

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF DECEMBER 19, 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:	Terry Henley Charles Kulhanek Charles Jessup Rick Staigle David Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Captain Jack Ashton gave a report on police activities since the last regular council meeting. He said there were five reportable accidents, 17 arrests, 977 calls for service, two city ordinance violation citations issued and 175 traffic citations issued. Fourteen city ordinance violation warnings and 58 traffic warnings were also issued during this time frame. These numbers are down considerably from the past few months. During one of the officer's business checks, it was determined that the pharmacist at CVS suspected a patron of prescription fraud and there is a pending investigation on this case. Officer Youngblood, while on night patrol, pulled up to a group of people in the 11800 block of Meadow Crest and ended up issuing six different drug charges. It is believe this was the start of a drug deal which he stopped.

During audience comments, Sylvia Romano, who lives in the 11900 block of Bloomington, spoke about a home on her block that was broken into this past weekend. The block of homes backs up to the alley way behind the old Garden Ridge/Lowe's Theater building. She said there is a lot going on in that alley way and would appreciate extra police attention, if possible. Mayor McGrath said the Police Department is aware of what is going on there and they will keep an eye on it, especially during the holiday season.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor McGrath wished everyone a Merry Christmas and hoped all would have a really good holiday season.

During council comments, council members also wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Councilmember Jessup also asked if the approved additional employee for the administrative staff had been hired yet. A new employee will hopefully be hired after the first of the year.

Councilmember Staigle then made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2006, workshop and regular meetings and the December 5, 2006 special and workshop meetings. His motion was seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek and carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath said the next agenda item, a change to the sign ordinance, was not ready for approval. Several questions still need to be discussed with the City Attorney. Councilmember Henley made a motion to table the item. Councilmember Jessup seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor McGrath then read the caption to the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15 OF THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS,**

ENTITLED, "GARAGE SALES," ARTICLE 1, ENTITLED "IN GENERAL," BY DELETING THE PRESENT PROVISIONS OF SECTION 15-3 AND SUBSTITUTING NEW PROVISIONS FOR SECTION 15-3 AS HEREINAFTER SET OUT.

Mayor McGrath said he was talking to resident Harry Hamilton recently who suggested the permitted dates for the November garage sales be changed from the last weekend of November due to the fact this is usually Thanksgiving weekend and many visitors are in the city. He thought the signage detracted from the beauty of the city during that weekend. Mayor McGrath suggested Council consider changing the November date to the last weekend of October. After some discussion, Councilmember Jessup made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2006-40**, as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Council then discussed acceptance of the police management report from WCL Enterprises. Mayor McGrath said that after Police Chief Pickett retired, Council commissioned a management study of our Police Department to lay a "road map" of where to go in the future. It was a very balanced report which suggested some policy and procedure changes be made as well as noting that some staffing issues exist. Throughout the study the morale of the police staff remained very good and Mayor McGrath said he appreciated the work of the two captains who encouraged their officers in a positive manner. The report listed positive things about our community policing efforts. It noted that the police facilities were barely sufficient and should be expanded when possible. Mayor McGrath noted this would need approval of residents who need to be kept informed of the need. He thanked Captains Stewart and Ashton for their help. Councilmember Wilkens said that based on what Council has seen and heard, we are fortunate to have professionals in the department that go beyond the requirements of police officers. He thanked Mayor McGrath for having the vision and foresight to commission this study to be done at this time. Councilmember Kulhanek congratulated the two Captains for holding the department together. While the morale of the officers is pleasing, it is not surprising as we have a very dedicated staff in our City. He thanked the total police department for their cooperation. Councilmember Henley also commended both Captains for the steps they took immediately upon the retirement of Chief Pickett. He then made a motion to accept the report from WCL Enterprises as presented. Councilmember Wilkens seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Bills were presented to Council for ratification. After examination, Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jessup, to ratify the expenditures as presented. The motion carried by unanimous approval.

There were no audience comments at this time.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary