestions for it.

BURNSIDE LOT: Mayor Thomas reported that Mr. Marion Burnside is an owner of the Lot next to the Town's lot, on the corner of Formosa and Arcadia Lakes Drive. He is in the process of clearing out the property in the estate. After discussion, Ms. Jackson moved that Council offer Mr. Burnside \$500.00 for the lot; Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which was approved. Mr. Cook agreed to draft a letter to Mr. Burnside with the offer.

CLEAN SWEEP: Mayor Thomas reminded everyone of the County sponsored Clean Sweep coming up on July 20th and 21st. No Chemicals, Electronics, Batteries, Paint Cans (only if they are dried up with tops off.) The Town Newsletter with list of what all they will take, is in the mail, he said.

ARCADIA LAKES DRIVE DAM: Ms. Jackson reported that as an individual and a lawyer, not as a council member, she had talked with the lake owner's attorney, Herb Louthian, and David Wilson and John Poole, with DHEC, who said that Arcadia Woods Lake will have to be drained very slowly, due to the hazard rating of the dam on Arcadia Lakes Drive, after their recent inspection. They had suggested that the lake property who said that the lake will have to be drained very slowly. He suggested that the lake property owners get permission from dam owner Vera Cockrell's representative, Ms.Hidi, to have an engineer inspect the dam.

Ms. Jackson was told that the problems with the dam came from blocked spillway, erosion from surface damage; slope is steeper than it should be, and the vegetation on the dam. Mayor Thomas said the best thing to do would be to get DOT and DHEC together. He said he's concerned that if they close Arcadia Lakes Drive for work to be done on the dam, that Arcadia Woods Road would turn into a thoroughfare. He said he would suggest to DOT, that they put a "No Thru Traffic" and "Local Traffic Only" sign up. Mayor Thomas said he has sent a letter to president of SCE&G requesting that their trucks be kept off the road.

DECKER MALL: Mr. Robertson reported that he had attended a meeting here with representatives from Gills Creek Watershed Association, County Council member Jim Manning, Richland County Soil Water Conservation District, and some homeowners from Cary Lake, and in the Town, concerning water quality. He said they learned quite a bit about plans the county has underway, that would be a positive thing for protecting water quality in Arcadia Lakes. The county is purchasing Decker Mall property on Decker Boulevard, which is a major amount of pavement, buildings, and roofing for storm water run-off. Mark said he would like to propose to draft a letter for Rick to send behalf of Town Council, to County Council, telling them that they are doing a great thing by buying that; and when they make plans for renovation that they include in their plans for rehabilitation of the property, that they bring up the way they manage storm water to present standards, as required by county code; and bring up property to present standards for landscaping. Mr. Robertson moved that a letter be sent to county council to bring Decker Mall up to current standards for storm water and landscaping; Mr. Clark seconded The motion, which was approved.

THE FLOOR WAS OPENED TO RESIDENTS WHO HAD SIGNED UP TO SPEAK FOR NO MORE THAN 5 MINUTES EACH.

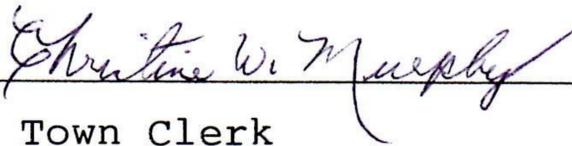
BERNIE GAUDI said that someone needs to point out to DHEC that the fish, turtles, and other wildlife would die if the lake is drained. It is a Town of seven lakes now, but would become a Town of six lakes if lake was drained; therefore, he feels council should take some responsibility for the problems with the dam and Arcadia Woods Lake.

SHELLEY SMITH: Mrs. Smith asked for the balance in the Town's Reserve Account. She was told there was approximately \$700,000 in the State Investment Fund. Mrs. Smith also asked about the Inspector that David Wilson said needed to be hired for The dam. Ms. Jackson said that Mr. Wilson said that the Lake owners should get permission from Mrs. Cockrell's representative, Ms. Hidi. Discussion was held about who would pay for the inspector.

FRANNIE LARSEN: Mrs. Larsen said that several years ago, the dam was closed, and Traffic detoured to Arcadia Woods Road. She said Arcadia Woods Lake was lowered, and they did everything they were asked to do. She said she would like to know who gave permission to open it back up. If it wasn't done right, they are now paying a penalty.

BERNIE GAUDI said that he wants pressure put on the deputies working on the speed sign on his street, because speeding has gotten worse now that the sign is not working. He also said that when the lake is lowered, the Mosquito problem will become worse. He asked what kind of spraying service the Town has. Mayor Thomas said that the county has that service. Christine said she will call them and put in a request.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Town Clerk