

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF APRIL 25, 2006  
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: Charles Jessup  
Joe McCann  
David Piwonka  
Rick Staigle

and the following absent:

Alderman: Terry Henley

thus constituting a quorum.

Captain Jack Ashton reported on police activity since the last regular council meeting. He said there were three reportable accidents, 8 arrests, 781 calls for service, one city ordinance citation, and 10 city ordinance warnings. There were also five motor vehicles broken into, one DWI, five cases of fraud investigated, three reports of drug paraphernalia (all resulting from traffic stops) and one pursuit which resulted in the recovery of a stolen vehicle during this time period. Councilmember Jessup asked Captain Ashton what has occurred concerning the teen curfew ordinance which was passed last month. Captain Ashton responded that a departmental meeting was held to discuss the proper way to deal with the public when enforcing this ordinance.

In the Public Works Department, it was reported that no information had been received from ECO Resources concerning water/sewer activities. Public Works employees are back on their regular mowing schedule. They have been trimming some trees, specifically in McDonald Park and on the Brighton lot. They have been working on the sprinkler system on Kirkwood from West Airport to Dorrance. Construction on the new home on Pender and at the Oasis is moving along.

During audience comments, resident Vivian Whiteman asked what was happening with the mall property and said she feels the police department needs more space. Regarding the mall property, Mayor McGrath said the man who bought the property tried to market it as retail with no luck. He has met with city officials asking for their ideas. An inquiry on the property was also received from a church group.

Another resident said he would like to see the size of the parking lot on Dorrance increased.

Janet Pote said the parking lot at city hall was being fully utilized with police officer's personal vehicles which made parking for early voters a problem.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor McGrath noted he has been talking to a marketing firm on ways to best market our city to outsiders. A survey is being prepared for residents to see what they like and don't like about the city. The survey will be included in the June and July city Newsletters.

During Council comments, Councilmember Jessup said it has been a real pleasure to work with outgoing Councilmembers Joe McCann and David Piwonka. He also noted that Mayor McGrath has been very proactive in trying to contact the new

owners of the mall property. And, he said the Mayor and Council are very excited about the survey which will be distributed to residents.

Councilmember McCann then made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2006, workshop and regular meetings and the April 11, 2006 workshop and special meetings. Councilmember Jessup seconded this motion which carried with unanimous approval.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, DESCRIBING THE PURPOSE OF THE UPCOMING BOND ELECTION OF FORT BEND COUNTY AND ENCOURAGING ITS RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN SUCH ELECTION.**

Mayor McGrath noted that the county population was growing by leaps and bounds. The County hopes to pass bonds to build a new jail, a new Gus George police academy and other buildings along with some building renovations. On the same day, May 13<sup>th</sup>, the School Board will also be holding their election. Through this proposed resolution, Council will be encouraging all residents to vote on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Councilmember Piwonka made a motion to adopt the resolution, numbered **2006-02**, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Staigle and was unanimously approved.

Mayor McGrath 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 JAMAIL CONSTRUCTION, TO WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH ASTRO FENCE COMPANY TO COORDINATE THE TURNKEY INSTALLATION OF THE FENCING AROUND THE FOUR (4) TENNIS COURTS IN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE.**

Last month council awarded a contract for lights for the tennis courts. This contract is for new fencing (using the same, existing fence poles) at the tennis courts. The total of both of these contracts is \$106,000 with \$50,000 coming from grant funds. Councilmember Jessup made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McCann to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-10**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC THE RIGHT, PRIVILEGE AND FRANCHISE TO USE THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND TO USE, LICENSE, OR EXPLOIT THE COMPANY'S FACILITIES WITHIN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO CONDUCT AN ELECTRIC DELIVERY BUSINESS IN THE CITY AND FOR SUCH OTHER BUSINESS PURPOSES AS THE COMPANY MAY DESIRE FROM TIME TO TIME, SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE GRANTING OF ACCESS TO THOSE FACILITIES FOR THE DELIVERY OF BROADBAND OVER POWER LINES OR SIMILAR SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS.**

Our current franchise agreement with CenterPoint expires in 2035. They have offered a new franchise agreement to surrounding cities which will expire in 2046 and have asked to extend ours to the same year. Councilmember McCann made a motion to

adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-11**, as read by the Mayor. Councilmember Piwonka seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Council then discussed a possible ordinance restricting the location of residences of registered sex offenders in our city. Police Captain Gary Stewart said that several area cities, including Brazoria, Alvin and Manvel, have already passed this type of ordinance. This ordinance would make it unlawful for registered sex offenders to reside within 1000 feet of where children gather such as playgrounds, schools, day care centers and swimming pools. Council agreed this was a good idea, a beneficial tool to be used to protect our kids. Councilmember Piwonka made a motion to have a proposed ordinance prepared for consideration by Council at the next regular Council meeting. Councilmember McCann seconded this motion which carried with unanimous approval.

Expenditures totaling \$44,866.00 were presented for Council's approval. Councilmember McCann moved to ratify the expenditures as presented. Councilmember Jessup seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

A member in the audience, representing Boy Scout Troop 103, sponsored by First Colony Church of Christ was recognized for his attendance.

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 8:11 p.m.

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Elaine Herff, City Secretary