



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 AT 7:30 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 7:34 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Charles D. Jessup, IV
Mayor Pro Tempore, Terry J. Henley
Alderman, Steven H. Bezner
Alderman, Kelle K. Mills

City Secretary, Courtney Rutherford
Alderman, John F. Isbell
Alderman, Rick J. Staigle

Staff in attendance: Captain Jack Ashton, Meadows Place Police Department; and Danny Segundo, Public Works Director.

a. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Pledge by: Terry Henley, Mayor Pro-Tem
Invocation by: James Russell, Chaplain

B. Reports

1. Police Department

Police Captain, Jack Ashton, gave an overview of the monthly statistics and activities report, which was distributed to City Council and filed with the City Secretary.

Captain Ashton stated that citations are down this month due to Hurricane Harvey, officers have been performing extra patrols over the last month. Some officers were on close patrol, which requires officers to drive by different properties and shine lights on the property. He also reported that Chief Stewart has been working on policies for disasters and EOC activation.

Captain Ashton reported that there will most likely be some structure changes in the Police Department due to Lt Simmons leaving. Staff is continuing to work on background checks for the four open positions.

Captain Ashton gave a brief update on Hurricane Harvey. He stated that the City was well prepared for the event and there was great teamwork. He then thanked Council for the EOC building which worked great during the event housing staff.

Finally he reported that Never Fail System should be installed soon.

Alderman Bezner thanked Captain Ashton and staff again. He stated that he was amazed by how the City pulled City together and had a real action plan during Hurricane Harvey.

He stated that he sat in on several of the Conference Calls with the County and other entities seemed to be less prepared. Captain Ashton stated that Hurricane Harvey was a unique event that took four days to pass.

Alderman Staigle reported that one big issue was shelters and those are set up through the Red Cross.

Mayor Jessup stated that the City has been working with the County for debris pick up. Texas Pride also came through the City and did an additional debris removal.

2. Public Works – Director Danny Segundo

Public Works Director, Danny Segundo, gave the quarterly report for Public Works, a copy of which has been filed with the City Secretary.

Mayor Jessup reported that Danny stayed at the EOC during Harvey while his house was flooding and he wanted to say thank you and that he was very appreciative of him staying. He appreciates his dedication and commitment to the City of Meadows Place. Danny stated that he got a couple inches and feels fortunate after seeing what others lost.

Mr. Segundo gave a brief update on the streets department and stated that he has identified 30 possible locations for mud jacking. He also stated that City will be targeting 11 locations for sidewalk repairs.

Alderman Henley stated that he felt like the new ramps seem like over kill and wanted to know if that was standard. Alderman Staigle reported that ramps are being installed according to ADA compliance.

Mr. Segundo reported that he and his staff have been working on the City's TCEQ permit renewal. The process takes 6-8 months and he is proud to say that the City's permit was renewed and is good until 2022.

Mr. Segundo reported that all of his department's 2016-2017 projects have been completed.

3. Fire Department Monthly Report for August 2017

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the Stafford Fire Department report for August 2017 which was filed with the City Secretary. Mayor Jessup stated that this month the City paid the City of Stafford \$224,000 for fire services.

C. Mayor's Comments

1. Thank you to Dick Hendee and discuss bank selection

Mayor Jessup wanted to publicly thank Mr. Hendee for his help with reviewing the City's banking and depository service applications. Mr. Hendee is with Horizon Associates and he was great help in reviewing the applications. Mayor Jessup also thanked Finance Director, Anna-Maria Weston, for all of her help and preparing the bid tabulation for the banking applications.

2. Oktoberfest, Monarch Madness and Fall Festival

Mayor Jessup stated that the City has several events coming up and staff has been working hard to get ready and is almost out of space for the festival and craft show. Mayor Jessup also reminded everybody that Tuesday, October 3rd is National Night Out and encouraged everybody to get involved.

3. Fort Bend County Fair & Rodeo

Mayor Jessup reported that is a long tradition for the Fort Bend County Mayors to participate in the parade annually and support the kids in FFA. Mayor Jessup will be participating in the parade and invited all of Council and the residents of Meadows Place to participate.

D. Council Comments:

1. HGAC – Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Henley

Mayor Pro-Tem Henley stated that HGAC recently accepted \$10,000,000 workforce disaster assistance funds. This is to provide temporary jobs for cleanup and repair after Hurricane Harvey. If anybody is looking for a temporary job there will be 400-500 job openings.

He is also reported that HGAC keeps digital images of the different counties and they went out immediately after Harvey and took new aerial photos of eight different counties. Once they complete the photos people will be able to see before and after pictures of the areas that flooded.

2. Recent flooding and EOC during Hurricane Harvey – Alderman John Isbell

Alderman Isbell stated that he wanted to personally thank staff and Council for allowing the City to have a wonderful EOC. He stopped by the EOC several times during the storm and at one point he saw almost all City staff on duty and he doesn't think any other City can say they had that coverage and participation. He said as the days progressed you could see it beginning to wear on people. He acknowledged that this was a great sacrifice and those involved need to be highlighted. He stated that Chief Stewart was watching the water rise at his own home and stayed to run the EOC. He acknowledged Alderman Staigle, also a County employee, who was helping to man the County EOC. He believes these people are unsung heroes and need to be recognized. He again gave his personal thanks to all who were involved.

He also thanked EDC for funding the EOC building.

E. Regular Agenda

1. Consider Resolution No. 2017-23 accepting the Auditor's Engagement Letter.

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-23 accepting the Auditor's Engagement Letter. Alderman Bezner seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

2. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-26 adopting the fiscal year 2017-2018 Municipal Budget for the City of Meadows Place, Texas, and appropriating the several sums set up therein to the objects and purposes therein named.

Mayor Jessup called for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-26, adopting the municipal budget for fiscal year 2017-2018. This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$113,417 which is 4.17% increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$21,350.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-26 adopting the fiscal year 2017-2018 Municipal Budget for the City of Meadows Place, Texas, and appropriating the several sums set up therein to the objects and purposes therein named. Alderman Mills seconded the motion.

Alderman Henley stated that he thinks the budget is little high. He thinks the City should work out of the reserves, reduce the budget and save the property owners some money with tax exemptions.

There was brief discussion among Council regarding the reduction of the reserve account. Council agreed that they need to do more research before reducing the reserves, because they do not want to get in position where they lose the reserves.

Mayor Jessup then called upon each Alderman for their vote. The vote follows:

Alderman Bezner: Aye

Alderman Mills: Aye

Alderman Henley: Nay

Alderman Staigle: Aye

Alderman Isbell: Aye

The motion carried

3. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-27 approving the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget for the City of Meadows Place Economic Development Corporation as adopted by the Board of Directors at its September 14, 2017 Meeting.

Alderman Henley moved to approve Ordinance 2017-27 approving the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget for the City of Meadows Place Economic Development Corporation as adopted by the Board of Directors at its September 14, 2017 Meeting. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. Mayor Jessup stated that the EDC proposed budget was approved by the EDC at their September 14, 2017 meeting. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

4. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-28 levying a tax rate for the City of Meadows Place, Texas for the Tax Year 2017.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-28 levying a tax rate for the City of Meadows Place, Texas for the Tax Year 2017. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion.

Alderman Bezner stated that this tax rate is the same as last year. Alderman Henley stated that this tax rate increases revenue by 4%. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

5. Consider Resolution No. 2017-24 approving the 2017-2018 City of Meadows Place Investment Policy and Strategy Guidelines.

Mayor Jessup stated that there are two changes to this year's investment policy. One change is that the City is obligating to look at complete bank bids every five years and allowing bank investments not to exceed three years maturity.

Alderman Isbell moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-24 approving the 2017-2018 City of Meadows Place Investment Policy and Strategy Guidelines. Alderman Staigle seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

6. Consider Resolution No. 2017-25 authorizing the Mayor and City Secretary to enter into an agreement for the City's depository and banking services.

Alderman Bezner moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-25 authorizing the Mayor and City Secretary to enter into an agreement with Independent Bank for the City's depository and banking services. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

7. Discussion and possible action regarding bond investments.

No action was taken on this item.

8. Consider Ordinance No. 2017-29 amending the General Fund Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017 by transferring \$46,000.00 from line items 100-060-510100, salaries; 100-060-570501, McDonald Park Maintenance; 100-060-570502, Tennis Court Maintenance; and 100-060-571011, Community Center Maintenance to line item 100-060-580000, Capital Improvement to cover capital expenses related to the Nature Center Remodeling and the McGrath Park Restroom installation.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-29 amending the General Fund Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017 by transferring \$46,000.00 from line items 100-060-510100, salaries; 100-060-570501, McDonald Park Maintenance; 100-060-570502, Tennis Court Maintenance; and 100-060-571011, Community Center Maintenance to line item 100-060-580000, Capital Improvement to cover capital expenses related to the Nature Center Remodeling and the McGrath Park Restroom installation. Alderman Mills seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

9. Consider Resolution No. 2017-26 supporting the Texas Municipal League's introduction and passage of legislation that would allow municipalities the option of selecting an official newspaper or an official website for the municipality's publication of official notices required by law.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-26 supporting the Texas Municipal League's introduction and passage of legislation that would allow municipalities the option of selecting an official newspaper or an official website for the municipality's publication of official notices required by law. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

Alderman Henley stated that TML has pushed for this change for last four to five years and will continue to push the issue.

10. Consider Resolution No. 2017-27 nominating one candidate for each position of the Fort Bend County Appraisal District Board of Directors and submit to the Chief Appraiser.

Alderman Staigle moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-27 nominating one candidate for each position of the Fort Bend County Appraisal District Board of Directors by splitting the vote for the four existing Directors and submit to the Chief Appraiser. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

11. Discussion and possible action regarding compensation for exempt employees who worked and manned the Emergency Operations Center during Hurricane Harvey.

Alderman Staigle moved to pay exempt employees at their standard rate (not overtime rate) for additional hours worked above a standard work week due to Hurricane Harvey emergency activation. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion.

Alderman Bezner stated that this is for one time only and not setting policy. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

F. Consent Agenda

a. Consider approval of the Minutes held on:

July 25, 2017 – Workshop Meeting

July 25, 2017 – Regular Meeting

August 1, 2017 – Special Session and Budget Workshop

b. Presentation of Bills

Asakura Robinson	\$12,000.00
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$3,508.15
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$1,338.00
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$1,628.36
Randle Office LTD., L.L.P.	\$936.00

Alderman Henley moved to approve all items of the consent agenda. Alderman Bezner seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

Nays: None

The motion carried

G. Audience Comments

None.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business on the agenda Alderman Mills moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Henley seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Aldermen Henley, Isbell, Bezner, Staigle, and Mills

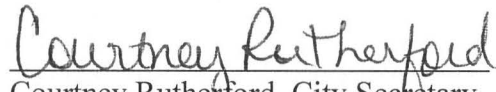
Nays: None

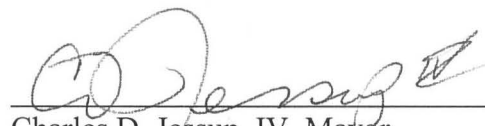
The motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

These minutes were approved by City Council on Tuesday, October 24, 2017.

ATTEST:


Courtney Ruthford, City Secretary


Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

