

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF AUGUST 26, 2008
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mayor Charles Jessup, 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 Section 551.041, TGC with the following members present and in attendance:

Mayor: Charles Jessup

Aldermen: Charles Kulhanek
Rick Staigle
David Wilkens
Terry Henley

and the following absent:

Alderman: Heidi Case

thus constituting a quorum.

Councilmember Kulhanek led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Wilkens gave the invocation.

Code Enforcement Officer Tracey Spiller gave a report on activities in her department in the last quarter. She said a new proposed ordinance, to be considered this evening, will require homeowners to trim trees hanging over city sidewalks and streets to a height not lower than ten feet over sidewalks and not lower than 16 feet over streets. Another ordinance being considered this evening is one requiring rental property owners to register with the city and obtain a license, good for one year. This will keep their address and phone number current in city records and allow the city to inspect the exterior of each property on an annual basis. Failure to register will deny the right for the property to receive an occupancy inspection. Mrs. Spiller thanked those residents who call or email her with properties that fail to comply with city ordinances calling those residents her "second pair of eyes." Councilmember Kulhanek told Mrs. Spiller to keep up her good work. Councilmember Wilkens noted he may not see immediate results when he reports something but he knows that something is always happening in the Code Enforcement Department. Councilmember Henley was assured that the rental property owner ordinance was approved by our City Attorney.

Captain Jack Ashton gave a report on police activities since the last regular council meeting. He said there were 7 reportable accidents. There were 4 arrests made, 2040 calls for services, no city ordinance violations or warnings but 655 traffic violations and 210 traffic warnings were issued. There were 57 incidents where a police officer was requested. The past month was a very active one for the police department. There were six cars broken into, one residential burglary but no business burglaries. There were 256 business checks, 760 house watches and 534 property checks made. RadKIDS training will begin September 5th and continue on the 6th and 7th. A sufficient number of children were signed up to warrant a second program to be held soon. RadKIDS teaches child safety and how to react to different dangerous instances. Officers have been saturating the school zones this past week due to the start of school.

There were no audience comments.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup congratulated the city's life guards on the great job they did this year at the pool. He noted the Parks and Police Departments treat the guards with respect with the police stopping and checking with the guards every so often to make sure things are going ok. Mayor Jessup also thanked the Police Department for their focusing on school zones this past week during the first week of school. He also thanked Council for the hard work they put in on the budget during many workshop meetings the past two months.

During council comments, Councilmember Kulhanek said he was glad the budget process was completed, reminded everyone to drive carefully as school was in session and reminded everyone to purchase their commemorative 25th Anniversary brick. Councilmember Henley noted he purchased five bricks and added he feels the city is healthy and going in the right direction.

Minutes of the November 27, 2007 regular meeting; December 11, 2007 workshop meeting; December 18, 2007 regular meeting; January 22, 2008 workshop and regular meetings; January 29, 2008 workshop and special meetings; February 26, 2008 regular meeting; March 25, 2008 workshop and regular meetings; and the April 22, 2008 workshop; public hearings and regular meetings were presented for council's approval. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek to approve the minutes as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read a proclamation for the expansion of Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens, to adopt the proclamation as read. The motion carried unanimously,

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2008 FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2008.

Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2008-21**, calling a public hearing on the budget for Tuesday, September 16, 2008, immediately following the 7:00 public hearing on the tax rate. Councilmember Wilkens seconded this motion which carried with unanimous approval.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 20-14 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, ENTITLED "MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES," BY REPEALING SECTION 20-14 IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW SECTION 20-14 BY ADDING THERETO A NEW PROVISION ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE REGULATION OF TREES AND SHRUBBERY EXTENDING OVER THE PUBLIC SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC STREETS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

This ordinance will require residents to keep their trees and shrubs trimmed for a clearance of ten feet over sidewalks and sixteen feet over city streets. The additional six feet over streets is to allow fire trucks to pass without scraping. Councilmember Wilkens made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2008-22**, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Staigle and carried with unanimous approval.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, BY ADDING THERETO A NEW SECTION 9-12; PROVIDING FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY LICENSING AND INSPECTION AND SETTING A FEE OF \$25.00 FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ANY SUCH LICENSE.

This ordinance, similar to one already being used by the cities of Missouri City and Sugar Land, will require owners of residential rental property to register with the city annually at a cost of \$25.00 to help defray our expenses. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2008-23**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Kulhanek then made a motion to ratify the expenditures as presented on the agenda. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion with carried with unanimously.

There were no audience comments at this time.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.