

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF NOVEMBER 29, 2005  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:35 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

thus constituting a quorum.

Captain Jack Ashton reported on police activity since the last regular council meeting. He said November has been a busy month with two unusual incidents. The first being an Amber Alert where a 16 year old Meadows Place resident was reported missing at 10:00 p.m. one evening. Thanks to the nation wide system which cuts through all red tape, cooperative parents and friends and the girl's home computer, the girl was in protective custody by 10:00 a.m. the next day and the Amber Alert was called off. At this time, no charges have been filed and the case is still open. The second incident was an attempted bank robbery at the Wallis State Bank. While off duty and working security at the bank, Sergeant Nix noticed two suspicious males casing out the bank. When he stepped out of the bank to question the two suspicious males, on duty Sergeant Rodriguez pulled into the parking lot. Sergeant Nix called out to the two suspects to stop. They refused and ran and he, together with Sergeant Rodriguez followed them into the Sam's parking lot where an SUV, driven by a female, picked up one of the suspects. The driver attempted to run over Sgt Nix who then discharged his weapon into the SUV's windshield striking the male suspect who was life-flighted to an area hospital. Both male suspects had weapons and one of them had a note in his pocket saying he wanted money. It is assumed that the note was to be given to a bank teller. The second male suspect was later apprehended by a Stafford police officer. The Fort Bend County Sheriff's office is investigating the incident. At this time Mayor McGrath noted that Meadows Place is not the same city it was ten years ago. There is much more traffic and criminal incidents occurring, particularly since West Airport is now open through to 1464 and US 59 has been expanded. Captain Aston said other incidents occurring during the month were six accidents, 10 arrests, 1118 calls for service, 59 criminal offences, 519 traffic citations and 119 traffic warnings issued. Six of the traffic stops resulted in drug arrests. None of the suspects were Meadows Place residents.

Public Works Director Dan McGraw then reported that during the last month there were 177 service calls for water problems. 170 of them were city related and 7 were on private lines. 22.7 million gallons of water were pumped during October. There have been 50 main water line breaks since May 20<sup>th</sup>, 11 during the month of October alone. There were 3 sewer related service calls for October. All were on private lines. The first phase of sidewalk improvements for 2005-2006 will begin tomorrow. All repairs in this phase will be in Section 1. All pavement, rough plumbing and framing have been complete on the Fire Station. The electrical right-in is nearly complete and brick work will be started on Friday. This project should be complete by January 16<sup>th</sup>. Phase 3 pavement improvements are approximately 88% complete.

Parks and Recreation Co-director Terry Modeland noted the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meadows Place Golf Tournament was a success. Golf was great but there were some problems with the banquet. It is hoped that the tournament can be held on a Friday next year. The Animal Wellness Clinic was held today. Christmas Memories

will be held Friday evening, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. There will be snow, a new snowflake machine, a tent, hay rides, carriage rides and, of course, Santa. She hopes for a good turnout of residents. Councilmember Jessup asked why the golf tournament was being moved from Sugar Creek. Mrs. Modeland said that although the Sugar Creek staff was awesome to work with, it is not possible to hold a tournament there on a Friday, the most requested day by golfers for a tournament. Final reimbursement funds for the first grant will be coming soon. Bidding on work for the second grant should start soon.

During audience comments, David Keel of the 11600 block of Scottsdale, between Kirkwood and Ainsworth, said there is a house on Dorrance behind him that plays incredibly loud music and has light positioned to shine on his property. Mayor McGrath told him not to wait two or three hours for the music to stop but to call the police department immediately when it starts. Police should issue a warning the first time and a citation the second and any subsequent times they are called out. Currently the city has no ordinance to control the excessive lighting.

Joe Malik of the 11700 block of Cedar Form said the CVS Pharmacy behind his property has had a garbage truck dumping their garbage between the hours of 3:00 and 5:00 a.m. in violation of their planned development ordinance. Mayor McGrath said he would report this to the Code Officer tomorrow. Mr. Malik also said CVS was put on notice about flooding problems on his property and they are to meet with him in hopes of fixing the drainage properly.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor McGrath said that with substantial completion of the Fire Station scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup>, he would like to set January 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. as a tentative date for a fire station open house..

During Council comments, Councilmember Jessup publicly expressed his thanks to the Police Department as well as the Parks, Public Works and Administrative staff for the work they do. He also thanked the two members in the audience who addressed council with their issues and encouraged others to do the same.

Councilmember Henley said he has been appointed as a liaison between the Texas Municipal League Board of Directors and the TML Risk Pool.

Mayor McGrath then said he was pulling item 11 from the consent agenda because a date change is needed. After removing agenda item 11, he asked council to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember McCann made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Piwonka seconded this motion which carried unanimously. The approved items are as follows:

Item #6, approval of minutes of October 25, 2005 regular meeting and November 14, 2005 workshop meeting.

Item #7, approval of Ordinance numbered **2005-43**:

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR INCREASED PRIOR AND CURRENT SERVICE ANNUITIES UNDER THE ACT GOVERNING THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR RETIREES AND BENEFICIARIES OF DECEASED RETIREES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE ORDINANCE.**

Item #8, approval of Ordinance numbered **2005-44**:

**AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING REGULAR MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS COMMENCING ON NOVEMBER 29,**

**2005, PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE.**

John Whiteman, Phil Carey and Doug Schroeder were appointed as regular members and W. Ken Blankenship was appointed as an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment, all until November 11, 2007.

Item #9, approval of Ordinance numbered **2005-45**:

**AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, (CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION) FOR A TERM BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE OF THIS ORDINANCE, AND ENDING ON THE 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2007, PURSUANT TO THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE.**

Steve Gardner, E.J. Messarra and Marti Pattinson were appointed as regular members of the Planning Commission until February 1, 2007.

Item #10, approval of Ordinance numbered **2005-45**:

**AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING BRET STEVEN KISLUK AS PRESIDING JUDGE TO SERVE IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS.**

Expenditures as presented on the agenda totaling \$338,793.64 were also ratified.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE CALLING A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE AND THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE TO BE HELD ON THE 20TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2005, AT 7:30 O'CLOCK P.M. AT THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE CITY HALL, ONE TROYAN DRIVE, MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS TO HEAR ANY AND ALL PERSONS DESIRING TO BE HEARD ON OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY MATTER OR QUESTION INVOLVING A PROPOSAL TO AMEND CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, ENTITLED "PLANNING AND ZONING REGULATIONS," ARTICLE V, ENTITLED "ZONING REGULATIONS," DIVISION 1, ENTITLED "ZONING DISTRICTS AND REGULATIONS OF GENERAL APPLICABILITY," BY ADDING THERETO A NEW SUB-SUBSECTION (3) TO SECTION 24-514, ENTITLED "OFF STREET PARKING AND LOADING, TO SUBSECTION (B) ENTITLED "REQUIRED PARKING".**

Mayor McGrath said that this ordinance will address the fact that currently you can build a home in the city without a garage. This is not desirable. The date of the public hearing will be changed from December 20<sup>th</sup> to January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006 due to publication requirements. Councilmember Piwonka made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2005-41**, as amended, changing the date of the public hearing to January 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Jessup 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 AN AGREEMENT WITH 3D INTERNATIONAL, INC. FOR CHANGE ORDER #1, TO DELETE THE RCP STORM DRAIN AT CURB AND PROVIDE A JUNCTION BOX FOR TURN IN THE STORM PIPE; INSTALLING A NEW 6" FIRE VAULT WITH POST-INDICATOR VALVE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTIONS; REROUTE/REPLACE THE EXISTING 4" DRAIN LINE FROM TANK TO NEW STORM LINE; AND INSTALL A TEMPORARY DRIVE FOR ACCESS TO EXISTING FIRE TRUCK GARAGE ALL AT THE NEW FIRE STATION ON KIRKWOOD; IN A FORM AS ATTACHED HERETO AND MARKED "EXHIBIT A."**

This change order will add \$16,351 to the existing contract, mostly for the fire vault. It will also allow a short drive to access the existing shed. Councilmember McCann moved to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2005-48**, as presented by the Mayor. Councilmember Staigle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION CASTING CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE 13 VOTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FORT BEND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT.**

Councilmember David Piwonka made a motion to case all 13 of the City of Meadows Place votes for Lee Dugan. Councilmember Jessup seconded this resolution, numbered **2005-10**, which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read a proclamation naming December 7, 2005, as Dr. Betty Baitland Day in the City of Meadows Place, Texas. Mayor McGrath said that on that day, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., an event will be held, sponsored by the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce, honoring Dr. Baitland. Area cities will present similar proclamations. He said Dr. Baitland has made a difference in the education of his children. Councilmember Jessup thought it fitting that we submit this proclamation. Councilmember Henley said that, in his opinion, Dr. Baitland has been the best superintendent Fort Bend ISD has ever had. For many residents, Meadows Elementary in the Fort Bend Independent School District is the main reason that they have moved here. Councilmember Henley then made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McCann, to issue the proclamation as read.

Mayor McGrath then asked for council to consider changing the date of the December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 regular council meeting to December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. Councilmember Henley made this motion which was seconded by Councilmember McCann and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Piwonka made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McCann to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

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Elaine Herff, City Secretary