

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF DECEMBER 20, 2011
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The regular meeting of the Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 7:30 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
Shirley Isbell
John Whiteman
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Councilmember Case. Police Chief Baker gave the invocation

Police Chief Mike Baker reported on Police activities since the November regular Council Meeting. He said that because this meeting was being held one week earlier than normal due to the Christmas Holiday, some of the numbers were a bit lower than normal. He noted there were eight reportable accidents, five arrests, 1723 calls for service, 34 offense reports, 202 traffic citations issued, no code ordinance violation citations issued, 72 traffic warnings and 12 city ordinance warnings issued. There were three motor vehicle burglaries, two residential burglaries and two business burglaries reported. Officers made 562 business checks, 343 house watches and 553 property checks this past month. An alert officer discovered Walgreens had been burglarized last night by noticing outside lights were on after closing - indicating an alarm activation. There was one theft of a package delivered to a front porch while the homeowner was away. Several of these thefts occurred at this time last year. Christmas Memories went well from the Police security standpoint. This year officers were assigned to overnight security Thursday to protect the city's property. A traffic stop on Dec. 1st resulted in the arrest of a 26 year old Houston woman who had outstanding warrants. She had been part of a team of burglars arrested here several years ago. Ten (10) portable radios have been ordered with funds received from a Homeland Security/UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative) Regional Radio Grant which we entered with Missouri City, Sugar Land, and Stafford. Mayor Jessup thanked Chief Baker and complimented him on the many achievements of the police department.

Public Works Director Dan McGraw then gave a report on activities in his department since the September regular Council Meeting. He said that in 2009 the city pumped 228 mg of water with a 17% loss; in 2010, 1886 mg were pumped with a 10% loss and to date in 2011, 244 mg of water were pumped with a 16% loss. The city has completed the 4th of a 5 year cycle on Storm Water. The 5th year started in August and it will be our last year on this plan. A new Storm Water plan is due March 2012, which Mr. McGraw is currently working on. A new permit will need to be obtained for the next five years. The new plan will have best management Practices such as: organizing volunteers to do stream cleanup, renting a street sweeper to keep leaves out of the storm sewers twice a year; labeling the storm drains with aluminum disks that contain a storm water message, the review and update of our dumping ordinance, and the distribution of our storm water flyers at Splash Dan and the 4th of July as well as Newsletter updates. Mr. McGraw also noted that 9.5 MG of reclaimed effluent water has been pumped to the lake since June 10, 2011. Some sidewalk replacement has taken place over the last few months to repair the trip hazard due to drought and subsidence around manholes. West Airport has received asphalt patches

weekly and some asphalt patches have been poured on the vertical separations on several streets. In the last three months, 137 alarm permits, 22 driveway and sidewalk permits, 5 roofing permits, 17 foundation permits; 5 heating and air conditions permits, 17 plumbing permits and four irrigation permits have been issued. We have also issued one demolition permit, one new construction permit and three commercial sign permits in the last three months. A new metal building will be placed at the sewer treatment plant which will help workers with wind, rain and heat in the area. The drought this past summer has intensified main line water breaks as well as service line breaks, meter leaks and water loss from inaccurate meters.

Mayor Jessup announced that the Fire Department responded to 22 incidents in the City during the month of November, 14 of which occurred between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. This appears to be typical of all fire/emergency calls made in the city.

During Mayor's comments, Mayor Jessup said this year's Christmas Memories was the best one ever. He was especially impressed at the way Baseball, Swim Team, Boy Scouts and Meadows Home and Garden Club all came together to help Parks Director Monya Keenen make a memorable event. New this year was a small snow hill for toddlers. Older kids enjoyed sledding down the snow mountain.

Councilmember Case made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Isbell, to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2011 workshop and regular meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

The audit report for fiscal year 2010-2011 was presented by Jennifer Day of McCall, Gibson, Swedlund, Barfoot PLLC. She said the report included a clean management report, and the City is in good financial standing. Ms. Day indicated the audit went quickly and easily this year thanks to Melody Vaal's assistance. Councilmember Wilkens made a motion to receive and approve the audit report for fiscal 2010-2011. His motion was seconded by Councilmember Isbell and unanimously approved.

Council then conducted its annual review of the City Investment Policy. There have been no changes made to the policy. While we are not earning much interest on our investments, we are investing wisely and are not losing any money either. There were no comments from Council.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR THE TAXATION OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY IN TRANSIT, WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION PURSUANT TO TEXAS TAX CODE SECTION 11.253; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT OR IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.

By passage of this ordinance, Council preserves the right to tax items in transit should we ever need that right. The ordinance must be passed by December 31, 2011 or we will lose that right. Councilmember Isbell noted this concerned commercial goods only. Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Henley, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2011-29** as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jessup then opened the floor up for a Public Hearing to consider any and all comments, both for and against, an ordinance to not allow car tarps that are visible from the street in the City of Meadows Place. The only comment came from resident John Barker of the 12100 block of Valencia. He said he is a

nine year resident of the city. His car is covered with a custom made tarp. He asked Council to not penalize residents who do have nice covers for their vehicles but to take them into consideration when passing any ordinance. There being no further comments, Mayor Jessup closed the Public Hearing on car tarps.

Mayor Jessup then read the caption to the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS, TO REPEAL CHAPTER 115 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "FOOD AND FOOD HANDLERS" IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ADD A NEW CHAPTER 115 ENTITLED "FOOD SERVICE"; PROVIDING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FOOD SERVICE SANITATION; PROVIDING A PENALTY; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.

Passage of this ordinance will revamp and modernize our ability to inspect food handling facilities. It totally deletes our old ordinance and allows Council to appoint someone, in this case the Code Enforcement Officer, who has proper training and knowledge to inspect food service establishments to make sure they are safe and sanitary. Councilmember Case made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wilkens, to adopt the ordinance, numbered **2011-30**, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Henley then made a motion to table the next agenda item, consideration of and action on an ordinance appointing a regular member of the Board of Adjustment of the City of Meadows Place, Texas, for a term of two (2) years commencing immediately, pursuant to provisions of Chapter 24 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Meadows Place. His motion was seconded by Councilmember Isbell and carried with unanimous approval.

Councilmember Isbell then made a motion to pay the bills (to Randle Law Office for \$7,064.17 and to JBC Metal Buildings LLC for \$8,928.75) as presented on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and approved unanimously.

Councilmember Isbell then made a motion to ratify the expenditure of \$11,335.00 to Joe Salvide for cement work completed in the city. Her motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and carried unanimously.

There were no audience comments at this time. Mayor Jessup thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He said the purpose of a City Council meeting is to conduct the business of the City and he is please so many residents are interested in how that business is conducted. He wished every one a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Wilkens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Isbell, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Elaine Herff, City Secretary