

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF JULY 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 8:06 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 Charles Kulhanek Rick Staigle Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Captain Jack Ashton reported that since the July meeting, there have been four reportable accidents; 10 arrests; 1846 calls to officers for service; 609 traffic citations issued, 56 offence reports written, 4 city ordinance and 76 traffic warnings issued for a total of 2,605 activity incidents. He said the Crime Watch Meetings will begin again on August 8th with a Gang Activity presentation. He said there was a serious accident on Brighton at Sturdivant caused by driving at an excessive rate of speed. The driver, and sole occupant of the vehicle, was life flighted to the hospital and escaped with only bruises and a broken leg. There was a shooting at night club at 59 and Wilcrest where two of the victims that were shot ended up in the grass at the Nissan Dealership. There were nine BMV's (motor vehicle burglaries.) This city and neighboring communities have seen a steady increase in BMV's lately. There was a burglary at C&H (Pappas Grill and Steak House) which appears to be one of a chain of businesses that have been broken into along the 59 corridor ending in Rosenberg. Other incidents in the city include an e-mail terrorist threat, teenagers stealing MP3 memory sticks from Radio Shack, a discharged firearm and traffic stops that produced drugs, a documented gang member and a car chase involving a 15 year old driver. There has also been a steady request (three or four per day) of house watch requests.

There were no audience comments at this time.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor McGrath noted that, to date, over 260 survey responses have been received. The cut off date to return surveys is August 15th. He reminded everyone that Tuesday, August 1st was National Night Out and encouraged participation. Mayor McGrath also said that he plans to ask the Planning Commission to study the city's political sign ordinance with the intention of limiting the length of time such signs are allowed to be put up before an election. Currently the ordinance only addressed after the election when such signs must be removed within five days.

During Council comments, Councilmember Jessup said he was surprised and very pleased by the number of surveys we have received. He has checked with other cities with similar surveys and none of them have ever received over 200 replies.

Councilmember Kulhanek then made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2006 workshop and regular meetings and July 11, 2006, workshop meeting. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, DEFINING CERTAIN TERMS; MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR CERTAIN SEXUAL OFFENDERS TO RESIDE WITHIN 2000 FEET OF PREMISES WHERE CHILDREN GATHER; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS TO THE ORDINANCE; PROHIBITING PROPERTY OWNERS FROM RENTING REAL PROPERTY TO CERTAIN SEXUAL OFFENDERS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE; REPEALING ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH INCLUDING ORDINANCE NO. 2006-14; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND FINDING FACT.

The previous ordinance, Numbered 2006-14, limited the area certain sexual offenders could reside to 1000 feet of premises where children gather. This ordinance would increase that limit to 2000 feet. The City of Friendswood recently passed a similar ordinance. Mayor McGrath reminded council that there is some risk associated with being the first or second city to do something like this. The 2,000 foot limit covers about 90 percent of the city. It does exclude the northwest area of the city. Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jessup, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-21**, limiting the number of feet where certain sexual offenders can reside to within 2000 feet of premises where children gather. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Jessup then moved to ratify the expenditures of \$5,766.28 to Fleetcor Technologies (Fuelman) for fuel used in city owned vehicles; of \$34,656.00 to Jamail Construction for fencing around the tennis courts; and of \$12,447.50 to Landscape Concepts for materials to be used around the West Airport monument signs. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kulhanek and carried unanimously.

There were no audience comments at this time.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary