

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF MAY 23, 2006
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:30 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:	Charles Jessup Joe McCann David Piwonka Terry Henley Rick Staigle

thus constituting a quorum.

Mayor McGrath presented recognition plaques to outgoing Aldermen McCann and Piwonka. He noted that Alderman McCann had been a Council Member since May of 1994. He has served on many committees including the recycling and image committees and most recently helped to design the monument signs at McDonald Park and at the four main city entrances as well as the new monument sign at the Community Center and all the new wrought iron fencing around the parks. Mayor McGrath noted that Alderman Piwonka, a Council Member for the past 21 years has been a fountain of solid advice. He, along with former Council Member Leen Zellers, bid and won the right to purchase the vacant lot on Brighton. Both will be sorely missed on Council.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3, Faye Dettling then swore in city officials to their offices as follows: Charles Jessup, Alderman, Place No. 1; Charles Kulhanek, Alderman, Place No. 2; David Wilkens, Alderman Place No. 3; and Mark McGrath, Mayor. Mayor McGrath thanked Judge Dettling for her past ten years of service noting that she was stepping down as Justice of the Peace at the end of this year. Councilmember Henley thanked the outgoing Aldermen noting the great working relationship that existed with council over the past years. He said that working together as a team they have accomplished so very much. Councilmember Jessup said that previous Mayor McDonald along with Councilmembers McCann and Piwonka, have built our city. Councilmember Staigle said that while he has only lived in the city for the past eight years, it was a pleasure working with Councilmembers McCann and Piwonka. Councilmember Kulhanek thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on Council and that he looked forward to working on Council. Councilmember Wilkens thanked everyone for the privilege to serve this great city and he, too, was looking forward to working on Council.

Kathy Sahlin, with Meadows Home and Garden Club then presented the 2006 Garden Club Scholarship to Erin McGlasson.

Captain Jack Ashton then reported on police activity since the last regular council meeting. He said there were ten reportable accidents (up from the normal five to six each month, a majority of which were "fender benders"), 9 arrests (seven which were actual other agency warrants,) 925 calls for service, no city ordinance citations, 483 traffic citations, 37 reported incidents, 11 city ordinance warnings and 83 traffic warnings. Two of the reported incidents were burglaries which occurred on the previous Friday. One reported incident was a man who was purchasing parts at Helfman Ford for his company but charging them to another company. The juvenile curfew was used a few times, once for a young man who was running down the median of West Airport at 1:30 a.m. and another time at 4:00 a.m. when some youngsters were found at our park. Parents seem happy with the way police have dealt with their children. There were six documented noise complaints in the last month. Cocaine was found in a vehicle that was stopped for running four stop

signs on Kirkwood. Councilmember Jessup asked about the noise complaints and thanked the police officers for putting their lives on the line for us. He was told two of the noise complaints were the result of the same vehicle passing through the city and the other four could have been a result of happy children due to the fact that school was out.

During audience comments, resident Tammy Mihail, who said she grew up here and now is living here again, questioned the no parents allowed at the Barefoot 'n Friday gatherings. She said when her 15 year old was nine, she was allowed to stay but now that she has another nine year old she was told she could not stay. She said last Friday there were 136 kids in attendance. She believed some of the teenagers were over the age of 14 and they kept going behind the building. Mayor McGrath thanked Ms. Mihail for her remarks and said he would discuss them with the Parks Directors.

Resident Sandy Kelly said she was in complete agreement with Ms. Mihail. Her daughter was also at Barefoot 'n Friday. She moved here eight years ago from the Los Angeles area and is familiar with gang activity. The boys in question were not dressed to swim and she believes they were up to no good.

Resident Brock Ramey, who moved back to the city recently, complained about the traffic on Scottsdale, between Ainsworth and Kirkwood. He said vehicles are traveling between 30 and 60 mph at any given time. There are no posted speed limit signs in that area. He understands Council decided there would be no speed bumps in the city. He said there was a wreck this morning and asked council to look into other traffic calming devices that might be used.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor McGrath said that, as noted in the last Newsletter, Council is commissioning a survey to be prepared to "jump start" a proposed marketing plan for our city. The survey will ask what residents like about their city and what they feel Council might not be doing right. He encouraged every adult to fill in one survey. Mayor McGrath also noted that hurricane season begins on June 1st. He said the city was preparing by stocking up on provisions and checking out communication our system. If the power goes down, the city will be prepared as best as it can be.

During Council comments, Councilmember Jessup thanked the residents who spoke up during audience comments. While their comments could not be addressed this evening, if the Mayor feels they need Council input he will put them on a future agenda. He also noted that the minutes of every meeting, once approved, become a legal document of the city and he thanked the City Secretary for preparing them.

Councilmember Kulhanek introduced Timothy and Thomas LaPointe, Boy Scouts who were in the audience. He said Timothy was currently working on his Eagle Scout project that would benefit the baseball league.

Councilmember Henley then made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2006, 2006, workshop and regular meetings. Councilmember Staigle seconded this motion which carried with unanimous approval.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following resolution:

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE ELECTION OF A MAYOR PRO TEMPORE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO SERVE IN SUCH OFFICE UNTIL THE NEXT REGULAR CITY ELECTION.

Mayor McGrath recommended Alderman Henley for the position. Alderman Henley has been the Mayor Pro Tem for Meadows Place for several years. He also represents the city at the Houston-Galveston Area Council and the Texas Municipal League. He continues to bring recognition to the City of Meadows Place. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jessup approve the ordinance, numbered **2006-12**, electing Councilmember Henley to the position of Mayor Pro Tempore. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath 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 AGREEMENT WITH CLAUNCH & MILLER, INC. TO PROVIDE VARIOUS GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SERVICES.

This agreement renews the contract for GIS services in place for the last year at a cost of \$300.00 per month. Currently we receive basic services with the potential for increased services when we need them. Councilmember Jessup made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-13**, as read. Councilmember Kulhanek seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, DEFINING CERTAIN TERMS; MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR CERTAIN SEXUAL OFFENDERS TO RESIDE WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF PREMISES WHERE CHILDREN GATHER; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS TO THE ORDINANCE; PROHIBITING PROPERTY OWNERS FROM RENTING REAL PROPERTY TO CERTAIN SEXUAL OFFENDERS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE; REPEALING ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND FINDING FACT.

Council has been studying this ordinance for several months. Several cities have passed a similar ordinance. This ordinance would prohibit convicted sexual offenders from residing within 1,000 feet of where children congregate. There are three registered sexual offenders residing in the city who would be allowed to continue to live where they are now. Councilmember Jessup said he was quite comfortable with the ordinance after several discussions with Police Captain Stewart. He said Meadows Place needs to be the first city in the area with such an ordinance because if other area cities pass one like it and we don't have our own in place, sex offenders could target our city as a place to live. Councilmember Jessup made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-14**, as read. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion which carried unanimously. Mayor McGrath noted Meadows Place is the first city in Fort Bend County to pass this type of ordinance.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, CHAPTER 29, ENTITLED "UTILITIES," ARTICLE I, ENTITLED "IN GENERAL," BY ADDING THERETO DIVISION 1 OF ARTICLE I BEING ENTITLED "REGULATIONS OF GENERAL APPLICABILITY," AND A NEW DIVISION 2 ENTITLED "BILLING AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE AND SANITARY SEWER SERVICE," AND NEW SECTION 29-11, ENTITLED "BILLING AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE AND SANITARY SEWER SERVICE," SECTION 29-12, ENTITLED "APPLICATION FOR WATER SERVICE," SECTION 29-13, ENTITLED "UNAUTHORIZED INTERFERENCE WITH WATER METER," SECTION 29-14, ENTITLED "OBTAINING WATER BY METHODS NOT PROVIDED HEREIN," SECTION 29-15, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS," SECTION 29-16, ENTITLED "WATER ACCOUNTS DUE BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH," SECTION 29-17, INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK," SECTION 29-18, ENTITLED "TAP FEES," SECTION 29-19, ENTITLED "TEMPORARY

WATER SERVICE," SECTION 29-20, ENTITLED "THE QUALITY OF SEWAGE," SECTION 29-21 ENTITLED "MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR," SECTION 29-22 ENTITLED "TERMINATION," SECTION 29-23 INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK" SECTION 29-24 ENTITLED "RETURNED CHECK CHARGE," SECTION 29-25 ENTITLED "PRESSURE OF WATER," SECTION 29-26 ENTITLED "NO FREE SERVICE," SECTION 29-27 ENTITLED "RULE PROHIBITING DISCHARGES INTO STORM SEWERS," SECTION 29-28 ENTITLED "RULE PROHIBITING OBSTRUCTION OF STORM SEWER EASEMENTS," SECTION 29-29 ENTITLED "PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION," AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2000-36 AND 2004-30.

This ordinance is a technical ordinance which lists all the charges and practices of our City Utility Department. The only increase in fees is in the cost of renter deposits which go from \$50.00 to \$100.00. Councilmember Henley moved to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-15**, as presented. Councilmember Staigle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, (CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION) FOR A TERM BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE OF THIS ORDINANCE, AND ENDING ON THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2008, PURSUANT TO THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE.

Due to the recent election of Aldermen Kulhanek and Wilkens, there are two vacancies of the Planning and Zoning Commission. This commission meets sporadically. A meeting will need to be held soon as the owners of The Oasis have indicated they are ready to plat their remaining property. Mayor McGrath recommended appointing Bob McDonald and Brian Sweeney to the Commission. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-16**, appointing Bob McDonald and Brian Sweeney to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

An expenditure totaling \$7,000.00 to McCall, Gibson & Company, PLLC, the balance due for completion of the fiscal year 2004-2005 audit, was presented for Council's approval. Councilmember Kulhanek moved to ratify the expenditure as presented. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion which carried unanimously. Mr. Sweeney, who was in the audience, was thanked for agreeing to serve on the Commission.

There were no audience comments at this time.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary