

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF MARCH 27, 2012
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 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
Shirley Isbell
John Whiteman
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Police Chief Mike Baker. Councilmember Wilkens gave the invocation.

Chief Baker reported on Police activities since the February regular Council Meeting. He noted there were nine reportable accidents, nine arrests, 1,566 calls for service, 36 offense reports, 166 traffic citations issued, no code ordinance violation citations issued, 50 traffic warnings and no city ordinance warnings issued. There were no motor vehicle burglaries, two residential burglaries and no business burglary reported. Officers made 439 business checks, 229 house watches and 518 property checks this past month. Two criminal mischiefs were reported for the month in which parked vehicles had the driver's side mirror broken. Shoplifting cases were reported at both CVS and Walgreens with the one at Walgreens turning into a robbery when the man tried to steal two 18 packs of beer. He was quickly arrested. Auto theft occurred in the 11900 block of Meadowcrest in which a pickup was stolen from the driveway following an alarm around 11:38 a.m. One of the residential burglaries, on Blair Meadow, had the front door kicked in. Police have begun a new program designed to thwart auto burglaries dubbed T-L-C (Take out valuables – Lock your vehicle – Close your windows.) There were 13 BMV's during the months of January and February and it is hoped this new program will reduce that number significantly. Applications are being received through the end of this week to fill the spot vacated by Officer Corey Hodge. Officer Nix is still not back on full duty. Sergeant Simmons recently taught two Crime Scene Investigations classes. Chief Baker thanked Public Works Director Dan McGraw for his work on the Kirkwood Building.

Public Works Director Dan McGraw then updated Council on his work performed by his department during the previous three months. He is working on and will submit his MS4 plan for TCEQ's approval for the next 5 years (Aug. 2012 – Aug 2016.) We will update our ordinance accordingly. The pumps at the Waste Water Treatment Plant will start up soon saving the taxpayers 25 million gallons a year in surface water fees. Our reclaimed effluent water usage will increase to 13 million gallons by the end of June. That means 27 million gallons of water total that we will/did not have to pump out of the ground. Mr. McGraw said his Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) was recently approved by the TCEQ. He has attended a mosquito workshop at the County on how to educate the public on mosquito control. He is currently remodeling the city Annex and hopes to have the work completed in three to four weeks. 75% of the building will soon be able to be run with generator power. We are turning a city liability into a valuable asset.

Mayor Jessup then comments on the following issues: 1. City elections will be held on May 12th. Please vote as it important for county and state officials to see that Meadows Place has a large turnout for them to effectively represent us. Early voting begins April 30th 2. Texas Direct Auto is working on erecting fencing columns around the property. They have contracted with a high end saddler to lease space on the Freeway side and are working with at least one other company. The Mayor hopes to have an update on the dog park this week. 3. The Stafford Volunteer Fire Department

made 23 calls to the City during the month of February. A door at the Fire Station was replaced. 4. Using Meadows Place now seems to be an option when businesses use the 77477 zip code in their computers/cash registers. 5. Discussing the WC&ID's equalization fee, Mayor Jessup noted this was a requirement when the City made a conscious decision to join with WC&ID, thereby satisfying Fort Bend Subsidence District requirement that must be met by 2013. The City's cost to join was a proportionate cost of expenditures to date realized by WC&ID for their groundwater conversion plant. The number of cities that haven't yet decided on a plan is huge. We will have water for the future of our city's residents.

Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Isbell, to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2012 joint meeting with the EDC and the February 28th workshop and regular Council meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY, PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE.

Councilmember Whiteman made a motion to adopt the ordinance, appointing Nelson Goolsby to a two year term as a member on the Board of Adjustment, as written. His motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilkens. The motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2012-05** 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 _____, 2012, 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 2009-02.

Councilmember Case made a motion to approve the ordinance calling the public hearing for 7:15 p.m. on April 24, 2012. Her motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilkens and with unanimous approval ordinance numbered **2012-06** was adopted.

Mayor Jessup then asked for a recommendation to the EDC for approve of professional welcoming signs to the City of Meadows Place. Councilmember Isbell asked Chief Baker if these signs would aid the Police Department in their duties. Chief Baker responded that the signs would essentially let the "bad guys" know that they are now in the City of Meadows Place. Councilmember Isbell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Case, to approve the recommendation. Calling for a vote, the recommendation passed with Councilmembers Case, Isbell, Whiteman and Wilkens voting "aye" and Councilmember Henley abstaining, noting he would let the EDC Board decide on their action to the recommendation.

Councilmember Isbell then made a motion to ratify the expenditure of \$\$6,003.73 to HDR Claunch & Miller as presented. Councilmember Case seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During audience comments, David Lantz of the 11900 block of Meadow Crest Drive said last Saturday morning a neighbor's blue 2005 pickup was stolen out of his driveway. It was posted on Facebook and he praised the work the Police Department did on the incident but he feels one or two more police officers are needed and he is willing to pay more in taxes to fund them. He also feels crime statistics need to be posted in the city Newsletter.

Resident Brock Ramey of the 11800 block of Scottsdale Court said he has had several conversations with Mayor Jessup regarding traffic and speed of vehicles on his street. While he realizes that closing Ainsworth is not a viable option and that we do have a sound ordinance in place, he feels we need to strengthen the sound ordinance

Resident Charles McClurkin, 11900 Block of Brighton Lane, said there was a lively discussion about increasing crime in our City on Facebook. He, too, is willing to pay the approximate \$120.00 increase in taxes per household it would take to hire three new officers and purchase three vehicles. He believes most city residents would also agree.

Resident Rick Staigle, 12300 block of Scottsdale, said the budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 has been set. To hire another officer now means the city would either have to enter into a deficit spending mode, or do away with a future item such as the 4th of July parade. Mayor Jessup agreed noting these things take time. He also thanked Mr. Staigle for the continuing engineering expertise he shares with the City.

Councilmember Isbell noted that we have five residents who will play in the Clements High School vs Dulles High School baseball game as the first baseball game being held in the new Sugar Land Skeeters baseball stadium. Mayor Jessup added that on May 11th, Meadows Place will be the first community to be recognized by the Skeeter Baseball association at their game that night.

Resident Patricia Wilkens, 12300 block of Meadowglen Drive, said that to put some perspective on our City's security issues, she works at Fluor and they have on site security, she wears a badge that must be swiped when entering or leaving any floor, cameras are installed in their parking lots and a security guard rides in a golf cart through the parking lots every day and still vandalism/burglaries occur. She said we all need to share in the responsibility of keeping our city safe. Mayor Jessup repeated the oft spoken phrase "Our Police would rather respond to nothing than not respond to something they should have been called out on."

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Whiteman, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary