

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2012
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The workshop meeting of Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 6:03 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: Terry Henley
John Isbell
Terry Morgan
John Whiteman
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were Shirley Isbell, past Councilmember, Melody Vaal, Accountant and Jennifer Day, Auditor.

First item on agenda was a discussion of a June 2012, TML Article. Mayor Jessup summarized the article entitled "Suggestions for Public Service" which provides information to assist with reaching city goals. It talked about the benefits when Council collaborates on ideas and how it is important not to appear split as a council. CM Terry Henley stated through the years there have been times where council disagreed however they were able to work without appearing to be divided. Mayor Jessup stated this can be a challenge and although disagreeing is fine as long as it ends with a solution all can get behind.

The second item for discussion covered a second TML article titled "The ABCs of Successful First Term on City Council". After a review of the article, Mayor Jessup stated opportunities such as attending the Annual TML Conference serves to assist Council on governing cities as well as provides an opportunity to access resources.

Third item dealt with water testing. Mayor Jessup stated that City received a letter from TCEQ stating the city had failed to file fecal coliform test results. It was discovered SouthWest Water Company had failed to do the tests but corrective action has been taken and meets the TCEQ requirements for compliance. The Mayor informed Council tests have now been conducted and all levels are well within normal range. The City will discuss water and sewer operation options in January.

The fourth item for discussion was the Audit Approval. Ms. Jennifer Day provided a draft of the audit and stated that there were no significant findings. Mayor Jessup told

Council the audit process had improved greatly in recent years and thanked Melody Vaal and Elaine Herff on behalf of The City. CM Terry Henley pointed out inverted wording on page 9 and page 24. Ms. Day agreed and said these items will be corrected on the final version of the audit and stated if there are no further questions or comments she will have final audit to Council soon- probably before the next Council meeting.

Fifth item on agenda was a discussion Code Enforcement. Mayor Jessup stated that items, including those pertaining to Code Enforcement, should be discussed in a workshop prior to being placed on the agenda for Council meeting. CM John Whiteman stated he totally agrees and has nothing against Code Enforcement but feels it should not be so aggressive. For example, the gas lamps issue would have been fine but residents should be given a reasonable amount of time and a better approach. CM Terry Henley stated handling Code Enforcement a little softer. Mayor Jessup stated there were no citations written on Gas Lamps, however, it was intended to, and did, get homeowners attention and almost complete compliance was achieved in less than a month. He said not only did the city look better, the whole issue went away. The Mayor reiterated discussions like this are informative and can be helpful.

Sixth item was discussion of Code Enforcement Communications. Based on the previous discussion in item 5, all agreed there needs to be proper notification to residents as it pertains to enforcing the codes. As covered earlier Council does not want to appear to be divided, especially in this area.

The last item on the agenda was on upcoming Council meeting agenda items. Mayor Jessup stated if Council would like to request items to be on the agenda for discussion to please contact the City Secretary who, if need be, can get a legal opinion prior to publishing for the record. The Mayor asked CM John Whiteman to explain his stated that agenda item concerning request for Kirkwood changes. CM John Isbell stated that this project may not for up to four years and did not understand the reason to discuss it now. Mayor Jessup stated that cost is an issue, especially with unknown and open ended items in the proposed ordinance. He also said he would get someone to come in to explain project funding, including the TIP funds if the city is selected to receive them as Council would need to be educated on cost, engineering, construction, and oversight. CM Henley stated after much discussion with HGAC Traffic officials, he did not believe an engineering firm would sign off on a project (Kirkwood) with four consecutive stop signs as it will not meet modern traffic warrants. Nor did he believe we should propose a change that does not require or define traffic controls. CM Whiteman said he still wanted to bring it to a vote.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Yolanda Wilson, City Secretary