

MINUTES OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING
OF FEBRUARY 22, 2011
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS AND
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The Joint Public Hearing of the Meadows Place City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Meadows Place, Texas was called to order at 7:04 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
Shirley Isbell
Rick Staigle
Dave Wilkens

P&Z Members: Bob McDonald
Patrick Lindquist
Bryan Swinney
Travis Tanner

thus constituting a quorum.

Mayor Jessup explained that tonight's meeting was a public hearing to hear any and all comments, both for and against, a proposal to amend Chapter 24 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Meadows Place, entitled "Planning and Zoning Regulations," Article IX of Chapter 24 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Meadows Place, entitled "Specific Use Amendments," by adding thereto a new Subsection 24-912, granting a Specific Use Permit to Dr. Daniel K. Olukoya, General Overseer, President and Founder, Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries Worldwide, to allow this church to operate at 12002 Southwest Freeway; and to provide for notice as required by law.

Rachel Dunn, a member of the church and a realtor, said the church would like to purchase property at 12002 Southwest Freeway. She said the church is twenty years old and it is a worldwide organization. Currently there are four branches in Houston. She stated the purpose and statement of belief of the church and gave information about the General Overseer. She also listed benefits to the City of Meadows Place should we allow the specific use.

Councilmember Staigle asked where the primary worshipers would come from. Ms. Dunn said from all over the Houston area. The church picked this place because of the location of the building.

Councilmember Case asked how many would be drawn to attend their conventions. Ms. Dunn said it was hard to tell but they expect 100,000 to 200,000 people. These conventions are held only once every two years. Day to day people would come and go to do business in their bookstore. On Sundays there would be approximately 1000 worshipers.

Councilmember Isbell asked if the church would hold any services during the week. Ms. Dunn said currently on Sunday they meet from 9:00 a.m. until noon for Sunday Services. From 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. they meet in different homes for House Fellowship. They also meet from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and 7:00 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. on Thursdays for evening services. Once a month they meet from 7:30 p.m. Friday; until 3:00 a.m. Saturday for services.

Ms. Dunn noted that currently the church has 500 single members. The books that will be available in their bookstore are printed in Nigeria and are currently only available for sale on Amazon.com. They understand that, although they are a tax

exempt organization, they would pay to Meadows Place a sum each year that would be decided by a committee. They know they must contribute to the community.

Mrs. Betty Johnson asked if the church would provide for their own security at their own cost when their two year convention takes place. The answer was yes.

Pat Lindquist asked where the 100,000 to 200,000 folks attending their two year convention would park. Ms. Dunn said they would be bussed in from area hotels where they would be staying.

Mayor Jessup noted that the building was owned by two separate individuals, each of whom retains a first right of refusal over what the other might want to put into their space. He asked if the church has been in contact with both owners. Ms. Dunn answered yes.

Chad Shawler, 11300 block of Brook Meadows said he thought people leaving after the one Saturday of each month's Friday night to Saturday morning at 3:00 a.m. service might be more noise and traffic than this residential neighborhood can handle. While this is an indoor event, traffic leaving at 3:00 a.m. can seem louder due to it being so quiet at that hour.

Tim LaPoint, 12000 block of Meadow Valley, noted we have had traffic in the mall area in the past without any disturbances.

Sylvia Romano, 11900 block of Bloomington, said the City needs to consider property and other taxes as well as the influence this church would have on property values when making its decision.

Gabby Donatti, 12200 block of Monticeto, said she does not think this is the area for an Evangelical church. While a duty of the church is to feed and shelter the homeless, this neighborhood has few if any homeless people in it. This church would be more suited to the downtown Houston area.

There being no further comments, Mayor Jessup noted the Planning and Zoning Commission would call a meeting to deliberate the proposal and pass on its recommendation to Council for action.

Councilmember Isbell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary