

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF OCTOBER 25, 2005  
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 Mark McGrath at 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 Article 6252-17, V.T.A.C.S. with the following members present and in attendance:

Mayor: Mark McGrath

Aldermen: Terry Henley  
Charles Jessup  
Joe McCann  
David Piwonka  
Rick Staigle

and the following absent:

Alderman: Terry Henley

thus constituting a quorum.

Councilmember Henley was in Austin preparing for an early morning TML Resolution Committee meeting.

Captain Gary Stewart reported on police activity since the last regular council meeting. He said there were four accidents, one involving a minor injury and one hit & run, five controlled arrests most involving drugs, one stolen vehicle reported, one burglary involving an unlocked residence with no forced entry. Captain Stewart noted ticket writing numbers were down due to the fact that three new officers are being trained and there have been some staff changes. Ticket writing should increase soon.

Mayor McGrath passed out the Public Works report. He noted there were 117 service calls for water problems. 104 of them were city related and 13 were on private lines. 25.7 million gallons of water were pumped during September. There have been 39 main water line breaks since May 20<sup>th</sup>. There were 3 sewer related service calls for September. Two were city related and one was on a private line. The first phase of sidewalk improvement work for this budget year is scheduled to start on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The foundation for Meadows Place Fire Station 3 was poured on Friday. Parking and entrance cement is scheduled to be completed by November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Phase 3 pavement improvements are 70% complete.

Mayor McGrath noted that the Halloween Carnival was rained out this year and that the 13<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament will be held this year on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Sugar Creek Country Club. Check-in time is 9:00 a.m. with golfing to start at 11:00 a.m.

There were no audience comments at this time.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor McGrath said that the next regular council meeting, scheduled for November 22<sup>nd</sup> would be rescheduled for the fifth Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

During Council comments, Councilmember Piwonka asked if the city had heard any information from the mall buyers. Mayor McGrath said not directly however, he heard that the owners had approached Star Wholesale to see if they were interested in selling their property. It is believed they would like to convert the whole mall into retail space. There are currently some code enforcement issues concerning mowing the property and signs.

Councilmember Staigle made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 17, 2005 regular meeting as written. Councilmember McCann seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION AMENDING TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §419.0321 TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOURS PART-TIME FIRE PROTECTION EMPLOYEES MAY WORK FOR A FIRE DEPARTMENT LOCATED IN A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN 30,000 FROM 500 HOURS TO 1000 HOURS IN A CALENDAR YEAR.**

Mayor McGrath noted that this is the same resolution that council passed last year. We are supporting the City of Stafford who is asking TML to support the resolution before the Texas Legislature. It will allow fire fighters who work for cities with full time fire departments to work 1,000 hours during their time off from their regular jobs, instead of the current 500 hours, for cities who have volunteer or part time fire departments. State Representative Charlie Howard said he would carry the resolution to the Legislature. Councilmember Piwonka made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jessup to adopt the resolution, numbered **2005-10**, increasing the number of hours part-time fire protection employees may work for a fire department located in a city with a population of less than 30,000 from 500 hours to 1000 hours in a calendar year. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN THE FORT BEND COUNTY MOBILITY PROGRAM.**

Fort Bend County is in the process of gathering information for a future bond election. We would like to see the reconstruction of West Airport from Kirkwood to U.S. 59 and South Kirkwood included in that bond issue. Thanks to Councilmember Henley and U.S. Congressman Tom Delay, \$322,000.00 in federal funds has already been dedicated to this project. Councilmember McCann made a motion to approve the resolution, numbered **2005-11**, for the purpose of participating in the Fort Bend County Mobility Program. Councilmember Piwonka seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO ENTER INTO A MASTER CONTRACT FOR PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION SERVICES WITH BUREAU VERITAS.**

Our Building Official, Mr. Joe Edwards, has sold his business to Bureau Veritas. He has assured us that he will continue to work with us through the new company. He is phasing himself out as he prepares for his retirement. If this doesn't work out, either side can terminate the contract with a ninety day notice. Councilmember McCann made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2005-41**, authorizing the Mayor and the City Secretary to enter into a master contract for plan review and inspection services with Bureau Veritas. Councilmember Jessup seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO RATIFY AN EQUIPMENT LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR IN CAR VIDEO EQUIPMENT FOR RECORDING OFFICER CONTACTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SENATE BILL FOR RACIAL PROFILING.**

This ordinance will ratify the purchase of vehicle video equipment. The first payment is not due until October, 2006. The police department is trying to secure grant funds to help pay for the purchase. Because of time constraints, the contract was signed. If Council chooses not to ratify it, the contract for the five year lease can be canceled. Councilmember Jessup made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McCann, to approve the ordinance, numbered **2005-42**, ratifying the signing of the lease-purchase agreement for in car video equipment for recording officer contacts in compliance with the Senate Bill for racial profiling. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills were then presented to council for ratification as follows: A-Tec Engineers & Contractors, L.P. (#5) - \$120,284.88 for street repairs; Claunch & Miller, Inc. - \$13,588.50 for consulting engineer services; Fleetcor Technologies - \$5,714.69 for gasoline and diesel fuel; J. Grady Randle, P.C. - \$11m077.95 for September legal services; dD0Internatinsl, Inc. - \$72,981.00 for fire station construction to date. Councilmember Staigle made a motion to ratify the expenditures as presented. Councilmember McCann seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

At this time, resident Marti Pattinson told Council that Sugar Land Mayor David Wallace spoke about the Fort Bend County Mobility Program at the most recent Fort Bend Realtors Association meeting. She also asked about the activity at the Lowe's Theatre. Mayor McGrath said they were just cleaning up the area.

Resident David Georger then thanked Mayor McGrath for his recent help. He also noted that the Police were stopping people from cutting through the mall parking lot and asked if we couldn't totally block the access to that area. He was concerned that while the officers are stopping those who cut through, there was not adequate patrol throughout the rest of the city. Mayor McGrath said there is always adequate patrol throughout the city and the street cannot be blocked off because it is not city property. The officers occasionally station themselves at this spot because of the dangers involved when cutting through the parking lot from the Freeway to Troyan.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember McCann made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jessup to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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Elaine Herff, City Secretary