

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF JANUARY 22, 2008
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Mayor Charles Jessup at Meadows Place City Hall, One Troyan Drive, Meadows Place, Texas, with notice of said meeting giving the time, place, date and subject thereof having been posted as prescribed by Section 551.041, TGC with the following members present and in attendance:

Mayor:	Charles Jessup
Aldermen:	Heidi Case Terry Henley Charles Kulhanek Rick Staigle David Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Mayor Jessup welcomed everyone and second year Webelos, who are moving up in two months, from Den 8, Pack 301 presented the colors.

Captain Jack Ashton then gave a report on police activities since the last regular council meeting which was December 18, 2007. He said there were four reportable accidents, nine arrests, 1608 calls for service, no city ordinance citations but 321 traffic citations were issued. There were 44 incidents requiring police response reported during this time. This has been a very successful Holiday season with no residential burglaries and only 4 business burglaries reported. Most of the arrests were for other agencies. A copper theft from an electrical box in the old Garden Ridge property occurred. There were no drug arrests and not as many house watch activities as had been anticipated. Mayor Jessup asked Captain Ashton to explain the Code Red messages. Captain Ashton explained that up to 50,000 phone numbers per hour can be dialed with the Code Red system. The number appears on Caller ID's as 999-911-9999. When it was tried out in Meadows Place, 64% of the data base was successfully contacted. On another matter, the police are still trying to get the docking stations working after switching from analog to digital videos.

Parks & Recreation Director Terry Modeland gave the Parks & Recreation annual report for 2007. She noted a new employee had been added to the payroll in the form of Kelly Schnarr. Ms. Schnarr had been an assistant manager at the pool last summer. She now assists the Parks department after school on a part time basis. This year's Christmas memories was the best ever and she has a meeting scheduled with concession managers from the different groups to see how it can be made even better. Parks is working with Mayor Jessup on the 25th Anniversary celebration – currently by working on gathering committees and looking over resident suggestions. There is a possibility of some misuse of cards at the tennis courts. Each card allows one resident and up to 3 guests to enter the courts. It appears some residents are giving their cards to people who do not live here to use. The problem is being investigated with the aid of the police department. The Kirkwood annex has been repainted. Much of the wrought iron fencing around the pool needs to be replaced. The "Hall of Honor" has been moved from the Community Center to City Hall. Regarding grants, Grant #1 has been completed and funds received. Grant #2 still has some funds coming – as soon as signage is completed. They are working on Grant #3 now and would like to complete this before working on a new Master Plan for the Parks as the old one is outdated.

During audience comments, Cindy Barrowman asked if her grandchildren could use her card when they are visiting. Answer – yes, as long as she accompanies them.

Timothy LaPointe asked when Heavy Trash day was scheduled. Answer – some time in May – check the Newsletter for exact date.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted there were new owners of the Garden Ridge property and we are waiting on information from them as to what their plans are. The city is working with The Oasis folks on their project. A workshop meeting with updates and changes to the MCIA will be scheduled soon. After attending a recent TMRS meeting, he is convinced Meadows Place is doing the best possible for our employees. There is an article in the Fort Bend Business Journal on page 82 about Councilmember Terry Henley and all he does for the community. Mayor Jessup congratulated Councilmember Henley noting the city appreciated all he has done for it.

During Council comments, Councilmember Case noted she has spent time with each department head to learn what city employees do all day. She said it was an eye opener and she was very impressed.

Chief Baker then presented the Police Racial Profiling Report to Council. He explained that the Department again used the services of Del Carmen Consulting, as they have from the time this report became mandatory six years ago. The first year approximately 40 hours were spent on gathering information with an additional 16 hours mid year audit to make sure the department was on track. Now the report is generated from information gathered and entered into the ticket writers. It included all traffic and pedestrian stops and lists race, ethnicity, whether a search (agreed or forced) was conducted, what the probable cause was for the stop, etc. The purpose of the report is to show that our department is doing its job correctly.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS AND FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS, FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL CONTROL WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS.

This ordinance is the same as previous ones and the cost is also the same. As noted by Councilmember Kulhanek, Animal Control won't come to get an animal unless the animal is contained. While this condition is not ideal, it is the only option we have. We need the county to help us with animal control. It was suggested we inform residents about this requirement in our Newsletter. Councilmember Staigle made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2008-01**, authorizing the Mayor and the City Secretary to enter into an Interlocal agreement with Fort Bend County, Texas, for the enforcement of Animal Control within the City Limits. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek and passed with unanimous approval.

Councilmember Kulhanek then made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle, to ratify the expenditures as presented on the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

During audience comments, Cindy and Stewart Barrowman noted that the police department is more visible and think that they are doing a good job.

Kermit McCarver said if you want a wonderful trip, without worrying what is going on at home, make sure you fill in a house watch form. It works great.

Thomas LaPointe noted that when speeders are stopped on West Airport, they frequently turn onto Meadow Valley or Ambledwood and stop. He is requesting that the Police Officers require the motorists to pull further off of West Airport onto Meadow Valley or Ambledwood so as not to hinder other traffic.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary