

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF FEBRUARY 24, 2009
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:33 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: Heidi Case
Charles Kulhanek
Rick Staigle
Dave Wilkens

and the following absent:

Alderman: Terry Henley

thus constituting a quorum.

Councilmembers and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Wilkens gave the Invocation.

Captain Jack Ashton gave reported on Police activities since the last Regular Council Meeting. He noted there were two reportable accidents, seven arrests, 1,154 calls for service, no city ordinance citations but 474 traffic related citations issued, 42 offense reports, ten city ordinance warnings and 123 traffic warnings issued during this time frame. The total, 1,812 is down from normal activities. Captain Ashton reminded everyone that the school carnival would be taking place on Friday, March 27th. He also noted that our Rental Property Registration Program was particularly good. Also, our new officer is doing very well in her training program.

Code Enforcement Officer Tracey Spiller gave an update on Code Enforcement activities since the December regular Council Meeting. She said that our Rental Property Registration Program, which requires property owners of rental property in the city to register their property annually, is going very well. We have a few foreclosed and/or distressed properties in Meadows Place. She recommends that Council adopt a policy requiring that homes be a minimum square foot in size so that properties that are purchased with the intent of being torn down and rebuilt are not so small that they bring other property values in the city down.

There were no audience comments at this time.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted that the Fire Department reported 20 total calls for the month of January. These included 14 EMS calls (a majority to Senior Village), three fire/carbon monoxide alarms, two "good intent" and one "other." Most calls for service were received between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mayor Jessup announced that our city pools have meet federal safety mandates and are now totally in compliance. This Saturday, City Council, Staff, and several residents will meet to discuss a vision of what they hope the city will look like in 15 years. Mayor Jessup said he was surprised to learn that several other cities no longer have "Audience Comments" on their agenda due to the fact that City Councils cannot respond to these comments as their contents are not on the agenda. Mayor Jessup believes it is the citizen's right to address council and will leave audience comments on our agenda. Council cannot respond to these comments but they can listen.

There were no Council Comments scheduled.

Councilmember Wilkens made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 27, 2008 workshop and regular meetings as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Staigle and unanimously approved.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE ENACTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 370.002 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS OF FACT AND TO CONTINUE WITHOUT CHANGE THE CURFEW REGULATIONS EXISTING IN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS AS SET OUT IN CHAPTER 20 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, ENTITLED "MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES," ARTICLE I, SUBSECTION 20-25, ENTITLED "JUVENILE CURFEW."

All curfew ordinances have a sunset clause. A public hearing must be held every three years. Meadows Place held their public hearing on this item on January 27th at which time it was learned that the curfew was proven to be a useful tool to our Police Department. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-02**, as presented. Councilmember Case seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SEMARCK LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC. FOR IRRIGATION AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS TO DAIRY ASHFORD BLVD.

Councilmember Staigle explained that several bids were received for this project. Semarck Landscape Services, Inc. bid \$36,745.00 plus cost of bonds. Semarck was the low bidder by \$25,000. Their references checked out. He made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-03**, authorizing the Mayor and the City Secretary to sign the contract, contingent upon Semarck acquiring the required bonds. Councilmember Kulhanek seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES BETWEEN MARSH DARCY PARTNERS, INC., AND THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO DEVELOP A "VISION" FOR THE CITY TO GUIDE AND INFORM FUTURE PLANNING AND DECISION MAKING ON THE FULL RANGE OF REGULATORY, MUNICIPAL, GOVERNANCE, HEALTH AND SAFETY, TAXATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES.

Councilmember Wilkens asked how many firms had been contacted to lead this vision meeting. Mayor Jessup answered three. Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Case, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-04**, as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE CALLING AN ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, THE 9TH DAY OF MAY, 2009, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CITY OFFICIALS, PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF SAID ELECTION.

Councilmember Kulhanek moved to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-05**, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS TO ENTER INTO A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES.

Councilmember Staigle moved to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-06**, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilkens and carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, (CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION) FOR A TERM BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE OF THIS ORDINANCE, AND ENDING ON THE 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011, PURSUANT TO THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE.

Mayor Jessup said that the terms of three members of the Zoning Commission have expired and he was recommending all three be reappointed. Councilmember Wilkens made a motion to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-07**, appointing Steve Gardner, Theresa Bathe and E.J. Messarra to the City Planning and Zoning Commission for another two year term. His motion was seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek and unanimously approved.

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 is the same resolution that was adopted at the last council meeting with the exception that this ordinance will not be interest bearing as originally was thought to be necessary. This will allow a lower amount of funds to stay in the account without a penalty being assessed. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the resolution, numbered **2009-03**, as presented. Councilmember Staigle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During audience comments, resident Joe Malik said he noticed the new owners of the Mall have recently given it a new coat of paint.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary