

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF JULY 28, 2009
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by Mayor Charles Jessup, 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
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

The pledge to the flag was led by Police Captain Jack Ashton and resident Jimmy King gave the invocation.

Captain Jack Ashton reported on Police activities since the last Regular Council Meeting. He noted there were 5 reportable accidents, 10 arrests, 2283 calls for service, 69 offense reports, 374 traffic citations and 69 traffic and 7 city ordinance warnings issued. There was a high number of house watches performed due to the fact this is vacation time. There was one burglary of a motor vehicle, two residential burglaries, and two arrests made after residents saw people taking mail out of mail boxes. The next RAD Kids class will be held this weekend with nine children signed up. There are still a few openings for this class.

Terry Modeland, Parks and Recreation Co-Director, gave an update on Parks events that have occurred since the April Council meeting. She said that Grant #3 has been completed, with the recognition signs up at the field house. The Dorrance sign should come down in the near future. There has been no news yet about Grant #4. The Parks Department is working on their budget for fiscal year 2009-2010. There were 101 kids in attendance at the last Barefoot "n Friday event. The next Barefoot "n Friday will be the last one of the season. The summer program is going well. Swim Team finished their season with no major problems. The saltwater conversion of the pool has saved the city money. Last day the pool will be open this year is Labor Day, Sept. 7th. Parks Dept. employees are working with Sugar Grove Church of Christ on a Health Fair and also on a Fun Run to be held Sept. 26th.

During audience comments, John Whitemen said he has nothing against roundabouts but he does have some questions. They are (with council answers following) - Has the cost and design already been approved? (Changes can be made.) How have we informed residents? (Through the *Fort Bend Southwest Star*, the city's Newsletter, a Town Meeting held on Splash Night and at other council meetings.) How will 18 wheeler trucks and fire trucks be accommodated? (With a special apron on the inside of the lane.) Will there be a school cross walk? (Yes) Is a plot plan available to look at? (Yes, in City Hall lobby - but not before tonight.)

Abby Murphy said she appreciates the beautification efforts that have been made by the city and wonders if the roundabouts will be the same as what is currently around the Mecom fountain. She does not want to see traffic impeded.

Todd Van Note does not think the roundabouts are a smart idea. He would like Council to consider a permanent information sign somewhere east of Kirkwood similar to the marquee at the Community Center. And he is unhappy with the service received when he tried to report an overflow at the water tank on Kirkwood.

Vivian Whiteman would like make it legal to post signs for found dogs so they can be returned to their owners.

Brock Ramey is also upset with the treatment he received when he tried to report the water tank spillage over the weekend. He wanted to know which Alderman represented residents in Section 1. (All Aldermen are elected at large - not by district.)

Paul Blubaugh would like to see a development in the city similar to Town Square in Sugar Land that would be a destination place for folks to congregate at. He would like it to be pedestrian friendly. (A request for a grant has been submitted to H-GAC to fund a study on the feasibility of such a development. EDC hopes to be able to contribute to this also.)

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted that: 1: the Fire Department made 15 EMS calls, one structure fire, four fire alarms and one hazmat call in the city last month; 2: Discussing major road repairs, 2007 Fort Bend County Mobility Bonds will be utilized to pay for much of the reconstruction of West Airport from U.S. 59 to just west of Kirkwood and 90% of the cost to reconstruct Kirkwood, from our northern city limits to our southern city limits. A brochure explaining the roundabouts will be ready soon. If the roundabouts were not safe for pedestrian and especially child crossings, they would not even have been considered. The diagram in the City Hall lobby is a concept and not a plan. It is anticipated that the roundabouts will increase the city's property values. 3: The city is currently in the middle of its budget preparation season. Councilmember Henley noted the city has spent nearly a year studying the roundabouts. An informed decision was made after much research. City Council is here to act in the best interest of Meadows Place.

Mayor Jessup then read the City's Vision Statement for Meadows Place in the year 2024. Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Case to adopt the City's Vision Statement as presented. A copy of this vision statement can be found on the city's web site under the "Government" tab.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL PROJECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE AND FORT BEND COUNTY TEXAS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WITH RESLOPING AND SHAPING APPROXIMATELY THREE ACRES OF LAND AT THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT TO COMPLY WITH STORM WATER MANAGEMENT.

Mayor Jessup explained this ordinance is required before work can begin. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek to approve the Ordinance, numbered **2009-15**, as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION 20-15 BY ADDING THERETO A NEW PROVISION ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE REGULATION OF TREES AND SHRUBBERY ON NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-16**, as presented. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 9, ENTITLED "BUILDINGS," ARTICLE I, ENTITLED "IN GENERAL," SPECIFICALLY SECTIONS 9-2 ENTITLED "ADOPTION OF CODES" BY REPEALING THE PRESENT PROVISIONS AND INSERTING A NEW SECTION 9-2, ENTITLED "ADOPTION OF CODES." THE NEW CODES BEING ADOPTED BY THIS ORDINANCE ARE: 2006 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE; 2008 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE; 2006 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE AND 1999 THE STANDARD SWIMMING POOL CODE.

Approval of this ordinance will bring our building codes up to date. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Case to adopt the Building Code ordinance, numbered **2009-17**, as presented.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 9, ENTITLED "BUILDINGS," ARTICLE I, ENTITLED "IN GENERAL," SPECIFICALLY SECTION 9-3, ENTITLED "FEES," BY REPEALING THE PRESENT PROVISIONS AND INSERTING NEW PROVISIONS IN PLACE THEREOF.

This ordinance changes the fee schedule we currently use. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to approve the ordinance numbered **2009-18**, as read. The motion carried unanimously.

The quarterly investment report was presented to Council for approval. Councilmember Case made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek to accept and approve the investment report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Staigle made a motion to ratify the two expenditures to Semark Landscape Services, Inc. totaling \$11,090 as presented on the agenda. Councilmember Kulhanek seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

During audience comments, Sharon Kitchen reminded everyone about the Wall of Heroes in City Hall, honoring those military men and women with ties to Meadows Place.. She also reminded the audience that if they choose to come to City council meetings, they will hear what is going on in the city, noting that it was disrespectful to leave in the middle of a Council meeting.

Bill Smith asked how the new mall would affect us economically. Currently the answer is not known as plans are still waiting for approval. Currently, all we are sure of is that the movie theater is being renovated to become an Indian ethnic theater.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary

