



COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

By *Mark McGrath*

Budget

On September 27, Council adopted the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2005. The budget adoption was the culmination of a process that started with a series of workshops beginning in June and concluding with public hearings on September 13 and September 20.

City-wide, property values for tax appraisal purposes have risen about 7% from the previous year. Sales tax is projected to run about 6% ahead of the previous budget. This is due mostly to CVS Pharmacy.

On the expense side, our police officers will receive an increase of 10%. This results from salary surveys which indicated the pay for our officers was falling significantly behind those of other comparable agencies in our area. All other City employees will receive a 3% pay raise. In addition, health insurance premiums increased 10% from the previous year.

This year's budget also provides for an increase in the garbage collection fee from \$8.80 per house per month to \$9.50. This is a direct result of the new contract recently approved with our garbage contractor in which the rate the City pays also increased. The increase in the rates is due predominantly to the large increase in fuel costs experienced this year.

Also at the September 27th meeting, Council adopted a property tax rate of \$0.76 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the next fiscal year. This rate is the same rate as the previous year. However, if the value of your property as determined by the Fort Bend Appraisal increased, your property tax bill will increase as well.

Commercial Property Update

During the last month, I was informed that the former site of Garden Ridge Pottery, Loew's Theatres and the vacant property across Dorrance has been sold. Since the new owners have not contacted the City with their plans, I must presume that their intended use is in accordance with the existing zoning for this property. Be assured that City Hall is watching this development closely. I will do everything within my power to assure that a quality project is put in place.

GARAGE SALE DATES

Garage sales are limited to the last weekend of odd numbered months (January, March, May, etc.) Weekends are defined as Friday and Saturday. Residents may have up to 2 garage sales per year on the designated weekends. A garage sale permit is required. Please refer to the dates shown below for garage sale dates.

(September Garage Sale days have been moved to October 28th & 29th)
November 25 & 26, 2005
January 27 & 28, 2006

Neighborhood Watch Meeting

October 18, 2005

7:00 pm

City Hall

"Teens: Drugs & Alcohol"

Teens are Welcome to Attend

Street Light Repair

713-207-2222 or www.centerpoint.com

CITY CALENDAR

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| October 8, 2005 | Neighborhood Watch
7:00 P.M. City Hall |
| October 25, 2005 | City Council Meeting
7:30 P.M. City Hall |

CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE

One Troyan Drive • Meadows Place, TX 77477 • (281) 983-2950 • Fax (281) 983-2940

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
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| | e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org |
| ALDERMAN | Terry Henley (281) 530-7136 |
| | e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org |
| ALDERMAN | Charles Jessup (281) 568-3461 |
| | e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org |
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| | e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org |
| ALDERMAN | David J. Piwonka (281) 498-3336 |
| | e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplace.org |
| ALDERMAN | Rick Staigle (713) 446-4566 |
| | e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org |
| CITY SECRETARY | Elaine Herff |

CITY ORDINANCES / CODE ENFORCEMENT

By *Tracey Spiller*

I want to take this opportunity to thank all our residents for preparing for hurricane Rita. As I drove the City prior to suspected landfall I noticed that everyone was doing their part to protect their property as well as helping out neighbors. Homeowners took the time to put away items that might have caused damage such as garbage cans, potted plants, and other items that could have become missiles. Now that the storm has passed, I am asking that residents keep items stored properly. Garbage cans must be stored out of sight according to City ordinance. Things like lawnmowers, recycling bins, and BBQ pits should be stored in the garage. Let's remember that by putting things away after they are used helps to keep the City looking well kept.

DID YOU KNOW??????

Did you know..... the City has been very, very busy lately. Beside the third Parks Grant, working with groups like Meadows All Play, breaking ground and beginning construction on our new fire station, we have had several storm related issues to deal with and have also been part of the huge Texas volunteer effort for Katrina – and now – Rita. One example came to light when MP resident Jennifer Harrison e-mailed me and wanted everyone to know that Meadows Place Police Officer Mayra Velasquez-Cardena coordinated an effort to collect police uniforms, water, food and supplies for the officers living and working in Louisiana and Mississippi. Her daughter Ashley came in from Texas A&M to help as the group collected and distributed over \$5,000 worth of much needed supplies to those officers in need. Several of our officers also put in time at the Dome and George R. Brown volunteer shelters. Our hats are off to this special group of volunteers and to Officer Velasquez-Cardena.

This of course was just the beginning of our storm stuff... As Rita approached us as a Category Five Storm your City had to get ready just like you did. We learned a lot and all of our departments did a great job.

The following are just a few of the actions that were taken to prepare:

- Storm drains throughout the City have been examined and debris removed as necessary. This will help move the water out quicker.
- Although a county function, our Public Works Department inspected all the ditches in the City and removed all large pieces of debris that could act as a barrier. This included tires, shopping carts and all the vegetation behind the community center. That was HARD work. Thanks guys.
- The emergency generators at water wells one and three were primed and fueled. Having our own water system is a BIG advantage for Meadows Place!
- A pumping device was added to the lift station at the sewer plant so the sewer plant could continue to operate - *even if the power went down!*
- Public Works secured both the pool and the sewer plant areas, readied equipment for debris removal and co-coordinated with the County Emergency Management Office to clear streets and remove storm debris. Whew...
- Meanwhile our Police Department activated the Community Center as Storm Operations Headquarters. They equipped and stocked the HQ with food, water and supplies and staffed it with personnel that would be here before, during and after the storm. A special Thanks to all of the Officers - and their families - who were willing to ride it out to be here when we needed them and look out for our best interests.
- Beside moving all necessary equipment and communication systems to the new HQ and doing house checks for us, PD activated emergency power generators to remain in communication throughout the storm.
- They activated a large Army truck which will be able to operate in high flood waters. Chief Pickett had obtained this truck – at NO COST to the City – for just such emergencies. Good job Chief. Most importantly – they were here.

Now is a good time to mention the importance of keeping our storm drains clean and clear.

Did You Know It is unlawful to dump household products, paint, automotive waste, leaves and yard trimmings into the storm drains? Dumping or allowing waste to enter the storm drain system could result in a fine from the city under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). These drains are meant to move rainwater from our City streets to the drainage ditches. One way you can help is if you have a lawn maintenance company, please inform them they are not to blow the yard trimmings into the storm drains. It is important to comply with the NPDES and keep the storm drains clear so we do not cause flooding because of blocked drains. It is everyone's responsibility to clean up tree leaves and pine needles that have dropped from our trees. Let's all work together to keep our drains clean, free of debris and ready to do their job.

Did you know.....Meadows Place has an Economic Development Corporation. The Meadows Economic Development Corporation board is comprised of Terry Henley (President), Bob Graf, Margaret Sandlin, Harry Hamilton, and Ed Peeler. The purpose of the Corporation is to fund qualified economic development projects within the City of Meadows Place. The source of funds for these projects is a portion of the sales tax collected from businesses in our City.

Past projects funded by the EDC include: our sound walls, the traffic light at Kirkwood and Airport, the third water well on Airport and the monument signs and esplanade improvements on Kirkwood and Airport.

The EDC's '06 budget includes funds for enhancements to the traffic light and landscape improvements on Dairy Ashford. The EDC is interested in suggestions from the public for future projects. Please contact City Hall or one of the board members with suggestions.

Got something for *Did You Know?* Let us hear from YOU either by e-mail at alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org or drop a note at City Hall. Thanks.

PARKS AND RECREATION BULLETIN

download a registration form at www.cityofmeadowsplace.org, click on Parks and Recreation or call Monya @ 281-983-2934

KARATE PROGRAM

When: Thursdays Sept. 15 – Dec. 8 (11 weeks)

Where: Community Center

Time: 6:30 – 7:30 (ages 5-12)

7:30 – 8:30 all new students (ages 13-70)

Fee: \$40.00

Uniform: \$30.00 (no checks)

New students will be accepted the first 3 weeks. You may try the first class

Free to make sure you wish to sign up. Child must be at least 5 years old.

Instructor: Rex Mahy

TAEKWONDO, KOREAN MARTIAL ART

Fall classes October 24th – December 15th

When: Monday - Thursday

Where: Community Center

Time: 3:15 – 4:30 pm

Fee: 1 time a week (8 classes) \$30.00

2 times a week (16 classes) \$55.00

Instructor: Jenny Pless, Meadows Place resident, Black Belt



PERSONAL TRAINER SESSIONS

When: Mondays & Wednesdays

Where: Community Center Annex Building

Times: 6:00, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30 a.m.

3:30, 4:30, 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$249.00 (12 sessions)

Instructor: Joni Knapps

CARDIO KICKBOXING CLASS

Cardio Kickboxing is a pathway to better health and fitness. It is a self-paced course where you learn to challenge yourself for a whole body workout. We use traditional martial art based punches and kicks as well as strength training. The aerobics is geared with beginners starting with low-impact techniques and higher levels of impact aimed at the individuals with higher levels of fitness. Don't worry, it is all non-contact. It is lots of fun and highly addictive. The class is approximately 1.25-1.5 hours in duration. It includes warm-up, cardio, cool down and strength training.

Attend these 2 class nights

When: Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Session 5 – November 2 – Nov. 30

(no class November 23)

Session 6 – November 29 – December 21

8 classes per session

Where: Community Center

Time: 6:15 – 7:30 pm

Fee: \$50.00

Instructor: Tina Mueller

SOMETHING NEW FOR SENIORS

Sponsored by: Meadows Place Parks and Recreation Department

Wednesday, October 12th 10:00 – 12:00 noon

Complimentary Craft Class Offered by Oasis Lifestyles and Senior Village

Come for Coffee and Cookies!! Let's all get together and meet other seniors in our area and enjoy the company and fun with crafts. All materials will be provided along with a very talented instructor. We will be making wreaths for the upcoming holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Seniors from the City of Meadows Place, including the new Senior Village Apartment Complex will join together for this exciting new class. Plans are in the makings to have gatherings such as this one on a regular basis. So, mark you calendar, make your plans and join us for a fun morning of crafts, coffee and cookies.

WHERE: Meadows Place Senior Village

WHEN: Wednesday, October 12th

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

COST: FREE

INSTRUCTOR: Sabrina (remember Sabrina's Gifts?) Oasis, Senior Village Director of Activities

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY October 10th FOR THIS CLASS SO THAT WE CAN PLAN FOR SUPPLIES. CALL THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT 281-983-2935.

Reminder: ANY AND ALL EXTERIOR PAINTING MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO PAINTING. Copies of the paint approval book, as well as approval forms, are available at City Hall. Please attach a swatch of the requested paint with your request and allow a week for your request to be processed. **PAINTING PRIOR TO APPROVAL MAY RESULT IN YOUR HAVING TO REPAINT.**

The MCIA Board serves as the architectural committee for the City of Meadows Place. If you are planning an exterior addition or change to your home, you must complete a Plan Approval Form and submit it to the Board prior to any building permits being issued by the City.

Meadows Place City Council recently passed a Tree Stump Ordinance. All trees removed from your property must be cut or ground down to ground level so that the grass can grow over the area where the tree had been.

MCIA BOARD MEETINGS: First Thursday of each month, 7:45 p.m. at City Hall. (Please contact a board member if you would like to be placed on the agenda)

MCIA

Members:

Steve Court 281-498-4334

Bob Clarkston 281-879-5332

Diann Hamilton 281-495-4038

Sherry Carlson 281-879-1359

Terry Papetti 281-983-0844

Frank Brown 281-498-0052

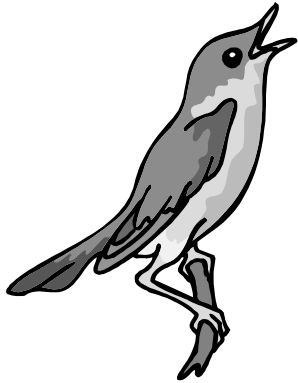
Janet Kulhanek 281-498-1807

Alternate:

Christy Crouch 281-530-1822

HOME AND GARDEN CLUB

We would like to welcome all the new members who joined the Garden Club at the recent "Get To Know Us Pot Luck Dinner" in September. It was also a pleasure to have guests from Meadows Place Senior Village with us for the evening, along with five Katrina evacuees from Louisiana who are staying with Meadows Place residents. It was unanimously decided by the Garden Club Board to make a donation



to the Ft. Bend Food Pantry to help them replenish their depleted supplies after their assistance to Katrina evacuees in the area.

Glen Forgan of Wild Birds Unlimited was guest speaker at the October 11th meeting. Hopefully his hints on attracting wild birds to our yards will bring a larger variety of birds to our city. Members who are still interested in going to lunch and a movie on October 20th or would like to make the trip to Old Town Spring on November 10th and have not made

arrangements to do so, please call Margaret at 281-933-8034.

There is still booth space available for the Club's 35th Annual Craft Show on Saturday, November 19th. This is a large, well attended event of talented hand-crafters, and if you or anyone you know might be interested in renting booth space, please call Lillian at 281-495-6039. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, November 8th at the Community Center. One of our very talented members, Kathie Sahlin, will give a demonstration on cake decorating, which should be lots of fun. If anyone would like to join us for the evening, the meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

Attention all Veterans

The Texas Veterans Land Board is hosting a "Free" information seminar on Veterans Benefits. Saturday, October 15th from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center. There is no charge to attend the seminar.

CLASSIFIED & ADVERTISING

Anyone wishing to place an ad in the newsletter can contact City Hall for information. All ads are due by the last working day of each month. The appearance of paid advertising is not an endorsement by the City.

Avon products, contact Linda Littlejohn 281-498-9855 (L.littlejohn@att.net) Meadows Place resident.

William Sutherland, handyman – Appliance repairs, Electrical, Plumbing, Power Washing, Interior-Exterior carpentry work, Painting, Pager, 713-833-9847. Cell, 713-384-2817.

Cakes for all occasions. Catering, house sitting and house cleaning. References available. 832-549-9892.


Avon – Lots of new items. Stock up now for holiday presents. Not your mother's Avon. Call Barbara 281-498-4831

Babysitting / Childcare – have experience with all ages. Own transportation. Have Meadows Place references. 281-568-5748.

House or apartment cleaning. (weekly, monthly, one time.) In Meadows Place. Call Monica 281-564-6445.

Mary Kay cosmetics pamper yourself with personalized skin care, immediate results, up to date glamour techniques. Complete inventory with over 25 years experience. Carol Evans 281-933-8298.

Handyman – Experienced in painting, general repairs, ceiling fans, etc. Have Meadows Place references. 832-443-5831.



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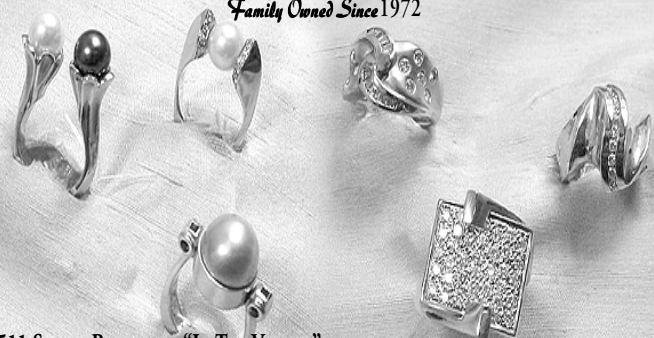


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12206 Meadowglen Dr.



This is one of Meadows Place finest homes priced below market by Seller to sell quickly. Just across the street from the park -this home features lots of storage spaces, large rooms including formal living & dining as well as breakfast room & family room. Great island kitchen & lots of ceramic tile. Huge master suite with sitting area. Spacious bath and secondary bedrooms.



Useful: Info@MeadowsPlaceHomes.com

- Home Networking w/Neighbors
- ALL For Sale in Meadows Place
- ALL For Lease in Meadows Place
- Neighborhood Info
- ALL For Sale - Houston Area
- For Sale By Owner
- Meadows Place "Solds" Market Report
- What's My Home Worth?
- School Info & Events

Free neighborhood services available to residents of Meadows Place

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13th Annual Golf Tournament

November 7th, 2005

Sugar Creek Country Club

Tournament Features

Sleeve of Balls
 Team Prizes
 Door Prizes
 Putting Contest
 Longest Drive Competition
 Closest to the Pin Competition
 Silent Auction

Dinner at the Club
 House is included
 Awards & Dinner
 immediately following
 the tournament
 Additional Dinner Guest
 Cost is \$20.00

Tournament Schedule

Registration / Check-In - 9:00 a.m.
 Shotgun Start - 11:00 a.m.
 Four Man Scramble
 Cost Per Player
 \$100 or \$350 per team
 (after October 21st, cost is \$110/\$440)



Entry Forms Can Be Downloaded at www.cityofmeadowsplace.org

<p>COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL Building capacity 165 Tables and chairs to accommodate your party</p> <p>Food and no alcohol\$150.00 Food and alcohol.....\$250.00</p>	<p>Non-residents add.....\$50.00</p> <p>CALL PARKS RECREATION TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT 281-983-2935 monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org terry@cityofmeadowsplace.org</p>
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