



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON AUGUST 22, 2017 AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE MEADOWS PLACE CITY HALL, 1 TROYAN DRIVE, MEADOWS PLACE, TX 77477

A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Charles D. Jessup IV, at 7:34 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup IV	City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford
Mayor Pro Tempore, Terry J. Henley	Alderman, John F. Isbell
Alderman, Rick J. Staigle	

Alderman, Steven H. Bezner and Alderman, Kelle K. Mills were not present.

Staff in attendance: Captain Jack Ashton, Meadows Place Police Department; and Colene Cabezas, Parks & Recreation Director.

a. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge by:	Kurt Kopczynski, Resident
Invocation by:	Jimmy Fenwick, Resident

B. Reports

1. Police Department

Police Chief, Gary Stewart, gave an overview of the monthly statistics and activities report, which was distributed to City Council and filed with the City Secretary.

Chief Stewart gave a brief update on Police Department staffing. He reported that Lieutenant Simmons was back in the hospital, but he is home now. Some employees have donated sick leave to help while he is home recovering. The department is still down multiple officers. Officer Ronell was injured at a disturbance call and is on light duty, Officer Dottei will be going on for surgery, and they still reviewing applicants for the one open position.

The department continues to attend training and working on special projects. Chief Stewart and Captain Ashton recently attended a Disaster Recovery training hosted by FEMA.

Chief Stewart reported that the new Training Center/EOC is about 95% complete and they already have a few training events scheduled.

Chief Stewart also stated that he has worked with Laser Shot and the department will be getting a new system, valued at \$26,000, in exchange for filming for them and some promotional stuff.

Mayor Jessup stated that he would like to schedule a Workshop at the EOC/Training Center so that all of City Council can tour the facility. He also stated that he was proud of Chief Stewart for working with Laser Shot and the getting the system donated to the City.

Alderman Staigle stated that personnel need to start Hurricane Preparedness, because 26 inches of rain is being predicted with Hurricane Harvey. Mayor Jessup stated that staff is ready and will use the EOC if necessary. Public Works is also preparing and making sure that the City has fuel on hand.

2. Fire Department Monthly Report for July 2017

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the Stafford Fire Department report for June 2017 which was filed with the City Secretary.

He also stated that he recently met with Chief DiCamilo and the fire department is working to move all IT over to the City of Stafford.

C. Mayor's Comments

1. New Website

Mayor Jessup reported that City has a new website that has been updated and easier to navigate. The new format is user friendly on all platforms now including computer, phone, and tablets. Meadows Place EDC will also be getting a new page soon.

2. New Park

Mayor Jessup stated that on tonight's agenda there is an item to designate a portion of land on Kangaroo Court as a Park, which will then be part of a new child safety zone. Legislation passed a new law that allows General Law Cities create their ordinances regarding sex offenders and set a 1,000-square foot boundary around child safety zones.

3. Staff Training

Mayor Jessup reported that staff continues to attend trainings for their different positions. Most recently Chief Stewart, Captain Ashton, Anna-Maria Weston, and Oralia Nacarrino attended a FEMA training. Public Works Director, Danny Segundo also passed his Class A certification. He stated that he was very proud of Danny as this was a hard test. City Secretary Courtney Rutherford, Associate Judge Beverly McMinn, and Clerk Y'Mica Davis all attended Legislative updates as well.

Mayor Jessup stated that staff is working to improve and better their selves to better serve the residents of Meadows Place.

D. Council Comments:

a. TML Update – Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Henley

Alderman Henley gave a brief update on the legislative session and stated that it ended a day early. He was happy to report that SB1 died and there will be no revenue caps at this time.

Mayor Jessup stated that Alderman Henley is on the TML Board and worked with TML speaking at the legislative sessions on behalf of the cities. Alderman Henley knows the people and can help.

E. Regular Agenda

1. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-21 designating land on Kangaroo Court as City Park area.

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-21 designating land on Kangaroo Court as City Park area. Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

2. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-22 providing for a schedule of fees; updating fees for water and sewer base rates; repealing all ordinance or resolutions in conflict herewith; providing a penalty; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.

Alderman Henley moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-22 providing for a schedule of fees; updating fees for water and sewer base rates; repealing all ordinance or resolutions in conflict herewith; providing a penalty; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

3. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-23 amending Ordinance No. 2006-21 making it unlawful for certain sexual offenders to reside within 1,000 feet of premises where children gather.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-23 amending Ordinance No. 2006-21 making it unlawful for certain sexual offenders to reside within 1,000 feet of premises where children gather. Alderman Mills seconded the motion.

There was brief discussion that this ordinance does not allow for a sex offender to apply for an exemption. Legal Counsel and staff are working on the exemption and will have that ready for Council approval within 60 days. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

4. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-24 amending the City of Meadows Place Code of Ordinance Section amending the approved exterior paint colors.

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-24 amending the City of Meadows Place Code of Ordinance Section amending the approved exterior paint colors. Alderman Mills seconded the motion.

Alderman Staigle pointed out that residents do not have to use Behr paint. They only have to match the color scheme. If a resident wants to vary from this color they must apply for a variance. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

5. Discuss the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and consider Resolution No. 2017-21, setting the maximum proposed tax rate; setting dates for any necessary public hearings on the proposed tax rate; and setting the date City Council will adopt the fiscal year 2017-2018 tax rate.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-21, setting the maximum proposed tax rate; setting dates for any necessary public hearings on the proposed tax rate; and setting the date City Council will adopt the fiscal year 2017-2018 tax rate. Alderman Mills seconded the motion.

Alderman Staigle stated that the proposed budget is posting on the City's website and summary sheets are available as well. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

6. Consider Resolution No. 2017-22 amending the City of Meadows Place Employee Policy Manual adding a new Section IV. Compensation B., Benefit Package, 19 Sick Leave Donations.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-22 amending the City of Meadows Place Employee Policy Manual adding a new Section IV. Compensation B., Benefit Package, 19 Sick Leave Donations. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley abstained.

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

F. Consent Agenda

a. Consider approval of the Minutes held on:

July 25, 2017 – Workshop Meeting

July 25, 2017 – Regular Meeting

August 1, 2017 – Special Session and Budget Workshop

b. Presentation of Bills

Asakura Robinson	\$12,000.00
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$3,508.15
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$1,338.00
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$1,628.36
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$936.00

Alderman Staigle moved to approve all items of the consent agenda. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Bezner was not present.

The motion carried

G. Audience Comments

Nadya Shelton, resident at 11942 Brighton Lane, stated that she has concerns regarding the parking along Amblewood in front of the property that City recently purchased. Mayor Jessup stated that City plans to increase parking on the driveway, use the pool parking lot, and there may also be some cars legally parking on the street, but the City will monitor the issue once the facility is opened.

Alderman Staigle stated that the City is also looking to put in a bridge behind the property to allow access to the gravel parking lot.

She also stated that she would like for the City to host a Mini Mural contest to draw butterflies and paint the utility boxes. Mayor Jessup stated that there are some plans for decorative options.

Chuck McClurkin, resident at 11947 Brighton Lane, stated that he thinks the City needs to let residents know what the \$5.00 Road Use Fee is used for. He has spoken to several residents who have no idea what that money is actually used for. He stated that most people have no idea how much road work cost and it might be a good idea to put something in the monthly newsletter to educate people.

The Mayor stated that the City actually exceeded the road use fees received this year.

Mr. McClurkin also asked what the planned use will be for the house purchased next to the pool. Mayor Jessup stated that the long-term plan is to expand the pool facilities. Currently the Parks Director, Colene Cabezas, plans to use the facility for art classes, small meetings like garden club and scouts, and a Nature Center. Staff is currently working with Regas Construction who have donated their labor to remodel the building.

Mr. McClurkin also stated that he has concerns regarding parking.

Kurt Kopczynski, resident at 12019 Meadow Hollow, asked if there were regulations regarding paint colors for front doors. Alderman Staigle stated that code does not address door specifically.

Mr. Kopczynski asked what tax rate the City was considering. Alderman Staigle stated that the proposed tax rate is 0.832 which is the current rate. He pointed out that the tax rate is not increasing and if taxes went up it was due to the property value going up.

Mr. Kopczynski also asked if the parks must be designated on City property. Mayor Jessup stated that yes it must be City land and there are certain equipment requirements that must be met. He stated that the City is currently looking a few other options for new parks.

John Isbell, resident at 12326 Scottsdale Drive, stated that he and his wife, Shirley, are co-chairs for the Meadows Place Home & Garden Club Home Tour 2018. They will showcase houses in the City and raise money for scholarships, the City's general fund, and the inclusive park. They hope that this will raise national awareness to the City of Meadows Place. They would like to meet with the Mayor, Courtney, and Colene to discuss options and ideas. Mayor Jessup asked him to send an email with an agenda and suggested dates for the meeting.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business on the agenda Alderman Staigle moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

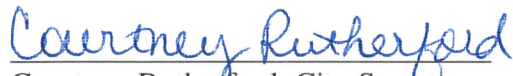
Aldermen Bezner was not present.

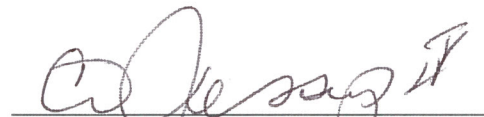
The motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

These minutes were approved by City Council on Tuesday, September 26, 2017.

ATTEST:


Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary


Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

