

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF MAY 25, 2010
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:35 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 John Isbell, and the invocation was given by Councilmember David Wilkens.

Fort Bend County Precinct 3 Judge Ken Cannata then swore the newly elected Council Members into office as follows: Mayor, Charles Jessup; Alderman, Place No. 1, Heidi Case; Alderman, Place No. 2, Shirley Isbell; and Alderman, Place No. 3, David Wilkens. Mayor Jessup presented a plaque recognizing Charles Kulhanek for his years of service to the City. Mr. Kulhanek thanked Council. Mrs. Isbell took her place on the Council dais.

Meadows Home and Garden Club member Betty Schofield announced that this year's \$1,000 scholarship was to be awarded to Lisa Su who will be attending the Fashion Institute in Los Angeles.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted that: 1: He will meet with Chief DiCamillo to discuss our volunteer response to the Newsletter ads, the fire station, the upcoming budget season and a computer policy. 2: The Fort Bend Mayor and Council Association meets on the 4th Thursday of each month. Meadows Place hosted the meeting in March. The meeting provides an opportunity for Fort Bend Mayors and Council Members to meet and discuss what is going on in other cities. Everyone in attendance benefits from those meetings a great deal. 3: A Town Meeting will be held on Friday night, June 11th in conjunction with Splash Night from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

During Council Comments, Councilmember Staigle noted that the H-GAC gave the go-ahead last week for our roundabout study that Councilmember Henley had requested so that we could receive information on whether the proposed Kirkwood project was either good, bad or would make no difference to the City. He also said that the City of Houston has retimed the traffic lights on West Bellfort and Kirkwood. Meadows Place will install signs on Ainsworth with this information in the hope that some traffic might be averted on this street and redirected back to West Bellfort.

Police Captain Gary Stewart reported on Police activities since the April Council Meeting. He noted there were two reportable accidents, 12 arrests, 1602 calls for service, 58 offense reports, 358 traffic citations, no code citations and 127 traffic and 4 city ordinance warnings issued. There were four burglaries of motor vehicles, two residential burglaries and two vehicle accidents. Officers made 350 business checks, 234 house watches and 694 property checks. Police presence at the school carnival was a success. The next r.a.d.KIDS training will be held August 13th - 15th at the Community Center. Police officers will attend Splash Night on June 11th and the 4th of July Parade. A letter of recognition was received on the manner Sgt. Simmons

handled a burglary case. On Thursday, May 13th a citizen called in a suspicious person report. This resulted in the prevention of a residential burglary and arrest of suspects. Meadows Place Police were involved in securing the perimeter of a shooting that occurred in adjacent Sugar Land on Saturday, May 22nd. Captain Stewart also encouraged residents to sign up for their Nixle service and receive monthly reports of what is happening in the Police Department.

Code Enforcement Officer Kathi Sutton reported on her activities since the February Council meeting. She reminded everyone about City Ordinances which require grass to be less than nine inches in height, illegal inoperable vehicles, fences need to be maintained, animals must be kept on leashes when not in their own fenced in back yards, tree stumps need to be removed or ground down to ground level. Inoperable gas light posts need to be removed. Contractor signs are not allowed in yards. She talked about her Newsletter article which addresses small, less costly items that can be repaired on homes to keep them up to code. If homeowners need help they are encouraged to call her. She is kept busy on windy Fridays keeping recyclables out of the city's storm drains.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

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 Jessup said he was recommending Councilmember Henley, who has served for the past several years, to again be elected to this officer. Councilmember Staigle made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2010-10** electing Councilmember Henley to the office of Mayor Pro Tempore. Councilmember Case seconded this motion which carried unanimously. Councilmember Henley said he appreciated the opportunity to serve.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION AND INTERVIEW ROOM PROJECT

While the resolution states matching funds must be paid by the city, this particular grant does not require matching funds. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley, to approve the resolution, numbered **2010-04**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR FONDREN SOUTHWEST SHOPPING CENTER MUNICIPAL SETTING DESIGNATION (MSD) APPLICATION TO THE CITY OF HOUSTON FOR THE FONDREN SOUTHWEST SHOPPING CENTER (DESIGNATED PROPERTY).

Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle, to approve the resolution, numbered **2010-04**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills were then presented for approval. Councilmember Henley made a motion to approve the payment of \$5,346.00 to Joe Salvide and \$6,773.88 to Randle Law Office as presented. Councilmember Isbell seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

During audience comments, John Whiteman, 11400 block of Brook Meadows, said he is presenting a petition to Council, with 681 signatures, against making changes on Kirkwood.

Audrey Holbrook, 12000 block of Meadow Hollow, said she worked with Mr. Whiteman on the petition and personally gathered 247 signatures. Only four residents refused to sign and two were undecided.

Jim McDonald, 11900 block of Dorrance, said this was the first time he has been back in the Council Room since he retired as Mayor. While others have complained about Meadows Place being "Stop Sign City" he agrees with Meadows first Mayor Sue Troyan who was quoted in print as saying "if they (stop signs) keep one child from being killed, they are worth it." He urged all of Council to think before they act on this issue.

Richard Berg, 11700 block Kirkwood, asked how he could receive a copy of the minutes. He was told that as soon as they are approved, they are put on the city's web page. Also, he can come to City Hall at any time to request copies.

A.W. Keepers, 12200 block of Alston, said he is most upset that the roundabout project has not been put to a vote of the citizens. He believes they will flood his street with more traffic.

Harry Hamilton, 12300 block of Level Run, said he has been a resident since 1981, served nine years on City Council and is currently a member of the Economic Development Council. He thanked Council for their service to the City. He said he disagrees with the Kirkwood project. He helped build up the image of the city during his tenure. It provides value and pride to the city. He said he believes roundabouts do not make any sense. Turning four lines of traffic into two will only backup traffic. He urges Council to back away from the roundabouts idea.

Maggi Morgan, 11300 block of Brighton, a resident since 1983, said this is her first time to attend a Council meeting. She said the city is well cared for. It is a small community with relative safety and she urged council to reconsider seriously the roundabouts.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Isbell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary