



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON AUGUST 28, 2018 AT 6:30 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 6:30 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup, IV
Mayor Pro Tem, John F. Isbell
Alderman, Kelle K. Mills

City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford
Alderman, Rick J. Staigle

Aldermen, Terry J. Henley and Steven H. Bezner were absent.

Staff in attendance: Police Captain, Jack Ashton and Parks Director, Colene Cabezas.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge by: Kurt Kopczynski, Resident
Invocation by: Chaplain Jim Russell

B. Presentations and Proclamations

1. National Night Out Proclamation

C. Reports

1. Police Department

Police Captain Jack Ashton gave an overview of the monthly statistics and activities report for August 2018. A copy was distributed to City Council and filed with the City Secretary.

Captain Ashton invited everybody to attend the Neighborhood Watch meeting on September 20, 2018.

He stated that Police Department is continuing to work with Northern Tool Equipment. Suspects have been walking out with large items such as generators and tool sets. The Police Department has advised Northern Tool to move the items to a different location in the store and not so close to the doors. So far, they have identified two (2) of the four (4) suspects.

He also stated that the CRASE drill at Sugar Grove Church has been postponed.

Meadows Place PD provided security and traffic control at JCI for their Nickel Dog Day, which was very busy and a success.

The Police Department continues to have trainings at the new Training Center and our officers can attend at no charge. Bellaire Police Department participated in our recent assessment at the Training Center and have asked to hold their upcoming Assistant Chief assessment there.

Mayor Jessup stated the Chief was out on vacation, but he wanted to thank him, Colene Cabezas, and Courtney Rutherford for completing the application for the new parking lot at the Training Center. All paperwork and fees have been submitted to CenterPoint.

Alderman Mills thanks the Police Department for helping at her house recently.

Alderman Henley also thanked the Chief for getting the vehicle report corrected.

2. Parks & Recreation

The Parks Director, Colene Cabezas, reported on parks progress and events since her last report in May and stated that her budget for this fiscal year is right on target at 90.21% and looks to end on a positive note.

Ms. Cabezas was happy to report that the new Discovery/Nature Center opened in late Spring and started summer camps in June. There were 10 different week-long camps and averages 15 youths per week. The target number of participation to cover the camp expense was 10 youths per week. These camps raised an estimated \$17,000 in revenue. They partnered with different organizations like Meadows Place Police, Stafford Fire and Fort Bend Master Gardeners for presentations at the camps.

This facility is also available for rental and currently has nine (9) different organizations using it for meetings.

She stated that pool season started and ended this quarter. It was another successful season and pool pass sales exceeded the previous year.

She completed a Trail survey as part of the parking lot application and can add additional trails at no additional cost to the city.

Splash Night was a huge success with approximately 400 people attending. Mayor Jessup stated that this is a special event for our community and this year they combined it with a party for saving Meadows Elementary. He thanked Ms. Cabezas for all her work toward the party.

We had another successful and well attended July 4th Parade despite the rain.

She then stated that from June to August volunteers contributed 600 hours of work. This includes two Experience Works employees. These hours total an approximate savings of \$12,600 in salary cost.

Ms. Cabezas then gave a brief overview of events scheduled for the upcoming quarter. These events include completing the backyard at the Discovery Center, McGrath trailhead

behind the field house for the Monarch Gateway, Monarch Madness on October 6th, Oktoberfest on October 26th, and Christmas Memories on December 7th.

Alderman Isbell congratulated Ms. Cabezas on a successful Splash Night. He had a great time. He also stated good job on her budget being at 90% and asked how the volunteers contributed to that. She stated that a volunteer works the Nature Center daily from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. He also stated that his three (3) grandchildren attended the camps and has a great time.

Alderman Staigle stated that HGAC will have a call projects for future trails on September 4th and he will get the information to her.

3. Fire Department Monthly Report for July 2018

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the Stafford Fire Department report for July 2018 which was filed with the City Secretary. Mayor Jessup stated that Ms. Segundo, Public Works Director, works great with the Fire Department and EMS and takes care of building maintenance. Some of the recent projects include Door repairs, lighting in the parking lot, and a CIP project for a generator at the EMS building. The City has happy to have them here and wants to work to keep them happy.

D. First Public Hearing for Proposed Tax Rate

Mayor Jessup opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. and stated the purpose of today's hearing to give all interested parties the right to appear and be heard regarding the City's proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 4.24 percent. Mayor Jessup called upon anyone desiring to speak.

Mayor Jessup then waited to see if anybody wanted to speak at the Public Hearing.

Alderman Staigle stated that the law requires the city to stated that the tax revenue will increase but does not consider the possible Homestead Exemption increase that Council will consider later in the Regular Agenda. If passed the tax revenue will decrease.

Mayor Jessup stated The City Council will meet on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Meadows Place City Hall, 1 Troyan Drive, Meadows Place, Texas, for the purpose of voting on the proposed tax rate. There being no one desiring to speak, Mayor Jessup closed this public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

E. Mayor's Comments

1. Thank you to everyone for their hard work on the budget process

Mayor Jessup that he wanted to thank Alderman Staigle, City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford; Finance Director, Anna-Maria Weston, and all of the Department Heads for their hard work on the budget. It is an intense and complex process, and all have the best interest of the City at heart.

2. Increase in WCID Surface Water Fee

Mayor Jessup stated that city recently received a 23% rate increase from WCID and this is still lower than most of Fort Bend Subsidence District. Meadows Place is in great shape for water and thanked those before him for signing the contract.

3. Thank you to Alderman Rick Staigle for his time and efforts on the Kirkwood Reconstruction Project.

Mayor Jessup thanked Alderman Staigle for all of his time and hard work on the Kirkwood project. The City is going out for bid and Alderman Staigle played a huge role in that. He is a certified traffic engineer and he is very thankful for expertise.

F. Council Comments:

1. Update on the Kirkwood Reconstruction Project – Alderman Rick Staigle

Alderman Staigle stated that project is going out for bid this week. The city will host a pre-bid meeting with HDR on August 30th for interested contractors and the bid opening will be September 19th which will give the city actual cost. HDR and the city will be looking not only the low bid, but the most responsible bid. References will also be checked. The current bid also has a 90-day clause to honor the bid, so that the city can evaluate funds. As of now the EDC and Fort Bend County Mobility Bond will help fund the project. The intent is for no funds to come from the city general fund.

G. Regular Agenda

1. Discussion and possible action to consider Ordinance No. 2018-17 amending the tax exemption of the appraised value of residential homestead property from 13% to 20 % for the tax year beginning January 1, 2019.

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Ordinance No. 2018-17 amending the tax exemption of the appraised value of residential homestead property from 13% to 20 % for the tax year beginning January 1, 2019. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley and Bezner was not present.

The motion carried.

Alderman Staigle stated that this exemption will decrease revenue by approximately \$924910.00 and is equivalent to \$0.03 cent decrease in the tax rate. Each home owner will save approximately \$100.00 per year.

Council also stated that they chose to increase the homestead exemption versus the tax rate so that the residents of Meadows Place would be the ones to benefit.

2. Discussion and possible action to accept the 2018 Tax Year Anticipated Collection Rate from Patsy Schultz, PCC, Fort Bend County Tax Assessor Collector.

Alderman Staigle moved to accept the 2018 Tax Year Anticipated Collection Rate from Patsy Schultz, PCC, Fort Bend County Tax Assessor Collector. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley and Bezner was not present.

The motion carried.

3. Discussion and possible action to consider Resolution No. 2018-21 selecting an individual to serve on the TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees Places 11 – 14.

Alderman Mills moved to approve Resolution No. 2018-21 selecting an individual to serve on the TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees Places 11 – 14 nominating the Board of Trustees as follows:

Place 11 Dietrich von Biedefeld

Place 12 Bert Lumbreras

Place 13 Byron Black

Place 14 David Rutledge

Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley and Bezner was not present.

The motion carried.

4. Discussion and possible action to consider Ordinance No. 2018-18 providing for schedule of fees; updating fees for surface water rates; repealing all ordinance or resolutions in conflict herewith; providing a penalty; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve consider Ordinance No. 2018-18 providing for schedule of fees; updating fees for surface water rates; repealing all ordinance or resolutions in conflict herewith; providing a penalty; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley and Bezner was not present.

The motion carried.

Alderman Staigle explained that this fee is state mandated and if the City does not comply they will be penalized. The city has covered the last couple of increase, but unfortunately, they can no longer absorb this cost, therefore they must pass the increase on to the water customers.

This ordinance will increase the Surface Water Fee from \$1.82 to \$2.18

- 5. Discussion and possible action to consider Ordinance No. 2018-19 amending the General Fund Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018 in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from line item 100-050-510100, Police Department Salaries, to increase a new line item in Capital Improvement for Facilities Maintenance in order to plan for possible facility expansions and improvements.**

Alderman Staigle moved to approved Ordinance No. 2018-19 amending the General Fund Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018 in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from line item 100-050-510100, Police Department Salaries, to increase a new line item in Capital Improvement for Facilities Maintenance, 100-271300, in order to plan for possible facility expansions and improvements. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley and Bezner was not present.

The motion carried.

Alderman Staigle explained that these funds will be transferred the Police salary line item. Due to vacant positions the Police Department has funds remaining in the 2017-2018 municipal budget. These funds will be put in Capital Improvements to plan for possible build outs/expansions.

- 6. Discussion and possible action to set the date for a public hearing regarding permits, general contractors, inspections, and home owner's responsibility.**

Council agreed to hold a workshop on September 25th after the Regular City Council meeting to discuss permits, general contractors, inspections, and home owner's responsibility.

H. Consent Agenda

- 1. Consider approval of the Minutes held as follows:**

July 19, 2018 – Special Session and Budget Workshop Meeting

July 21, 2018 – Special Session and Budget Workshop Meeting

July 24, 2018 – Regular Meeting

August 4, 2018 – Special Session and Budget Workshop Meeting

Alderman Staigle moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

Aldermen Henley and Bezner were not present.

The motion carried.

I. Audience Comments

Art Keepers, resident at 12243 Alston, asked Council to do more regarding rental properties and code enforcement of those properties.

Donna Navarro, resident at 11918 Scottsdale, stated that the city should use Code Red to contact residents when water is to be turned off for repairs. She also stated concern for the maintenance of rental properties in the City.

J. 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 Isbell, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

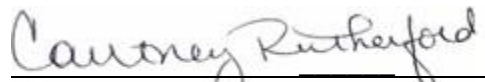
Aldermen Henley and Bezner were not present.

The motion carried.

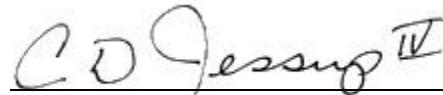
The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

These minutes were approved by City Council on Tuesday, September 25, 2018.

ATTEST:



Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary



Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

