

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF DECEMBER 15, 2009
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:30 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.

Police Chief Mike Baker led the pledge to the flag and Councilmember Wilkens let the invocation.

Public Works Director Dan McGraw gave his quarterly report about activities in his Department. He said 3-M has offered a grant to replace all signs in the City. The grant would be for \$560 and require total sign replacement. However total cost for total sign replacement would be \$15,000. The City has 268 signs and a sign maintenance plan will be mandatory in 2012. Year two of our storm water plan has been submitted to the State. It states we will begin to sweep our streets twice annually. We will begin sampling outfalls from our storm drains. The new landscape contract began October 5th. Basin cleaning at the Wastewater Treatment Plant started yesterday. A total of 335 diffusers will be installed. Our Water Wells have been calibrated (required every three years) and found to be 100.5% accurate. Approximately 12 companies have registered with us for the West Airport reconstruction RFQ's to date. We hope to end up with between 20 and 40 proposals. Our Energy Efficiency Block Grant proposal is almost ready to be sent in to the State. Red ants at our playing fields are treated twice per year.

Police Chief Mike Baker reported on Police activities since the last regular Council Meeting. Due to this month's early meeting, there are only three weeks in the reporting period. He noted there was five reportable accidents, three arrests, 897 calls for service, 17 offense reports, 97 traffic citations and 53 traffic and nine city ordinance warnings issued. There were no reported burglaries. Christmas Memories went well. There are two officers out because of surgery and we are one officer short (since June.) There is a shortage of qualified applicants and our officers are working 12 hour shifts. A new patrol vehicle arrived today.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup noted that: 1: He served on a panel for the Fort Bend Leadership Committee. 2: Most of the fire calls this past month have been EMS related. 3. Christmas Memories was a lot of work but very successful. The fire works display was moved up to 8:30 due to the rain.

During Council Comments, Councilmember Henley noted TML is trying to get the legislature to make the Open Meetings Act a bit less restrictive so that Councilmember might address their constituents' questions without fear of reprisals. H-GAC passed the second round of IKE recovery funding today. And, TARC hopes to see more funding in the future.

Councilmember Wilkens then made a motion to adopt the minutes of the November 24, 2009 regular council meeting as presented. The motion, seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek, carried unanimously.

Jennifer Day with McCall Gibson Swedlund Barroot PLLC presented the city's audit for fiscal year 2008-2009. She pointed out that our bond rating has gone down due to the fact that our insurance company's ratings have also gone down. Our fund balance has increased a bit but we didn't spend as much as we had budgeted for. We budgeted and spent very conservatively in the past year. Ms. Day thanked Melody Vaal for her help during the audit. Councilmember Wilkens expressed concern about the management letter which indicates each Council Member has an individual responsibility toward the city. He felt that council members as a group can make recommendations to the Mayor but are not individually liable for the day to day running of the city. Ms. Day noted that for the most part, Council members have limited liability, due to the fact they are not here day by day supervising staff, but it is possible for them to act apart from the rest of Council. The management letter will be reviewed. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion to accept the audit as presented. Councilmember Wilkens seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE TO ENTER INTO A SERVICES AGREEMENT THROUGH THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL'S COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM CONTRACT WITH BECK DISASTER RECOVERY, INC. FOR ENVIRONMENTAL, COMMUNITY PLANNING, ENGINEERING, AND HOMELAND SECURITY CONSULTING AND RELATED SERVICES

Mayor Jessup explained that Council had met in a workshop meeting earlier this evening with Courtney Smith who explained that four cities, Meadows Place, Missouri City, Stafford, and Sugar Land have joined to work as a regional group to apply for and receive grant funds for emergency planning. Our portion of the cost will come from a disaster recovery grant, administered by the H-GAC. We will not be out any funds, but use only the cost of our in-kind services for payment. Councilmember Case made a motion to approve the ordinance, numbered **2009-35**, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Henley and was unanimously approved.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE TO ENTER INTO TASK ORDER NO. 1, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BECK DISASTER RECOVERY, INC AND THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, DATED DECEMBER 15, 2009

This ordinance allows us to use Beck Disaster Recovery, Inc. to provide the services for the disaster recovery grant noted above. Councilmember Case made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2009-36**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Council was then presented with the proposed police policy manual changes. Most of the changes, such as those concerning racial profiling, were driven by State Law. Councilmember Kulhanek made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Staigle to adopt the changes to the police policy manual as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Staigle then made a motion to approve payment to Randle Law Office of \$5,350.35 for November 2009 legal services. Councilmember Henley seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Councilmember Case then made a motion to approve the expenditure to AM Pyrotechnic for Christmas Memories 20th anniversary fireworks for \$5,000,00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kulhanek and carried unanimously.

There were no audience comments at this time.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Henley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary