

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF FEBRUARY 22, 2011
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:45 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
Shirley Isbell
Rick Staigle
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

The Pledge to the Flag was led by members of Boy Scout Troop 791, William Sharp, Cyril Clark and Ryan Sadrai, accompanied by Assistant Scoutmaster Jesse Hudgens. Councilmember David Wilkens gave the invocation.

Police Captain Gary Stewart reported on Police activities since the December regular Council Meeting. He noted there were eight reportable accidents, five arrests, 1379 calls for service, 11 offense reports, 335 traffic citations, no code ordinance violation citations, 335 traffic warnings and 5 city ordinance warnings issued. There was one traffic accident - at the intersection of Dairy Ashford and West Airport which involved the flashing yellow light. There were no motor vehicle burglaries, two residential burglary and one building burglary. Officers made 500 business checks, 110 house watches and 555 property checks this past month.

Captain Stewart said new laptops have been installed in all vehicles and the Police Department is in the process of completing an H-GAC grant application for the LaserShot system.

Captain Stewart gave Council a synopsis of the burglary that occurred on Sunday and how the perpetrators were caught.

Code Enforcement Officer Kathi Sutton spoke about activities in her department since November 2010. She has sent 62 high weeds and grass letters and issued 17 warnings with three citations. She has sent 37 boat and trailer letters with 15 warnings. She has issued 169 first warnings and 29 second warnings on improper tree height. She has pulled 203 illegal signs. She has sent 11 first warning letters and two second warning letters for pools with black water, 28 first warning and six second warning letters for dilapidated fences, 43 fist letters, eight second warning letters and issued two citations for property maintenance issues. She has sent 53 first warning, four second warning letters and issued one citation for trash in yards, 41 first warning, five second warning letters and issued three citations for air conditioning units not properly maintained or stored. Officer Sutton has completed 41 residential occupancy inspections and 32 health and annual food service inspections. She is in the process of inspecting the exteriors of all rental properties and sending out owner letters informing them they must renew their licenses. If any neighbors have any issues with surrounding property owners, they should contact Officer Sutton. She has begun to use the same ticket writers the Police Department uses.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup: 1: Said there were 21 EMS calls; four Fire/Carbon Monoxide Alarm calls; One Motor Vehicle Accident; and four Hazardous Materials calls made by the Fire Department in Meadows Place during the month of January. 2: Said a contractor has poured the pads at the Waste Water Treatment Plant for the reclaimed water tanks. The three stage

tertiary filter should arrive soon. This will provide water to our lake as well as esplanade watering in the future. We have received permission from the county to lay the purple pipe. 3: Thanked Councilmember Isbell for all the hard work she has done getting the Behr Paint Project off the ground. A packet with paint sample brochures will be mailed to residents soon. Councilmember Isbell has involved the school children in the project also. A fun Kick-off event will be held on March 26th.

Councilmember Henley, a ten year member of the Texas Municipal League's Board of Directors, spoke about legislative issues being considered by the Texas State Senate. HB 507 will allow Texas cities and counties, the option of using electronic notices for their bid notices. HB 79 will reduce the amount from 10% to 5% that an appraisal district can increase residential home values by. A bill has been filed to amend the Texas constitution to exempt all residential property from property taxes. Also a member of the H-GAC's Board of Directors, Councilmember Henley noted that the State was slashing Criminal Justice Grant funding by 76%. State assistance grants to Texas COGS are gone, as are funds for low income vehicle repairs.

Councilmember Henley then made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 25, 2011 workshop and regular meetings and the February 15, 2011 workshop meeting. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and unanimously approved.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS AMENDING SECTION 2-4 OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS; DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE CITY, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.

Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2011-09**, designating the *Fort Bend Southwest Star* and the *Houston Chronicle* as official newspapers for the City. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS AMENDING SECTION 24-538 OF ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO REGULATE EXTERIOR PAINT COLOR FOR EXISTING AND NEW RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES; PROVIDING A PENALTY; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.

Councilmember Isbell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Case, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2011-10**, as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Case then made a motion to pay the bills to ACT Pipe & Supply Corp; Techline Sports Lighting; USA Blue Book and HDR/Claunch & Miller as presented on the agenda. Councilmember Wilkens seconded this motion which carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was ratification of expenditures. Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley to ratify the

expenditure of \$39,843.43 to HDR/Claunch & Miller Engineering as listed on the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

During audience comments, John Whiteman, 11400 block of Brook Meadows, said he was in favor of maintaining South Kirkwood as a four lane, divided street and he wanted to see the roundabout project abandoned. Mayor Jessup said that he respected Mr. Whiteman as a businessman and a longtime volunteer and resident of the City of Meadows Place, after talking to many residents he is now more confident than ever that the roundabout project is a good one.

Sylvia Romano, 11900 Block of Bloomington, asked that Council keep residents informed about what is going on regarding the property behind them.

Jesse Hudgens, Assistant Scout Master for Troop 791, thanked Council for allowing the Scouts to sit in on this evening's meeting. He asked how Meadows Place promotes scouting in the City. He was told that the City helps to fund the Halloween Carnival from where the Scouts sell S'Mores to residents. Boy Scout Troop 1115 also place American Flags in front of residents' homes on four holidays for a fee of \$25.00. Cub Scouts have helped in the Public Works Department with stenciling the City's storm drains reminding residents not to dump anything down them. Another Troop has stored their equipment at the Sewer Treatment Plant. Mayor Jessup said the City was very pro-Scouting.

Boy Scout William Sharp also thanked Council for welcoming the Troop here tonight.

Boy Scout Cyril Clark thanked Council for inviting him and asked how Council got their jobs here. Mayor Jessup told him Council was elected to two year terms with no term limits. The City Secretary is appointed.

Boy Scout Ryan Sadrai also thanked Council for allowing the Scouts to be here tonight. He asked if, when residents fill out their paper work, do they put Meadows Place or the City of Houston as their city? Mayor Jessup told him the residents voted in 1983 to incorporate as a City and yes, they put Meadows Place down as their address.

Councilmember Isbell asked the boys what grades they were in in school. The boys ranged in age from 13 to 16 and were in grades nine and ten.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Staigle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Isbell, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary