



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON MAY 22, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE MEADOWS PLACE CITY HALL, 1 TROYAN DRIVE, MEADOWS PLACE, TX 77477

A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Charles D. Jessup IV, at 6:30 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup, IV	City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford
Mayor Pro Tempore, Terry J. Henley	Alderman, John F. Isbell
Alderman, Steven H. Bezner	Alderman, Rick J. Staigle
Alderman, Kelle K. Mills	

Staff in attendance: Police Captain, Jack Ashton and Parks & Recreation Director, Colene Cabezas

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge by: Bob Dybala, Resident
Invocation by: Jack Ashton, Police Captain

B. Presentation and Proclamations

1. Proclamation – Meadows Elementary Day

Mayor Jessup presented a Proclamation proclaiming Friday, June 1, 2018 as Save Meadows Elementary Day in the City of Meadows Place. Mayor Jessup also acknowledged Michelle, Cameron Miller, Chris Gawlik, and Meadows Elementary Principal Shawna Hawthorne for helping to pull the community together. He then presented Chris and Cameron with Meadows Place wooden plaques. Chris Gawlik thanked the community for their help in saving our school. It was their dedication, sacrifice, and hard work that helped to Save Meadows Elementary. Mayor Jessup invited the community to attend a party in the park on June 1st in honor of saving Meadows Elementary. He asked the residents to bring their Save Meadows signs and fill the park.

2. Presentation of Meadows Place Garden Scholarships

Garden Club outgoing President, Bob Dybala the new President, Joe Debruyn and thanked all who helped make the Home & Garden Tour such a huge success. He then introduced the scholarship selection committee chair, Kay Lewis. This year the Garden Club is awarding five (5) scholarships. The scholarship recipients are Zekia Campbell, Maria Carmelita Gomez, Jessica Robinson, Caroline Cardwell and Deanna Hernandez.

C. Reports

1. Police Department

Police Captain Jack Ashton gave an overview of the monthly statistics and activities report for May 2018. A copy was distributed to City Council and filed with the City Secretary.

Captain Ashton reported that Officer Manzanares has completed training and is now on patrol. He also reported that there are several events coming up that the Police Department will be involved in. Some of these events are Neighborhood Watch Meeting, Old Town Meadows, Bare Foot N Fridays, and the July 4th parade.

Captain Ashton then shared the new EOC/Training Center video that will be used for marketing and recruiting. Mayor Jessup thanked all of the departments for their help in making the video.

Alderman Isbell thanked Captain Ashton for the Neighborhood Watch Meeting last month and stated that he thought it was a great meeting. He counted 25 people in attendance and he believes that to be a record. Mayor Jessup stated that they did an outstanding job.

Alderman Bezner asked about the jump in thefts. Captain Ashton reported that a specific incident resulted in several thefts, but it is an open case therefore he cannot talk about it.

2. Parks & Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Director, Colene Cabezas, reported on Parks & Recreation activity for last quarter, for March to May. Ms. Cabezas recognized her new summer staff. The Parks department has hired summer four Camp Counselors, six Swim Instructors, and fifteen Lifeguards. She introduced those that were able to attend the meeting. She reminded them that they represent the City and they are very important employees. She believes in them and trust them with their positions. She also explained that some of the employees will rotate between lifeguard and camp counselor.

Ms. Cabezas then recognized Dan Denny, Dionysius Torreros, Leigh Ylanan, Allie & Skyler Cabezas, and Regas Construction for all of their hard work and commitment to getting the new Discovery Center complete and ready to open. She also reported that permits were pulled and inspections were performed and passed. Ms. Cabezas also met with Department of Justice regarding ADA and the building is in compliance. The center is already very busy with request from schools, clubs, and different groups.

The pool will be open this weekend for Memorial Day and then opens full time June 1st for the summer. The diving board has been reinstalled and the slide is open as well.

A swing has been installed for the All-Inclusive Park and YAC hopes to make more progress over the summer.

Now that the Discovery Center is complete the Parks Department will be more focused on landscaping, irrigation, and the trails.

Ms. Cabezas stated that she wanted to clear up some misleading information regarding the new bathroom installed near the park. The cost to maintain the facility is

approximately \$0.08 per use which calculates to approximately \$1,200 annually. The system needs to be cleaned out once every 3 months.

Ms. Cabezas then reported on the events completed over the last 3 months. The annual camp out had 92 participants this year which is a record for the City. The Garden Club Home & Garden Tour raised \$2,000 for the All Inclusive Park. A few more events completed this quarter include 3 Spring Concerts, Light Up the Night, Community Tree Planting with CenterPoint donated trees, Discovery Center grand opening, Cultural Tea Ceremony, and the largest Bare Foot N Friday to date.

She then stated that from March to May volunteers contributed 650 hours of work. This includes one Experience Works employee and the YAC group. These hours total an approximate savings of \$13,650 in salary cost.

The upcoming Parks events include the annual Splash Night and the Save Meadows Elementary Party on June 1st and the 4th of July Parade that will start at 9:00 a.m. this year.

Mayor Jessup thanked Ms. Cabezas for all her and her departments hard work on getting the Discovery Center complete and opened.

Alderman Bezner asked where an application for YAC can be found. Ms. Cabezas reported that the application is online or they can contact her or Leigh directly.

Alderman Henley thanked Helfman Ford for their donation towards the all-inclusive park and asked how close the City was to starting the park. Ms. Cabezas stated that the park is being built with donation money. Currently the YAC group and the City have raised \$34,000 and the park will cost approximately \$250,000. They plan to build the park in three parts. So far \$4,000 has been spent on the swing and musical equipment.

3. Fire Department Monthly Report for April 2018

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the Stafford Fire Department report for April 2018 which was filed with the City Secretary.

D. Mayor's Comments

1. Save Meadows Elementary

Mayor Jessup stated that the updated was covered in the proclamation, but he reminded everybody to attend the Save Meadows Elementary on June 1st.

2. Election Turn Out

Mayor Jessup stated that he was very pleased with the May 5th election turn out. He thanked all who voted and stated that the City has a group of Council. He also stated that he is honored to be re-elected. Mayor Jessup reported that the City of Meadows Place had a great turn out. We had 887 voters which is 27% of our registered voters. The City had a better turn out than Fort Bend County overall. Fort Bend County had 6.9% overall turn out, Sugar Land had 8.85% and Stafford had 8.86%. Only the City of Thompsons had a higher percentage than the City of Meadows Place.

He was also impressed by the curbside voting conducted by the Election Judge and Clerks.

Mayor Jessup stated that he gives the most dedicated voter award to Betty! She was farm sitting in Schulenburg and drive back into town just to vote and then drove back.

Finally Mayor Jessup reminded everybody to be sure to vote for the Fort Bend ISD bond issue.

E. Council Comments:

None at this time.

F. Regular Agenda

Mayor Jessup called the next two items (1 and 2) together.

1. Issuance of Certificate of Election to Steve Bezner

City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford, delivered Certificate of Election to the newly elected official Steve Bezner, Alderman Place 2.

2. Administer Oath of office to Steve Bezner

City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford, administered the Oath of Office to newly elected official Steve Bezner, Alderman Place 2.

3. Consider Ordinance No. 2018-13 electing Mayor Pro Tem.

Alderman Staigle moved to elect John Isbell, Alderman Place 1, as Mayor Pro-Tem and then rotate in ascending order annually through the elected alderman. Alderman Mills seconded the motion.

Alderman Bezner stated that Alderman Henley is currently on different boards and does being the Mayor Pro Tem effect his creditability? Alderman Henley stated that is could possibly have an impact.

Alderman Staigle that during the budget review he would like to consider lower the Mayor Pro Tem stipend to the same as all alderman.

With a motion and a second to elect John Isbell, Alderman Place 1, as Mayor Pro-Tem and then rotate in ascending order annually through the elected alderman. Mayor Jessup called the vote. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding Kirkwood Street Projection design.

Alderman Staigle stated suggested that Council allow 5 minutes for the citizens to review the proposed design drawings which is approximately 99% complete.

Council took a brie recess at 7:45 p.m. to allow citizens time to review the drawings.

7:55 p.m. reconvened into Regular Session.

Mayor Jessup stated that he'd be happy to meet with any resident in his office that would like to review the plans.

Alderman Staigle that the design is complete for the most part with a few discrepancies. The sidewalk on the east side was not in the original contract and he suggested adding it as an alternate item in the contract. Council briefly reviewed the landscape design.

Alderman Staigle reported that that HDR estimated the construction cost at \$4.4 million, but he thinks it will be closer to \$3.7 million. This is why he would like to advertise for bid so that they City has true numbers to work with before moving forward with construction. He reminded Council that there are still bond funds available for this project. There was brief discussion among Council regarding funding for this project. Some ideas for funding include funding from EDC and the City's general fund.

5. Authorize the Mayor and City Secretary to advertise for bids for construction of Kirkwood Street improvement project from W Airport Blvd. to north city limit line.

Alderman Staigle moved to authorize the Mayor and City Secretary to advertise for bids for construction of Kirkwood Street improvement project from W Airport Blvd. to north city limit line. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Council also agreed to hold three (3) Town Hall meetings to clear up rumors and take public input.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding Code violations fines.

Alderman Staigle stated that he requested this item. He knows that Code Enforcement is important and he is struggling with the feedback he has received regarding fees and fines. He would like to see staggered fines for first offense to higher fines for repeat offenders. Mayor Jessup stated that the current fine is up to \$500. Alderman Staigle stated that he is getting feedback that the judge is setting the fine at \$500 for all violations.

Alderman Staigle moved to have the City Attorney revise the City ordinance with a stair step fine process with the first offense fine to \$100, second offense fine at \$250, and the third and higher offense fine at \$500. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Audience Comments regarding Code Enforcement:

Shirley Isbell, resident at 12326 Scottsdale, stated that yard debris from trash every week and leaving trashcans out is one issue and we have several that need to be addressed.

Sharon Leal, resident at 12015 Meadowdale, stated that she would like to see a change in the fines and questioned how the fine process would be enforced. She asked for a list of the codes.

Mayor Jessup stated that a sample list of code violations can be found on the City website and offered to meet with Ms. Leal.

Art Keepers, resident at 12243 Alston, stated that trash cans are issue, but there is also an issue with large trucks parked in residential driveways.

David Lance, resident at 11946 Meadowcrest, stated that he is in favor of stair step fines for code violations.

7. Discussion and possible action to consider dates for a Council Budget Retreat/Vision meeting.

Alderman Staigle moved to have the Council Retreat/Workshop on June 9th at 9 a.m. at the EOC/Training Center. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

8. Discussion and possible action to consider dates for budget workshops with Department Heads.

Alderman Staigle moved to discuss table this item. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

G. Consent Agenda

1. Consider approval of the Minutes held as follows:

April 24, 2018 – Regular Meeting

May 15, 2018 – Special Meeting

2. Presentation of Bills

Brown & Root Industrial Services \$35,566.00
Install 18 Ton Roof A/C Unit at City Hall

Alderman Isbell moved to approve all items of the consent agenda. Alderman Bezner seconded the motion. The vote follows:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

H. Audience Comments

Terry Henley, resident at 12203 Alston, stated that he is glad that election is over and it was the ugliest he seen in 35 years. He also stated that the Saved Meadows Effort was off the chart and residents need to be sure to vote in favor of the bond issue.

I. Adjourn

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

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

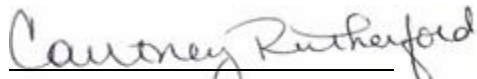
Nays: None


The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

These minutes were approved by City Council on Tuesday, June 26, 2018.

ATTEST:


Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary


Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

