

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON AUGUST 23, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE MEADOWS PLACE CITY HALL, 1 TROYAN DRIVE, MEADOWS PLACE, TX 77477

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jessup at 7:30 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup, IV	City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford
Mayor Pro Tempore, Terry J. Henley	Alderman, John F. Isbell
Alderman, Steven H. Bezner	Alderman, Rick J. Staigle
Alderman, Kelle K. Mills	

Staff in attendance: Chief Gary Stewart and Captain, Jack Ashton, Meadows Place Police Department; and Jerry Parker, Code Enforcement.

a. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge by: Captain Jack Ashton
Invocation by: Kurt Kopczynski, Resident

2. Presentations

a. Recognition of Richard Simmons, Lieutenant, for 15 Years of Services

Mayor Jessup recognized Lieutenant Richard Simmons for his 15 years of service to the City of Meadows Place. He also presented Lieutenant Simmons with this service pin for 15 years.

b. Recognition of Jyron Jackson, Police Officer, for 10 Years of Services

Mayor Jessup recognized Officer Jackson for his 10 years of service. Mayor Jessup stated for the records that Officer Jackson has never called in sick once during his 10 years of service. The Mayor present Officer Jackson with his service pin for 10 years.

3. Reports:

a. Police Department

Chief Stewart gave an overview of the monthly statistics and activities report, which was distributed to the Council and filed with the City Secretary. Chief Stewart stated that the next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on October 20, 2016. He also reported that there was approximately 850 people at the Food Festival and Battle of the Bands.

Alderman Bezner asked about the morale of the officers. Chief Stewart stated that things were much better and morale was up.

Alderman Isbell asked if officers were still patrolling in pairs due to recent violence against officers. Chief Stewart stated that the department did double up for a couple of months, but the officers are now back to patrolling alone. The officers continue to check in and call for additional officers is needed.

Mayor Jessup thanked the Police Department and Officers for all that they do. He stated that their presence before and after school was notice and appreciated by the residents.

b. Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer, Jerry Parker, gave his quarterly report and below are a few key points, a copy has been filed with the City Secretary.

Violations since 05/24/2016: 664, 533 closed, 132 open.

Cases opened: 596 (Difference in numbers due to multiple violations per case.)

Current open cases: 110 up from 93 last Quarter.

Citations issued: 56; (2 – car cover, 1 – trailer, 8 – nuisance, 45 – rubbish/trash/ trash cans/stored items). This is down from 130 last Quarter.

Mr. Parker also reported that the home damaged by fire on Blair Meadows is in the process of starting the demolition and rebuilding.

c. Fire Department Monthly Report for July 2016

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the Stafford Fire Department report for July which was filed with the City Secretary.

Mayor Jessup also reported that Council is currently negotiation a new contract with the City of Stafford for fire services.

4. Mayor's Comments

a. Budget and Budget Process

Mayor Jessup stated the budget process is well underway and moving forward. Staff will be doing amazing things with the budget and he happy to say the City has AAA rating by Moody.

b. Staffing

Mayor Jessup reported that for the first time the Police Department is fully staffed, including 7 reserve officers. He said that the Chief must be something right and that we have great officers in Meadows Place.

Mayor Jessup reported that administration is full of competent staff and he is proud of the progress being made.

He also stated that Finance Department is solid and doing great.

The Parks Department is rolling and continue to add more events for the Community.

Mayor Jessup stated that he was proud to report that the City of Meadows Place is in great shape!

c. Construction in Meadows Place

Mayor Jessup let the residents know that there is a lot going on in the City of Meadows Place. Several home owners are remodeling and revamping their homes. Construction has begun on Aldi, Murphy Oil and the TTC/EOC building. Texas Direct Auto has also started the remodel of their frontage along US59.

d. Mayor's Luncheon

Mayor Jessup reported that the City of Meadows Place will be hosting the Mayors' lunch for the Mayors Fort Bend County on September 15th.

e. New Utility Bills

Mayor Jessup was happy to report that staff has done a lot of planning and training for the new utility bills. Residents will see the new bills in the September mail out.

5. Council Comments:

None

6. Regular Agenda

a. Consider Ordinance No. 2016-14 designating the Fort Bend Star and Fort Bend Herald as the official Newspaper of the City.

Alderman Henley moved to approve Ordinance No. 2016-14 designating the Fort Bend Star and Fort Bend Herald as the official Newspaper of the City. Alderman Bezner seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

b. Receipt of the Planning and Zoning Commission's Preliminary Report concerning the application to amend the Meadows Place Code of Ordinance Chapter by amending Chapter 153.094 C-1 Light Commercial District, Section (B) to add subsection (I) Planned Development: Mixed Use – 55+ Adult Independent Living Facility as a permitted use.

Planning and Zoning Chairman Mark McGrath gave the Planning and Zoning Report. Recommending no change to the current.

c. Consider Ordinance No. 2016-15 amending Chapter 90 of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Meadows Place, Texas, Entitled “Animal Control Regulations,” To Restrict the Possession of Fowl.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Ordinance No. 2016-15 amending Chapter 90 of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Meadows Place, Texas, Entitled “Animal Control Regulations,” To Restrict the Possession of Fowl. Alderman Bezner seconded the motion. Mayor Jessup then called up on those who signed up for public comments on this item.

Beau Abdullah – 11811 Meadow Trail – Spoke in favor of chicken in the City. He stated that his family currently has chickens and wants to be grandfathered if the City chooses to ban top chickens.

Nadya – 11942 Brighton – Stated that there should be regulations if they City chooses to allow chickens.

Kurt Kopczynski – 12109 Meadow Hollow – Spoke in favor of chickens in the City, but they City needs to set regulations.

Kimberly – 12214 Meadow Berry - Spoke in favor of chickens in the City with regulations.

Anne Green – 12303 Hoggard – Spoke against chickens.

Kenneth Green – 12303 Hoggard - Spoke against chickens

After a lengthy discussion among Council Alderman Staigle moved to table this item until January and allow the Mayor to put together a Chicken Committee to research chickens in the City. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

d. Approve the EDC budget amendment for an additional \$85,000 for the new Training Center/EOC building.

Alderman Henley moved to approve EDC budget amendment for an additional \$85,000 for the new Training Center/EOC building. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

- e. **Consider Resolution No. 2016-26 authorizing the Mayor and City Secretary to enter into a contract with HDR Engineering Inc. for Engineering Services for S Kirkwood Road Reconstruction.**

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-26 authorizing the Mayor and City Secretary to enter into a contract with HDR Engineering Inc. for Engineering Services for S Kirkwood Road Reconstruction. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

- f. **Consider Resolution No. 2016-27, setting the maximum proposed tax rate; setting dates for any necessary public hearings on the proposed tax rate; and setting the date City Council will adopt the fiscal year 2016-2017 tax rate.**

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-27, setting the maximum proposed tax rate; setting dates for any necessary public hearings on the proposed tax rate; and setting the date City Council will adopt the fiscal year 2016-2017 tax rate. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

- g. **Consider Resolution No. 2016-28 authorizing the Mayor and City Secretary to enter into a contract with The Payment Group, division TrafficPayment.com for citation payment by phone.**

Alderman Staigle moved to accept the Second Quarterly Investment Report ending June 2016. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Alderman Bezner and Alderman Isbell were not present.

The motion carried

7. **Consent Agenda**

a. Consider approval of the Minutes held on:

July 12, 2016 – Budget Workshop Meeting

July 26, 2016 – Workshop Meeting

July 26, 2016 – Regular Meeting

b. Presentation of Bills

Gates & More **\$9,800.00**

Randle Office LTD, LLP **\$7,046.50**

Alderman Henley moved to approve item A of the consent agenda as presented and remove item B for discussion. Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

Alderman Henley moved to approve item B of the consent agenda amended to pay Gates & More \$10,150.00 per the invoice in the Council packet. Alderman Bezner seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

8. Audience Comments

Kurt Kopczynski – 12109 Meadow Hollow – thanked the Police Department for their daily present around the school. He recently got custody of a 9 year old and it meant the world to her to see them outside her school. He also asked about the Deed Restrictions and wanted to know where to find a copy.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business on the agenda Alderman Henley moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

These minutes were approved by City Council on Tuesday, September 27, 2016.

ATTEST:

Courtney Rutherford
Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary

Charles D. Jessup IV
Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

