

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF DECEMBER 16, 2008
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:36 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.

James Fenwick, Youth Director for Sugar Land Methodist Church, gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

Jenifer Day with McCall Gibson & Co. PLLC presented the audit to Council. She said in their unqualified opinion, the City's finances were in fine shape. She acknowledged the city's staff for their cooperation and efforts. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to accept the audit as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Director Dan McGraw reported on recent projects of his department. In the last 3 months, his staff added granite to the jogging trail, pulled the electricity for the decorative lighting along West Airport at the park and helped with the set up for the City's 25th anniversary celebration. Crews will soon be adding decorative stones at entrances to the park. The bid package for Dairy Ashford landscaping and irrigation is being completed. It will be advertized in January and should be completed in six to eight weeks. New address numbers for the fire station have been installed. Christmas tree recycling will take place from December 26th through January 9th. The average age of the city's Public Works trucks is nine years. Two of them have been refurbished with new paint, dents were repaired and new upholstery was installed. Fire hydrants in sections one and two have been repainted and tops are color coded depending on the size of the water lines. Some of the blue reflectors, which indicate – in the street - where fire hydrants are located, are being replaced and a water valve location inspection will be scheduled. When these items are completed, we will ask the state for another ISO inspection. Thirty-three street signs, most damaged by Hurricane Ike, are being replaced with new, highly reflective signs. Tree trimming in the city's medians in Meadow Glen II is being completed. The parking lot by the field house has been re-striped. The City has received an award from the Texas Commission on Environment Quality for not having a bad water sample in the last five years. Part of the reason for the good water samples is the fact that we flush all 149 hydrants every six months.

Captain Jack Ashton reported on police activity for the past two months. He said there were ten (5 each month) reportable accidents; 27 arrests, 2800 calls for service; 117 offense reports; 895 citations issued – none for city ordinance violations – and 622 warnings issued during this time period. Over 1,200 property checks were also made. There have been several residential burglaries in the past three months. The holidays proved to be a busy season. The police department has increased their patrols and manpower levels. All but one of the burglaries occurred during the daytime. Officers are very aggressively talking to people out on the streets. Five arrests have been made since yesterday. Captain Ashton reminded everyone to write down the serial numbers of their valuables.

There were no audience comments at this time.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup looked back on the year 2008. In January an Anniversary Committee, chaired by Councilmember Heidi Case was formed. They have done an outstanding job. The City has moved forward on its marketing program. A vision meeting is in the planning stages to create a master plan for the next 15 years for the city. Through a collaborative effort with Meadows All Play baseball and Wallis State Bank, a scoreboard has been installed at the Majors field at no cost to the city. Decorative lighting has been installed along West Airport Blvd. The Police web site is updated regularly. The garden area around the Pool/Community Center is completed. We hired a new finance person to assist the City Secretary. The City logo has been installed on the back wall of the Council Room; and entries to the school areas have been re-landscaped. While we need to look at where we are, we also need to look into the future. The city recently named Patty Spade as its Employee of the Year and we are proud of and grateful for Patty. Longevity pins were awarded to Dan McGraw and Patty Spade for 15 years of service to the city and to Elaine Herff for 25 years of service.

During Council Comments, Councilmember Terry Henley noted that three of the Boards he currently serves on have set their Legislative agendas for this year. The Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) is composed of 24 councils of government. On a state level they are supporting regional government, a statewide 9-1-1 system, health and human service projects and well as \$204 million in planning projects. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) has a list of regional issues, including a hurricane recovery economic stimulus package. The City hopes to be awarded funds for an auxiliary generator for our Sewer Treatment Plant. The Texas Municipal League (TML) is looking into potential appraisal and revenue caps and opposes the State requiring local governments to relinquish any local control over their municipalities. TML believes the State should consider alternative sources of funding to replace taxes required from municipalities.

Councilmember Staigle commented on the good turnout at Christmas Memories. It was a bit cool but the kids enjoyed the snow hill and everyone enjoyed the music provided by The Emotions.

Councilmember Kulhanek noted the city held its first After Action Review (AAR) meeting in early October to discuss what went right and what went wrong with the City's dealings concerning Hurricane IKE. A committee consisting of himself, Dan McGraw, Sergeant Larry Eissler of the Meadows Place Police Department and Mason Mills with the Stafford Volunteer Fire Department met recently. They recommended action items which included training, communications, a volunteer CERTS coordinator, signage, an updated emergency management manual, consideration of a fuel station and generator needs. Dates for completion of these action items were established.

Minutes from the November 25, 2008 workshop and regular meetings were presented. Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Council member Staigle, that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE TO BE HELD ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2009, AT _____ O'CLOCK ____M. AT THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE CITY HALL, ONE TROYAN DRIVE, MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS TO HEAR ANY AND ALL PERSONS DESIRING TO BE HEARD ON OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY MATTER OR QUESTION REGARDING JUVENILE CURFEW ORDINANCE 2006-06.

State Law requires City Council to review this ordinance every three years to determine its effectiveness and whether or not to renew the ordinance. Mayor Jessup said he was proposing to hold the public hearing on January 27th at 7:30 p.m., in conjunction with our next regularly scheduled Council Meeting. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2008-35**, to call the public hearing for January 27, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. hear at Meadows Place City Hall to review City Ordinance Numbered 2006-06. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Staigle and passed with unanimous approval.

A bill for \$12,485.00 to Division III + Constructors, Inc., for work completed at the Park pertaining to Grants 2 and 3. Councilmember Henley made a motion to approve the expenditure as noted. Councilmember Case seconded this motion which was unanimously approved.

During audience comments, resident Jimmy Fenwick, who led the invocation, said he was glad he came tonight and appreciated the work Council did for him.

Councilmember Henley noted that there would be an article in the next TML Texas Town & City relating to information they gleaned from the e-blast they recently put out concerning our TxDOT request for payment for Highway 59 improvements, 18 years after the fact.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary