

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF JANUARY 27, 2009
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:34 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: Heidi Case
Terry Henley
Charles Kulhanek
Rick Staigle
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Councilmember Staigle led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Wilkens gave the Invocation.

Police Chief Mike Baker introduced our newest Police Officer, Imelda Rodriguez, to Council. She is taking Officer Youngblood's place. Captain Jack Ashton then reported on Police Activities since the last regular City Council meeting. There were 4 reportable accidents, 16 arrests, 1689 calls for service and 535 traffic citations issued during this time period. Four of the arrests were drug related and four were felony arrests. A suspicious person was picked up and arrested solving at least eight Houston burglaries before they were even reported. Chief Baker will be gone all day tomorrow in Austin attending a Police Chief's meeting.

Parks and Recreation Co-Director Terry Modeland gave an update on Parks Department activities. Mrs. Modeland thanked the Police Department for actively patrolling the Parks, keeping them from being vandalized. She said Parks matching grants 2 and 3 are 90% complete. Interpretive signs still need to be installed. Currently they are dealing with a compliance issue at the pool regarding pool drains. Although they are currently compliant, more work needs to be done before the new swim season starts. Mrs. Modeland noted that both the 25th Anniversary Celebration and Christmas Memories were very successful events.

There were no audience comments at this time.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted that parking lot renovations are occurring. The opening between Bloomington Lane and City Hall's parking lot has been made. It will have a remote controlled gate accessible to Police emergency vehicles only. At the same time, the drainage issue that occurs with each heavy rain has, hopefully, been fixed. Mayor Jessup also noted that he would be meeting with the new CERT (Citizen's Emergency Response Team) director this week and he hopes that CERT classes will resume soon.

There were no Council Comments scheduled.

Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to accept the minutes of December 16, 2008 workshop and regular meetings and the January 13, 2009 workshop meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and unanimously approved.

Mayor Jessup then announced that the Public Hearing to hear comments both for and against a proposal to adopt a resolution authorizing Meadows Place Parks and Recreation Department to apply for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department grant funds through the Small Communities Grant Program was now open.

Parks Co-Director Terry Modeland explained that due to possible cuts in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's grant funds that could be made by the current Legislature, it was decided to apply for a 4th matching grant this year. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2009. The Parks Department sent out surveys targeting older citizens to see what would appeal to them in the way of parks improvements. They responded that they would like to see a larger outdoor facility, similar to the outdoor classroom we now have, a pavilion structure with picnic tables, a pond and improved lighting in the parks. This year the small communities grant program is offering \$75,000 matching funds. Grant #3 was for \$50,000 and very few city funds were required since the School District's after school program donated playground equipment toward our matching funds. This year Fort Bend County is donating \$49,500 to dig the pond. The new grant looks good in the scoring system. Support has been received from both the Swim Team and Baseball Organization. Sharon Kitchen asked how other communities got their grant funds. Mayor Jessup responded that many hire grant writers. This time Terry Modeland took on the lion's share of the grant writing. Councilmember Henley noted that, even with the promised \$49,500, we are still about \$25,000 short on matching funds. Mrs. Modeland agreed but noted that, while donations are still being solicited, bond funds still exist should we need them. There were no further comments, for or against the resolution, and Councilmember Staigle made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS (HEREINAFTER CALLED THE APPLICANT), DESIGNATING OFFICIALS AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE APPLICANT IN DEALING WITH TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE (TPW), FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN THE TEXAS RECREATION AND PARKS ACCOUNT SMALL COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM (HEREINAFTER CALLED THE PROGRAM); CERTIFYING THAT THE APPLICANT IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE PROGRAM ASSISTANCE; CERTIFYING THAT THE APPLICANT'S MATCHING SHARE IS READILY AVAILABLE; AND DEDICATING THE PROPOSED SITE FOR PERMANENT (OR FOR THE TERM OF THE LEASE FOR LEASED PROPERTY) PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATIONAL USES.

Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to adopt the resolution, numbered **2009-01**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Captain Jack Ashton then presented the Police Racial Profiling Report to Council. He explained that the report is required by the State of Texas. It is in compliance with all of the State mandates regarding race, ethnicity, etc. Councilmember Henley made a motion to accept the Police Racial Profile Report as presented. Councilmember Kulhanek seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then announced that the Public Hearing to review the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance, its effects on the community and on problems the ordinance was intended to remedy, and the need to continue the ordinance and abolish, continue or modify the ordinance was now open. Mayor Jessup noted this has been an advantageous tool used by our Police Department in their dealings with youth under the age of 17 years. It has proven to be a useful ordinance. There were no comments from the audience or from council. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE OPENING OF AN ACCOUNT IN WALLIS STATE BANK AND DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES.

This resolution will allow drug money received from the county to be used for equipment to aid in the prevention of illegal drug usage in our city. Councilmember Wilkens made a

motion to adopt the resolution, numbered **2009-02**, as presented. Councilmember Case seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE MEADOWS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND DIRECTORS OF THE MEADOWS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE OF THIS ORDINANCE AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER 2010.

Mayor Jessup said his recommendation is that Council reappoint the current EDC Board to each serve a new two year term. He said the current board has budgeted their funds wisely. EDC funds pay the interest and principal due each year on the Well #3 bonds. They have also paid for sound walls, marketing programs, etc. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the ordinance, number **2009-01**, appointing Terry Henley, Harry Hamilton, Bob Graf, Margaret Sandlin and Travis Tanner as members of the Meadows Economic Development Council for a term ending on the 31st day of December 2010. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Staigle and carried unanimously.

Expenditures of \$5,565.00 to Hydrant.com and \$12,160.00 to Joe Salvide were presented for approval. Councilmember Case moved to approve the expenses. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek and carried unanimously.

During audience comments, resident Sharon Kitchen informed Council that she did a little research on area newsletters and has come to the conclusion that our Newsletter is outstanding in our area.

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 8:37 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary