

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 22, 2013**

Present were Mayor Charles D. Jessup, IV. and Aldermen Terry J. Henley, John F. Isbell, Kelle K. Mills and David A. Wilkens. Also present was City Secretary Janice M. Moore. Alderman Terry W. Morgan was not in attendance.

**1. Call to Order:**

Mayor Jessup called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Captain Jack Ashton, and the Invocation was led by Alderman Wilkens.

**2. Presentations**

- a. Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications Appointment - Oath of Office for Terry Henley

Mayor Jessup read the letter from Secretary of State John Steen regarding Alderman Henley's appointment. He then administered the oath of office and commended Alderman Henley for his appointment and representing the City of Meadows Place.

**3. Reports**

- a. Police Department Update

Captain John Ashton noted that Police Chief Gary Stewart was out of the office due to shoulder surgery. He then provided an overview of the monthly statistics, which was distributed to all Council Members. Captain Ashton announced the following:

Next Neighborhood Watch Meeting – Wednesday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

National Night Out – The event was a huge success. Mayor Jessup reported that Commissioner Grady Prestige attended one of the parties saying, "You guys know how to do this right." Mayor Jessup responded, "Yes, commissioner, we do!"

Capt Ashton also provided an overview of stops regarding factory wheel covers being stolen and possession of marijuana and a recent burglary.

b. Parks & Recreation Update

Parks & Recreation Director Monya Keenen announced the following:

- Wrist Band Sale – collected \$8,000
- Tennis Access Cards - collected \$500
- Maintenance Update: restriped community center parking lot and tennis court; trimmed trees along Dorrance – McDonald Park
- Dan Denny from Public Works is now in Parks & Recreation
- Special Projects: installing 3 new security cameras at the field house and more at the community center; planting wildflowers and blue bonnets around the lake property; adding granite along jogging trail along homeowners side of park; replacing wrought iron fence along perimeter of pool – bids from several companies – completed in phases – completed in January/February.
- Kid Fish Derby – Saturday, Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> – perfect fishing - 450 fish measured and logged. Thanked the sponsors with great prizes, Alderman Kelle Mills, and Alderman John Isbell, who was the emcee and videotaped the event as he did in the prior year. She also thanked the Sugar Grove Church of Christ volunteers and Monica Parsons in Parks & Recreation.
- Sugar Grove Christian School was hosting a Fun Run this Saturday. 50 volunteers along with PD with 285 runners anticipated.
- Mobile Animal Clinic – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the community center parking lot – very successful – great service to our community.
- Xmas Decorating – starting in a couple of weeks – latter part of the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November.
- Santa’s Mailbox being placed at City Hall in December – been doing it for over 20 years.
- Christmas Memories, Friday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. - Santa’s Helper - \$4,000 for sponsorship of snow. Santa arrives at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Jessup commended Monya and her staff for a wonderful Kid Fish event and the other programs and events the department coordinates.

Alderman Wilkens inquired about the fencing material. Mayor Jessup noted that the current fence was over 40 years old. Alderman Wilkens spoke about a maintenance program for the future.

c. Fire Department Update

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the report. A copy was filed with City records.

#### 4. Mayor's Comments:

##### a. Texas Municipal League Conference

Mayor Jessup reported that Alderman Isbell and Alderman Henley, along with himself, attending the TML Conference. He spoke about the City hosting the 1st Small Cities Problem Solving Clinic in February 2014. Alderman Henley spoke about the resolution for legal advertising on city websites and the cost savings.

##### b. West Airport Boulevard Project Update

Mayor Jessup reported that a check request letter was mailed to the County for their funding of the project. The project should start in January with 8-9 months for completion.

##### c. AA Bond Rating

Mayor Jessup reported that the City went from an AA- rating to an AA. He thanked members of the accounting staff, Elaine Herff, Anna-Maria Weston and the Council for making tough decisions without getting over extended.

##### d. November 5<sup>th</sup> General Election

Mayor Jessup reminded everyone that early voting was from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and spoke about one of the measurements of voting was seeing how residents are engaged.

#### 5. New Business:

##### a. Fort Bend Central Board of Directors Election (Cast 10 Votes) Four (4) Nominees: Al Abramczk, Jim Kij, Paul Stamatis and Rhonda Zacharias

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the process and noted that there were actually five (5) nominees, the 5<sup>th</sup> being Albert Glover. He then recommended two (2) votes per nominee for the 2014-2015 Board of Directors.

**Motion:** Alderman Henley moved to cast two (2) votes per candidate. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

##### b. Acceptance of the Quarterly Investment Report

**Motion:** Alderman Isbell moved to accept the Quarterly Investment Report. Alderman Wilkens seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Thanked Anna-Maria Weston for new format easy-to-read.

## 6. Ordinances:

### a. Ordinance 2013-25:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTIONS 150.35, 150.36, 150.37, 150.38, 150.39, 150.40, AND 150.41 OF CHAPTER 150 OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE CODE OF ORDINANCES; ADDING SECTION 150.42 TO CHAPTER 150 OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A PENALTY; MAKING CONFORMING CHANGES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the ordinance. He spoke about the maintenance of houses and property values.

**Motion:** Alderman Henley moved to table Ordinance 2013-25. Alderman Wilkens seconded the motion.

Alderman Henley agreed with the enforcement of vacated homes, but noted that it had some paragraphs he disagreed with. Alderman Isbell agreed that some of the language needed to be reworded and that the ordinance can be changed later. Alderman Henley recommended scheduling a public hearing to receive feedback from individuals.

Mayor Jessup had the city draft the ordinance and urged to move ahead.

John Whiteman spoke in favor of the Mayor Jessup's goal to make the city beautiful, but that there was nothing wrong with tabling the motion for a month. He noted that the ordinance would pose a hardship on the vacant property owners and suggested a workshop with the city attorney.

Shirley Isbell noted that this issue was brought up over two (2) years ago with residents complaining on weekly basis about the bees, fire hazards, broken fences, windows and open soffits, etc. She expressed concerns for those gaining entrance into the vacant homes and that lowering of property values. Mrs. Isbell expressed support of Mayor Jessup's to move ahead. She urged the Council to pass the ordinance now, and fix it later.

Chuck McClurkin spoke about a house across his street that has been vacant for over six (6) years and then spoke in favor of the ordinance.

**Vote:** Aldermen Henley and Wilkens voted in favor of the motion, while Aldermen Isbell and Mills voted against it. Mayor Jessup voted against the motion. **The motion failed.**

**Motion:** Alderman Mills moved to adopt Ordinance 2013-25. Alderman John Isbell seconded the motion.

Alderman Henley objected to the language regarding insurance and posting signs with their contact information, citing someone for not being in the house for three (3) months. Alderman Isbell noted that the ordinance can be modified and spoke in favor about getting it into play.

**Vote:** Alderman Isbell and Mills voted in favor of the motion, while Aldermen Henley and Wilkens voted against it. Mayor Jessup broke the tie in favor of the motion. **The motion passed.**

Alderman Isbell suggested placing this item for discussion on the next agenda.

b. Ordinance 2013-26:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2013-13A, WHICH GRANTED TO WASTE CORPORATION OF TEXAS, LP, (WCA) A FRANCHISE TO MAINTAIN AND OPERATE A GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICE AND CHARGED WCA A FEE THEREFOR; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2013-13B, WHICH CREATED A SPECIAL FUND WITH THE FEE CHARGED TO WCA FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION OF PRESENT AND FUTURE PUBLIC STREETS, HIGHWAYS, ALLEYS, BRIDGES, EASEMENTS, AND OTHER PUBLIC WAYS AND PLACES IN THE CITY; INCREASING THE FEE CHARGED TO RESIDENTS FOR THE USE OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES TO CREATE A SPECIAL FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION OF PRESENT AND FUTURE PUBLIC STREETS, HIGHWAYS, ALLEYS, BRIDGES, EASEMENTS, AND OTHER PUBLIC WAYS AND PLACES IN THE CITY; AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE IN THE FEE CHARGED TO RESIDENTS TO APPEAR ON THE CITY UTILITY BILL AS A SEPARATE LINE ITEM; ORDERING THE SPECIAL FUND TO BE HELD IN A SEPARATE ACCOUNT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Provided an overview of the ordinance. Read the title of the ordinance.

