

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
OF JUNE 24, 2003
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The workshop meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Mayor Mark McGrath 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 Article 6252-17, V.T.A.C.S. with the following members present and in attendance:

Mayor: Mark McGrath

Aldermen: Terry Henley
Charles Jessup
Joe McCann
David Piwonka
Leen Zellers

thus constituting a quorum.

Discussing other matters first, Mayor McGrath said a hearing was held Friday in Harris County concerning the residence where many cats were being boarded. The Harris County judge concluded that the Harris County Humane Society did not mistreat the cats and the 26 cats that are still at that facility and the 17 that were transferred to the Park Glen Animal Clinic will stay where they are until the matter is settled in District Court in Fort Bend County. Sergeant Timmers with the Humane Society has been dropped from the case. Mr. Farmer, the Humane Society attorney has informed Mrs. Russu's attorney that Meadows Place has passed an ordinance limiting the amount of animals allowed in any one residence in the city to four, four legged animals.

Mayor McGrath then informed council that Officer Phil Kempthorne has retired from duty with the city's police department. Mayra Velasquez, who attended the police academy at the University of Houston with Officer Jeffery Bennet has been hired to replace him. She will begin her duties on July 7th. Officer Robert Rivas has turned in his two week resignation today. He has accepted a position with the Memorial Villages Police Department. The officer who was trained to operate the motorcycle has left to go to work for the City of Stafford. Currently, no officer, not in a supervisory position, is qualified to operate the motorcycle. Chief Pickett understands if another officer is not qualified to operate motorcycle, and it is not used, the motorcycle will be sold.

The list of projects promised from the Parks Department is not yet complete. Mayor McGrath suggested waiting until the August 12 budget workshop when the parks' budget will be discussed. Alderman Jessup felt that was not soon enough and Mayor McGrath said he would have the Parks Department prepare the list by July 8th. The list will not be discussed until the August 12th workshop.

Council then discussed revenue projections for next year's budget. Property values are being assessed approximately 6% higher than last year. If the tax rate remains the same, this will account for \$60,000.00 more in revenues. Income from fines and forfeitures is expected to be much higher while interest income will probably be much lower. Revenues in the Public Utility Department are expected to be up about 4% due to tap fees for the proposed Senior's Village development. Most salary increases will remain at 3%. Benefits will be looked into.

Discussing the Knudson & Associate proposal, council questioned how it could be funded, especially in light of the state legislature tightening up permitted uses for EDC funds. Council felt it still wanted to pursue some of the suggestions in the Knudson & Associate proposal, paying for it out of the General Fund if necessary.

Presentation and report from Knudson & Associates
There being no further business to consider, Alderman Piwonka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Zellers to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the workshop meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary