

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF OCTOBER 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 7:31 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.

The pledge to the flag was led by Councilmember Kulhanek and Councilmember Dave Wilkens gave the invocation.

Monya Keenen, Parks and Recreation Co-Director, gave an update on what's been happening in the last three months. She said it was a fun summer. The kids that came to the last Barefoot 'n Friday all received free ice cream thanks to Parks & Rec Assistant Kristina Hickle winning an essay contest sponsored by Dreyer's Ice Cream Company. The salt water conversion of the city's pools went very smoothly. A remodel of the Community's Center's kitchen area was recently completed. Saturday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> the city will host their semi-annual pet wellness clinic in the Community Center's parking lot. Christmas Memories will be held the evening of Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 10 p.m. and will feature a snow hill, band, concessions, Santa's arrival as well as a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christmas Memories fireworks display. There have been improvements made to the fencing and lighting at McGrath Park along with new dugout covers on the major's field. A successful fun run was conducted in September which was totally planned and paid for by Sugar Grove Church of Christ. Ms. Keenen thanked Council members Case and Kulhanek assistance in contacting other area cities regarding their fun run policies so that guidelines for our city can be developed for future fun runs. Ms. Keenen thanked Mayor Jessup and City Council for their support in obtaining a record 4<sup>th</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Small Community Grant which will we can take up to three years to complete. Councilmember Henley said that while he thinks the pond is a good idea, he has deep concerns about its annual maintenance costs and would like to see estimates from a lake management company for its upkeep. Mayor Jessup said he previously held the same concerns but thinks the fact that we well be using effluent from the waste water treatment plant to fill the pond as well as water the park and West Airport esplanades, the Surface Water Conversion fees saved will more than make up the cost difference.

Police Chief Mike Baker reported on Police activities since the last Regular Council Meeting. He noted there were four reportable accidents, 12 arrests, 1674 calls for service, 58 offense reports, 467 traffic citations and 187 traffic and five city ordinance warnings issued. There were five motor vehicle burglaries, two residential burglaries and five building burglaries. Police officers completed 292 business checks, 318 house watches and 727 property checks during this time period. A successful National Night Out was held on October 6, 2009. Two officers have had recent surgeries. One is back in the office on light duty and one is still out. The Police Department has recently been awarded a \$61,000 grant which will be used to replace the problem plagued video system. Chief Baker noted that the benefits of business checks after hours security as well as cutting down loitering after hours. During the daytime it is a visibility benefit to the businesses.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted that: 1: A Marketing Committee, consisting of resident Bob Graf (EDC Director for Missouri City) and resident Travis Tanner (a city planner for the City of Webster) has been formed. They have been charged with coming up with a long term comprehensive plan to market Meadows Place. 2: The Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce Relocation and Newcomers Guide has finally separated us from the Alief community. 3: Signs at our city entrances will soon be installed that note "You are now entering Fort Bend County" to let folks know they are no longer in Houston, Harris County; 4. The fire report for the month of September has not yet been received.

During Council comments, Mayor Jessup noted that, while the city did not participate in the Texas Municipal League Conference to the extent this year as they have in the past, both Councilmember Staigle and Councilmember Henley attended the Conference. Councilmember Staigle said there was an excellent selection of programs to attend including "Thinking Outside the Box"; Social Media in Municipalities" including Face Book and Twitter accounts; Criticism Management; and Legal Questions and Answers for (small) General Law cities.

Councilmember Henley said attending this meeting brings recognition to our city. He, too, attended many excellent sessions - including TML Board of Directors activities. The city should make more use of their free legal expertise. There were sessions on Economic Development; the Texas Municipal Retirement Service; TML Intergovernmental Benefits and Risk Pools. The Resolution Committee passed many pertinent resolutions including ones pertaining to the Uniform Electrical Code, National Electrical Code and National Electrical Safety Code. Another resolution pertained to an exemption to the Hotel/motel Occupancy tax exemption when on government business. The networking at this conference is always special. Concerning H-GAC, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has granted \$82 million in grants to the State of Texas which the H-GAC is administering to cities and counties in their area. TARC has \$163 million in Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants of which Meadows Place is eligible to receive \$35,000.

Michael Siwierka of Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP. presented Council with a delinquent tax report. He said there are four suits pending against delinquent tax payers. One bankruptcy claim has been filed. Three properties have over-65 deferrals. The company is proceeding with two law suits. There are nine delinquent real property accounts with base tax due for 2008 ranging from \$97 to \$991 and three delinquent personal property accounts with base tax ranging from \$39 to \$350. In addition there are ten delinquent real property accounts for tax years prior to 2008; base tax ranges from less than \$1 to \$826. Eight of the accounts are for less than \$1. Nine personal property accounts range from less than \$1 to \$878.

Minutes of the August 11, 2009 and August 18, 2009 workshop meetings; August 25, 2009 workshop and regular meetings, September 3, 2009 and September 15, 2009 special meetings, September 22, 2009 public hearing and regular meetings, September 29, 2009 workshop meeting, October 6, 2009 public hearing; and the October 14, 2009 workshop and special meetings were presented to council for approval. Councilmember Staigle made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Councilmember Wilkens seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION HONORING ALL WHO SERVED - VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION 2009.**

This resolution will be presented during the Sugar Land Rotary Club special meeting to be held on Veterans Day, November 11, 2009. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to adopt the resolution, numbered **2009-09**, as read. Councilmember Henley seconded the motion which 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 A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF FORT BEND AND THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE FOR POLICE PROTECTION.**

This is a renewal of the Mutual Aid Agreement with the County, allowing the Sheriff to aid our police officers in our city when needed. Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Case, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-30**, as presented. 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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF FORT BEND AND THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE PROVIDING FOR THE HOUSING OF CITY PRISONERS AT A COST OF \$40.00 PER DAY FOR A ONE YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2009 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2010**

This ordinance renews our Interlocal agreement with the County so that we can use the County's jail to house our prisoners. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-31**, as presented. 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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF FORT BEND AND THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE FOR USE OF THE COUNTY'S RADIO SYSTEM, FOR A TERM BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2009, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.**

This ordinance renews our Interlocal agreement with the County for police use of the county's radio system. Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-32**, as presented. 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, BY AND BETWEEN THE STATE OF TEXAS, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICIALS, FOR A LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR A CATEGORY 10 PROJECT.**

This resolution will allow us to begin engineering work on the West Airport/Kirkwood project. We are saving \$300,000 thanks to funds Councilmember Henley got earmarked for us from the federal government.. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to adopt the resolution, numbered **2009-10**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to ratify the expenditures of \$7,500 to Brazos Technology for new ticket writers; of \$8,568 to Buddy Jones for improvements made to the Community Center kitchen; of \$12,800 to Division III Constructors for playing field renovations and of \$7,778.11 to Randle Law Office for September, 2009 legal services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and carried unanimously.

During audience comments, Scott Holland, on behalf of Meadows Place Base Ball thanked Council and the Parks & Recreation Department for the new dugout covers.

Joe DeBruin said he is a 14 year resident of Meadows Place and could not be more proud to live here. He would like to hear from the Code Enforcement Officer more often at Council Meetings. He was told that the Code Enforcement Officer gives a report once a quarter and will be at next month's council meeting.

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 8:50 p.m.

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Elaine Herff, City Secretary