

TOWN OF ARCADIA LAKES  
COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 2, 2012

The Arcadia Lakes Council meeting was held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.

ATTENDING were Mayor Richard Thomas; Mayor Pro tem Rusty Onley; Council Members: Ms. Linda Jackson and Mr. Mark Robertson. Town Clerk Christine Murphy and Barbara Covington; CAT team Cpl. Kevin Stegall; Town Residents: Peggy and Bill Smith, George Geckle, Shelley Smith, Truman Fallaw, Mary Helen and LE Spradlin, Bernie and Terri Gaudi, Albert Whiteside, Gary and Noeni Cadle, Representative Joan Brady, and Fred Myhrer..

DEPUTY'S REPORT: Cpl. Kevin Stegall reported that the crime stats showed Aggravated Assault at 6716 Lake Arcadia Lane; Burglaries had occurred at 6732 Cary Lane, 1505 Arcadia Lakes Drive (not in town limits); and 3 Ward Court (not in town Limits.) Cpl, Stegall said to be sure and call 911 if you see anything suspicious in your Neighborhood. Cpl. Stegall also reported that there will be an Administrative Hearing on August 9<sup>th</sup> per request of a Strip Club to open up next to the Comedy House at the corner of Decker Blvd.. and Trenholm Rd. Extension, called Wett Nightlife. The Hearing will be held in the Brown Building on State House property. Mayor Thomas said that National Night Out is August 7<sup>th</sup>, and asked Kevin for any suggestions on what to do about it.

MINUTES – JULY 5<sup>th</sup>: Mayor Thomas asked if there were corrections or additions to the July minutes; Ms. Jackson said the web site figure should be corrected to read \$1,630.00. Ms. Jackson moved that the minutes be approved with correction; Mr. Robertson seconded the motion, which was approved.

AUDIT REPORT – 2011: Mayor Thomas moved that the 2011 Audit Report be approved as received; Mr. Robertson seconded the motion, which was approved.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT: The unaudited monthly financial report for July was reviewed and approved by council.

COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING – COG RESULTS: Mayor Thomas reported that the Council Planning Session for COG results could be held at MASC on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> or the 29<sup>th</sup>. He asked Christine to confirm date and time.

WEBSITE BIDS: Mayor Thomas reported for Tom Clark, on the bids that had been received for the web site. The Council of Governments' bid was \$7,500.00; E Marketing's bid was \$4,900.00; Site Images was about \$1,600.00; Cyber Woven's bid was \$39,000.00 plus \$6,600 for first year; Julie Prickett's bid was \$3,000.00. Councilman Robertson said that he understood that Mr. Clark had contacted a couple of residents to help review the bids and make recommendation to council. Mr. Robertson said that maybe a recommendation can be made at the September meeting. Mayor Thomas said that he would suggest that Mr. Clark continue with the bids and might have the two low bidders do a presentation, along with some examples of their work, at the next council meeting.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The last Comprehensive Plan for Arcadia Lakes was filed in 1999, Mayor Thomas said. Mr. Robertson said that the Town's Comprehensive Plan must cover all the topics, and issues required by state law. Mayor Thomas said that the Vision plan and goals that Mr. Robertson and committee had come up with, along with the COG information, plus what council comes up with in September, could be put together into a list of objectives; then have it formally done by the COG or someone with the Municipal Association. Mr. Robertson said that since the COG has already been working with council; that maybe they could be included in the workshop in September.

BURNSIDE LOT: Mr. Marion Burnside has not responded to letter requesting purchase of his lot on Arcadia Lakes Drive, Mayor Thomas said.

ROPER POND: Ms. Jackson reported that no decision has been made on the Town's Appeal, which was heard on May 8<sup>th</sup>; but should be forthcoming soon.

ARCADIA WOODS LAKE DAM: A group had met with DOT, DHEC, Rep. Brady, and Senator Lourie last week; along with conference call with Vera Cockrell's (dam owner) representative. All agreed that an Engineering Study was needed in order to determine the actual status of the structure of the dam. DOT disclaims everything except maintaining the road, Mayor Thomas said.

DECKER BOULEVARD: Councilman Robertson reported that letters had been sent to County Council Chairman, Mr. Kevin Washington, with copies to our County Council Representative Jim Manning; and to Chairman of RC Soil & Water District, regarding the redevelopment of Decker Mall, that the county is purchasing and turning into county offices, asking them to upgrade the storm water infrastructure and the landscaping in the parking lot; where that area drains directly into at least one of the lakes in Arcadia Lakes. Mayor Thomas said there were no retention pond rules and regulations when Decker Mall was built.

ARCADIA WOODS LAKE DAM: Mr. George Geckle, of 937 Arcadia Lakes Drive, said he is smelling the dead fish from the partially drained Arcadia Woods Lake; and It is a serious environmental issue. He said that if the Town can spend money on Roper Pond, it needs to help out financially on repairing the dam. There are 14 lake owners in dire straits, he said. Mrs. Shelley Smith said that the Town's financial reports should be published, according to the Municipal Code of Laws. She said that the cost of the dam inspections could be from \$11,000 to \$15,000, with necessary repair plans adding up to \$40,000. Their property values are diminishing and she said *council should help pay for the dam inspections.*

Mr. Bernie Gaudi said that DHEC's letter had said to drain lake immediately. The Mosquitos are very bad, and the lake stinks. There are ecological and environmental Problems, he said. Something needs to be done about speeding on Arcadia Lakes Drive, which has some bearing on the condition of the dam, Mr. Gaudi said.

Mr. MYHRER said that if the roadway over the dam has not been properly constructed, which DOT is responsible for, the vibrations from the traffic could further damage the Dam. Peggy Smith said that Mr. Hidi should look into the responsibility of DOT, Since as Vera Cockrell's representative, they are responsible for the Dam.

ARCADIA WOODS LAKE: Mrs. Peggy Smith, President of Arcadia Woods Lake, Said that DHEC has allowed them to slow down lowering the lake, as long as the Group is making progress in getting the engineering study underway. Mrs. Smith said she has a copy of the proposal from Heritage Co. that Mr. Hidi, representative of Dam Owner Vera Cockrell, had received; stating that a study would have to be done on the Storm water facilities coming into the lake, and the Railroad portion of inflow into the Lake. One portion of the proposal is how water flows into the lake. Water from the Commons comes under the railroad, along with debris, into the lake, which drops into \_\_\_\_\_ lake, then Burnside Lake into Keels Lake. Every engineering study initiated has to be approved by DHEC, Peggy said. She asked council if they would *consider doing an environmental study like the one done on Roper pond, of the effects of wastewater coming into the drainpipe and ruining their lake.* She said they are responsible for the Spillway only.

Mayor Thomas said background information from DOT. and all of the Engineering Studies since 1980 are needed.

Mayor Thomas asked Representative Brady if she could help council with a joint letter with Senator Lourie to DOT. He said he would talk with her further about it.

Lowering the lake, and DOT placing a weight limit on vehicles using Arcadia Lakes Drive would help, Mayor Thomas said.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Christine Murphy, Town Clerk