



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M., AT MEADOWS PLACE CITY HALL, 1 TROYAN DRIVE, MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS 77477.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Charles D. Jessup IV, at 6:34 p.m. with the following present via teleconference:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup, IV
Alderman, John F. Isbell
Alderman, Kurt Kopczynski

Mayor Pro-Tem, Rick J. Staigle
Alderman, Steven H. Bezner
Alderman, Kelle K. Mills

Nick Haby, City Administrator

City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford

The following staff were also in attendance: Gary Stewart, Police Chief, Jennifer Cabello, Code Enforcement Official, and Y'Mica Davis, Deputy Court Clerk.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge by: John Isbell, Alderman

Invocation by: Shirley Isbell, Former Alderman and Resident

B. PRESENTATIONS – SERVICE RECOGNITION

1. Y'Mica Davis, Deputy Court Clerk, 5 Years of Service

Mayor Jessup acknowledged Y'Mica Davis for her five years of dedicated service with the City. He explained that Y'Mica was first hired as the Utility Clerk and moved over to Courts.

C. REPORTS

1. Police Department – Chief Gary Stewart

Chief Stewart then gave a brief overview of the monthly statistics and activities report, for March 2021, which was distributed to City Council and filed with the City Secretary.

Chief Stewart spoke on a few highlights from the month as follows:

- Four (4) accidents
- Continue to follow COVID-19 Protocols.
- Internal Investigation in process due to Police Auditors/YouTube Video
- Several Officers have received COVID vaccine.
- Winter Freeze 2021 – All officers would 12-hour shifts, and additional officers were brought in including reserves.

- Car Club Meetings – PD continues to monitor social media, no activity in the last 2 weeks.
- LPR Cameras have been installed.
- LiveScan – Grant still in progress. Equipment ordered.
- Two new Police Officers have advanced to Phase Three of Training
- Shop 36 was totaled in November – 2021 Replacement arriving later this week.

Mayor Jessup thanked Chief Stewart for his time and effort and keeping Council informed.

Alderman Kopczynski thanked the Chief for all that he does. He also stated that it is nice to see the officers out in the City and interacting with the residents.

Alderman Mills asked about an incident at Walgreens and Chief Stewart stated that it is currently under investigation.

2. Code Enforcement – Jennifer Cabello, Code Enforcement Official

Ms. Cabello gave a brief summary of Code Enforcement activities for the last quarter. Below are a few key points from her presentation:

- Total Number of cases: December to Current 283
- Total Cases Opened: December to Current 290
- Total Cases Closed: December to Current 205
- Total Cases to Court: October to Current 27
- Finally getting agreement with Stafford for Code Enforcement Supervision
- Items of Focus for January to March 2021 are Unoccupied Homes, Pool Maintenance, and Special Widespread Violation
- Code Enforcement will start enforcing Section 91.035, Dead Landscaping/Trees on April 15th
- Top 3 Violations for this period were Trash next to curb on non-trash day, Exterior Wall/Trim Cleaning, and Bandit Signs

Mayor Jessup stated that Jennifer has stopped several contractors that were working without permits. Most have complied and pulled the needed permits.

Alderman Kopczynski asked the status of 11810 Dorrance Lane. Ms. Cabello stated that they notice regarding Council's findings at the Public Hearing was mailed March 18th. This notice gave the owner 30 days to bring the structure up to standard.

Alderman Isbell thanked Ms. Cabello for all her hard work on the Code Enforcement quarterly reports.

Alderman Staigle asked what kind of work was being done without permits and Ms. Cabello stated that is mostly plumbing and foundation.

Alderman Baker thanked Ms. Cabello for her hard work and asked how she came up with the date of April 15th for enforcement on dead landscaping. Ms. Cabello stated that she met with Mr. Boone Holiday from Texas A&M AgriLife and he stated that is enough time to determine if vegetation will come back or not.

3. Fire Department Report for February 2021 – Mayor Charles Jessup IV

Mayor Jessup presented the Stafford Fire Department report for Meadows Place for the month of February 2021. He stated that he recently met with the Mayor of Stafford and is thankful for the great working relationship. He also reported that several inspections were made at Meadows Elementary.

4. City Administrator’s Report – Nick Haby, City Administrator

City Administrator, Nick Haby, gave a brief review of City activities for the last month. Mr. Haby stated he was to be attending the first meeting in the new Council Chambers. Staff is thrilled with the results.

He also reported that at his last staff meeting staff is doing a great job. They are currently looking at a schedule for contracts and agreements, revisiting the City cell phone policy and the on-call schedule. He also reported that Court will also start in-person proceedings on April 8th, the Discovery Center/Nature Center is set to re-open May. Staff continues to make repairs after the February freeze.

He also announced that March 31st will be his one-year anniversary with the City. He is thankful to be here. It is a great place to work with great and dedicated staff.

Mayor Jessup thanked Mr. Haby for his report and for keeping him updated.

D. MAYOR AND COUNCL COMMENTS

Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.0415, City Council Members and City staff may make reports about items of community interest during a meeting of the governing body without having given notice of the report.

Items of community interest include: Expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; Information regarding holiday schedules; An honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; A reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; Information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; and Announcements involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

1. Mayor’s Comments

a. Meadows Elementary

Mayor Jessup stated that the City has been in constant contact with various members of FBISD throughout the last few weeks and is working with the Fire Marshal to move the project forward. As of today, the City has not received a request for final inspection for plumbing HVAC is working to set up finals, and electrical passed on March 18th. Staff is putting in a lot of effort and trying to do what they can to assist FBISD.

b. Fort Bend County Mayors Retreat

Mayor Jessup stated that he and nine other Mayors met in a two-day retreat. During this retreat they covered nineteen different pieces of legislation with Mr. John Pitts, the legislative advisor for Stafford. Together they got updates and answers to many questions. He stated that he was proud to say that Meadows Place looked at as being well positioned for the future. He has received feedback from several Mayors that this was the most comprehensive and productive meeting they have ever had.

c. EDC Update

Mayor Jessup stated that there is an item on the agenda approving EDC funding for Dorrance Reconstruction and the engineering portion of the Fort Bend County Mobility Bond Project with plans to help fund the balance when we move forward. EDC representatives have met with the owners of Avenida Brazil and have begun plans to find a replacement restaurant. Erickson Advertising is working to put an ad together.

2. Council Comments

a. Kirkwood Construction Update – Alderman Rick Staigle

Alderman Staigle gave a brief update on the Kirkwood Road Reconstruction. He stated that irrigation was working as of last week and there are just a few items remaining to close out the project. He hopes to close out the project and take ownership next month.

He then stated that updated on the Mobility Bond Project and Dorrance project will be coming soon.

b. Unintended Consequences – Alderman John Isbell

Alderman Isbell stated that he was happy to see so many people in attendance. It's the most he's seen at a meeting in a long time. Alderman Isbell stated that he was moving out of the City due to losing his job and therefore resigning his position as alderman. He has lived in Meadows Place for over 34 years and served on City Council for nine years. He loves the City of Meadows Place and he and his wife, Shirley, have volunteered with several different organizations during their 34 years in the City.

Alderman Isbell then stated that he was thankful for the staff of Meadows Place and thanked each of them for all that they do for the City.

Mayor Jessup then called for a fifteen-minute recess to allow Council. Staff, and the residents to enjoy cake and thank Alderman Isbell and his wife, Shirley for their dedicated service to the City.

Council recessed at 7:31 p.m. and reconvened at 7:49 p.m.

E. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discussion and consideration accepting the resignation of John Isbell from Alderman Place 1.

Alderman Isbell moved to accept his resignation from Alderman Place 1 effective at this end of this meeting. Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Mayor Jessup stated that the City sadly accepts Alderman Isbell's resignation.

2. Second reading of a Resolution No. 2021-07 identifying Dorrance Lane Rehabilitation Design as a project and approving EDC expenses not to exceed \$150,000 for the project.

Alderman Isbell moved to approve the second reading of a Resolution No. 2021-07 identifying Dorrance Lane Rehabilitation Design as a project and approving EDC expenses not to exceed \$150,000 for the project. Alderman Baker seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Alderman Staigle stated that EDC will fund half of the design for Dorrance Lane.

3. Discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 2021-08 authorizing the City of Meadows Place to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Stafford to begin Code Enforcement supervision and training in the City of Meadows Place.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-08 authorizing the City of Meadows Place to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Stafford to begin Code Enforcement supervision and training in the City of Meadows Place. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

4. Discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 2021-09 adopting a plan for 5% annual energy reduction in the City of Meadows Place.

Alderman Kopczynski moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-09 adopting a plan for 5% annual energy reduction in the City of Meadows Place. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

5. Discussion and consideration of the CenterPoint Energy 2021 Annual Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) Adjustment with a rate increase.

Alderman Isbell made a motion to suspend the CenterPoint Energy 2021 Annual Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) Adjustment with a rate increase for forty-five days. Alderman Baker seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

6. Discussion and consideration on naming the lake in McGrath Park.

Alderman Isbell stated that he requested for this item to be on the agenda. Before leaving office, he would like to see the lake named Mayor Jessup for all that he has done for the City. He stated that the Mayor pioneered getting the lake built. Mayor Jessup stated that he appreciated the thought, but getting the lake built was a of Council and staff.

Alderman Isbell made a motion to name the lake in McGrath Park after Mayor Charles Jessup IV to be determined at a later date. Alderman Mills seconded the motion.

There was brief discussion among Council. Alderman Staigle stated that he supports the motion, however, in general he is against naming things after a seated Council member. He does agree with naming the lake after Mayor Jessup once he leaves office.

Mayor Jessup stated that he agrees with Alderman Staigle.

The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Mayor Jessup thanked Alderman Isbell and stated that he is very proud of the lake project.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items are considered routine in nature and will be enacted with one motion and vote. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered by separate action.

1. Consider approval of the Minutes held as follows:

February 23, 2021 – Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Alderman Isbell moved to approve consent agenda as presented. Alderman Baker seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Baker, Staigle, Kopczynski, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried.

G. AUDIENCE COMMENTS (*for matters not on the agenda*)

Shirley Isbell, resident at 1380 Shaws Bend Rd., Columbus, Texas, thanked Alderman Staigle for trying to get a sign ordinance passed. She encouraged Council to revisit the ordinance and get something in place.

Terry Henley, resident at 1203 Alston Drive, thanked John and Shirley for their dedicated service to the City.

He then spoke on HB10 regarding community censorship. He encouraged everybody to go to Austin and address the legislature. He also asked for support for the bills regarding legal postings in local newspapers.

Nadya Shelton, resident at 11942 Brighton, thanked the Isbell's for all that they have done for the City. She then asked what the process will be to replace Alderman Place 1.

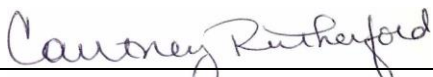
Mayor Jessup stated that Council will be taking applications from interested residents and will appoint a resident for the unexpired term. Alderman Place 1 is up for election in May 2022.

H. ADJOURN

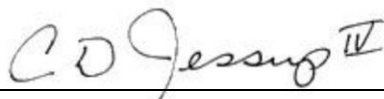
Alderman Staigle moved to adjourn. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. There be no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

These minutes were approved by City Council on April 27, 2021.

ATTEST:



Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary



Charles D. Jessup IV, Mayor