**Motion:** Alderman Henley moved to adopt Ordinance 2013-26. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At this time, Mayor Jessup read the title of Ordinance 2013-25.

**7. Resolutions:**

a. Resolution 2013-06:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCURING A "VEHICLE(S) AND RELATED EQUIPMENT."

Mayor Jessup noted that this resolution was for the lease of a 2014 Tahoe for the Police Department. He then read the title of the resolution.

**Motion:** Alderman Wilkens moved to adopt Resolution 2013-06. Alderman Mills seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. Resolution 2013-07:

A RESOLUTION AMENDING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POOL (TEXPOOL), A PUBLIC FUNDS INVESTMENT POOL.

Mayor Jessup noted that this resolution was for removing Yolanda Wilson's name from the account and adding Janice M. Moore to the account as city secretary. He then read the title of the resolution.

**Motion:** Alderman Mills moved to adopt Resolution 2013-07. Alderman Henley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c. Resolution 2013-08:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, AND THE CITY OF STAFFORD, TEXAS, FOR FIRE FIGHTING, FIRE PROTECTION AND FIRE INVESTIGATION SERVICES, IN A FORM AS ATTACHED HERETO AND MARKED EXHIBIT "A".

Mayor Jessup provided a brief overview of the resolution. He then read the title of the resolution.

**Motion:** Alderman Henley moved to adopt Resolution 2013-08. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

d. Resolution 2013-09:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, AND THE CITY OF STAFFORD, TEXAS, FOR THE USE OF THE COUNTY'S RADIO SYSTEM, FOR A TERM BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2014, IN A FORM AS ATTACHED HERETO AND MARKED EXHIBIT "A."

Mayor Jessup provided a brief overview of the resolution. He then read the title of the resolution.

**Motion:** Alderman Wilkens moved to adopt Resolution 2013-09. Alderman Mills seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**CORRECTION: The resolution was with Fort Bend County not the City of Stafford. The agreement stated such.**

**8. Consent Agenda:**

a. Minutes:

September 24, 2013 Workshop  
September 24, 2013 Regular

b. Presentation of Invoices:

Randle Law Office, Ltd, L.L.P.	\$ 23,988.43
Joe L. Salvide	\$ 8,895.00

**Motion:** Alderman Henley moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Alderman Isbell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**9. Audience Comments:**

Marie Nicholi, member of the Meadows Garden Club, announced a Fall Craft Show set for Saturday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Sugar Grove Church of Christ. She added she would be presenting a fall arrangement to the City at the next Council meeting.

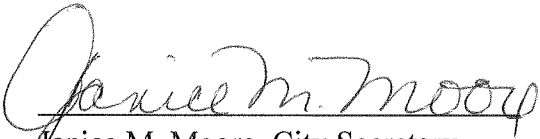
Shirley Isbell spoke about completing the posting of the neighborhood watch signs. Mayor Jessup said it would be completed once the water meters were installed. She also thanked Captain Jack Ashton for the gang sign information provided at the recent neighborhood watch meeting. Mrs. Isbell spoke in favor of the vacant house ordinance and suggested it be distributed to the Public. Mayor explained that a link to the ordinance would be posted on the website.

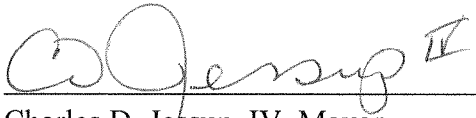
**10. Adjournment:**

Alderman Wilkens moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. Alderman Henley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**These minutes were approved by the  
City Council on Tuesday, November 26, 2013.**

ATTEST:

  
Janice M. Moore, City Secretary

  
Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

(SEAL)