

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The workshop meeting of Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 6:07 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
John Whiteman
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Absent: Terry Morgan

Also present was Kathi Sutton, Code Enforcement Officer and Shirley Isbell, past Councilmember.

First item on the agenda was a discussion on the 2012-2013 Budget. Mayor Jessup stated the budget will be up for adoption during tonight's City Council Meeting. Budget comparison and information pertaining to the budget is available on City's website. Mayor Jessup stated he spoke with City of Stafford Mayor concerning Fire Services cost and improvements have been made compared to previous years. Councilmember Henley stated that he remembers when the City paid a lot more however services have improved. Councilmember Whiteman asked is the City of Stafford close to 50% volunteers. Mayor Jessup stated no and that it has volunteers but it does not represent half of their fire personnel. Elaine Herff, City Treasurer will begin working part-time which will make a difference in the cost for staff. There will also be significant cost such as the \$100,000 dollar repair to West Airport which will affect engineering cost. Councilmember Henley stated the Economic Development Corporation(EDC) met to discuss and approve budget. There will be funds for sponsorships to help with promotional items for the City as well as software upgrades. Someone from the Economic Development Corporation will possibly need to attend the Annual International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Conference to be held in Dallas.

Second item on the agenda was a discussion on Dogs At Large. Mayor Jessup stated there has been an increase on dogs loose in the community as well as bites. Ms.

Sutton, Code Enforcement Officer stated the Ordinance that addresses dogs without leashes. Citizens are told to call Fort Bend County Animal Services but they can also contact her or the Meadows Place Police Department. There is also a maximum amount of dogs that can be kept by an owner and that number is 4. Pets must not be over the age of six if there are more than 4 on the property and currently the Ordinance does not address cats. Owners of dogs who bite someone may face a fine up to \$2,000. Due to the cost of Rabies shots and the painful scars these incidents leave, the owner may face this type of fine.

Third item on the agenda was a discussion on Code Enforcement. Ms. Sutton stated that she performs multiple duties including residential inspections. A check list outlining inspections were provided to each councilmember as Ms. Sutton stated the areas that she grades throughout each residential property inspection. Once person is given a ticket, it is no longer in Code Enforcement's jurisdiction but provides a person the opportunity to correct problem or pay fine in court. Some violations are unique in nature and may take longer but are checked every 30 days. Citations are issued daily in accordance to City's Code of Ordinance. Councilmember Isbell asked if there is something that can be done about houses that are in really poor condition. Ms. Sutton stated there are measures the City takes on exterior issues such as high grass or as seen with a recent incident pest control. Once the external issues to the dwelling are in compliance, this is the only items that can be enforced by the City as they are health and safety issues. CM Isbell asked what the rules are it pertains to political signs are. Ms. Sutton stated that signs can be out 30 days prior to election.

Fourth item on the agenda was a discussion on Zero Tolerance. Ms. Sutton, stated this information will be available in October's Newsletter to all residents concerning Zero Tolerance. There will be a ticket issued on the first notice of gas lanterns that are inoperable however the City will provide free mantels to residents who wish to maintain operable gas lanterns. Mantels cost \$2 dollars at local stores. Garbage cans that are kept out in public view outside of time allowed according to City Ordinance will be given a ticket on the first notice.

Last item on the agenda was discussion on upcoming Council Agenda items. Mayor Jessup stated that Council will be voting on an ordinance for the adoption of the 2012-2013 budget as well as tax rate. Council will also be voting on an ordinance to collaborate with other cities under the Storm Debris Multi-Cities Management Ordinance. There will be a resolution adopted for the City to designate a representative to serve in the Houston-Galveston Area Council(H-GAC) General Assembly. CM Henley will be serving on the 2013 board while Rick Staigle will be the alternate.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember David Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Whiteman, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.