



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020 AT 6:00 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 6:10 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup, IV	Mayor Pro-Tem, Rick J. Staigle
Alderman, John F. Isbell	Alderman, Steven H. Bezner
Alderman, Kurt Kopczynski	Alderman, Kelle K. Mills
Nick Haby, City Administrator	City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford

Staff in attendance: Colene Cabezas, Parks & Recreation Director

**B. Discussion and consideration regarding Section IX. Declaration of Public Health Emergency Compensation of the City of Meadows Place Employee Policy Manual.**

City Administrator, Nick Haby, stated that this item was brought to Council to review the policy connection to the Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency. Council and staff reviewed the policy and discussed the impact that the hazardous pay has on the City budget. There was also discussion regarding non-essential staff working alternating schedules versus coming back full time.

Alderman Staigle moved to modify Section IX. Declaration of Public Health Emergency Compensation of the City of Meadows Place Employee Policy Manual authorizing City Council to remove hazardous pay and alternating schedules at their discretion. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**C. Discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 2020-25 extending the Declaration of Local Disaster in response to COVID-19, opening City Facilities to the public, and City staffing.**

There was discussion among Council and staff regarding the Governor's orders and re-opening Texas. Council discussed bringing staff back full time and when to open City facilities to the public.

Ms. Cabezas discussed programs for the Parks Department and briefly reviewed the protocols put in place by the state and how they impact the City. She stated that the Discovery/Nature Center falls under museums and must remain closed due to the hands on interaction. She also stated that splashpad must also remain closed.

She stated that public pools are authorized to open with 25% capacity. She stated that she will work with staff to open with 25% capacity. They will create a reservation schedule to allow for hourly cleaning/disinfecting. She will also remove all chairs and tables and the slides will remain closed.

Ms. Cabezas stated that the Governor did authorize summer camps to open with additional protocols for cleaning and disinfecting. She said her department can meet the health protocols, but will result in an a deficit of approximately \$1,600 per week, therefore she recommending Council cancel camp for this summer. Her department will work to create other events together like a movie night in the park.

Ms. Cabezas and Council discussed opening the community center, instructor classes, and active adult events.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-25 extending the Declaration of Local Disaster until further notice in response to COVID-19 with the following conditions:

1. City staff will return to regular work schedules and pay on Tuesday, May 19, 2020
2. City Hall will open to the public on Monday, June 1, 2020
3. Playgrounds and fitness equipment will be open to the public with signs stating play at your own risk
4. The City pool will open with 25% capacity (25 people) and by reservation on June 8, 2020 or as soon as the Parks Department is able to fully train staff and get the needed supplies to clean and disinfect
5. The Splashpad will remain closed until further notice.
6. The Discovery Center / Nature Center will remain closed until further notice.
7. Summer Camp for this year will be cancelled.
8. Instructor led classed, like karate and taekwondo, may resume with 25% capacity and 6 foot physical distancing
9. All programs for residents age 65 and over are on hold until further notice
10. Community Center reservations may resume with 25% capacity, 40 people, and an additional fee for disinfecting

The City Secretary is working with the Judge on Court proceedings. This will be discussed at the May 26<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

*Mayor Jessup then called item G out of order.*

**G. Discussion and consideration regarding the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and event.**

Mayor Jessup stated that the Governor did not mention fireworks in his recent update, but the county has stated that are ok with fireworks. He also stated that most cities in the county have either cancelled or their celebrations or have not made a decision. Ms. Cabezas stated that that she knows at the last meeting Council agreed to stay with the traditional July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, but she thinks it will be difficult keeping groups to ten or less. If Council wants to move forward with the parade she suggest staging along the alleyway in front of City Hall and have families stay in their personal vehicles. She suggested eliminated floats this year and stated that there won't be any judges.

Mayor Jessup told Council that EDC committed \$5,000 for the fireworks show if Council wants to move forward with fireworks. There was discussion among Council and staff regarding the parade and possible fireworks shows. Ms. Cabezas stated that if Council agrees to the firework show she suggest having the parade start at 6:30 p.m. and the fireworks show to start at 9:00 p.m. This would allow time for residents to take their vehicles home and come back to the park with chairs to set up to watch fireworks. She has also talked to baseball and swim team who have expressed interest in selling concessions and beer before the fireworks.

Alderman Mills stated that if Council wants to try an evening parade and fireworks they should do it. Mayor Jessup stated that this is the year if they want to try something new.

Council agreed to an evening parade starting at 6:30 p.m. with a fireworks show to follow at 9:00 p.m.

*Mayor Jessup then returned to the agenda as posted.*

**D. Discussion and update regarding the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES).**

Mayor Jessup stated that the US Government distributed funds to the state who then past the funds on to the County to distribute. Fort Bend County received \$134,000,000 to distribute to the all the cities in the County. City Administrator, Nick Haby, was appointed to the Economic Development Group and the Mayor is on the Mayor and Council Committee. They are all working hard to prioritize the money. The Committee's put together a priority list for the money and then the County put together their own list. These funds are to be distributed for COVID-19 expenses through the end of the calendar year. So far the City has spent approximately \$130,000 and staff is doing an outstanding job of tracking these expenses.

Everybody is lobbying for the money, but ultimately the Commissioners will make the final decision on how to distribute the money.

**E. Discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 2020-26 suggesting how the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding should be allocated in Fort Bend County.**

Alderman Kopczynski moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-26 suggesting how the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding should be allocated in Fort Bend County. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**F. Discussion and consideration regarding the second amendment to the Development Agreement between the City of Meadows Place, Texas, and Left Gate Property Holding, Inc. d/b/a Texas Direct Auto, VROOM.**

Alderman Staigle moved to table the second amendment to the Development Agreement between the City of Meadows Place, Texas, and Left Gate Property Holding, Inc. d/b/a Texas Direct Auto, VROOM. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**G. Discussion and consideration regarding the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and event.**

*Discussed earlier in agenda after Item C.*

**H. Discussion and consideration regarding agreement with Swagit for live streaming of City Council meetings.**

Alderman Kopczynski moved to approve the agreement with Swagit for live streaming of City Council meetings and creating a new line item from the general fund for the annual \$6,000 fee for cloud storage. Alderman seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**I. ADJOURN**

There being no further business Alderman Bezner moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Kopczynski seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

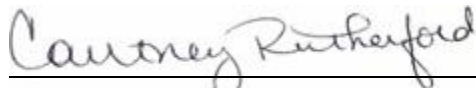
Nays: None

The motion carried.

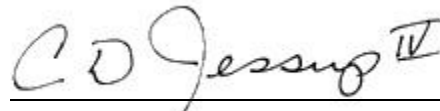
The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

**These minutes were approved by City Council on Tuesday, May 26, 2020.**

**ATTEST:**



Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary



Charles D. Jessup IV, Mayor

