

City of Meadowlakes
City Council Stated Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2020 – 6:00pm

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.
Totten Hall, Meadowlakes Municipal Offices
177 Broadmoor Street, Meadowlakes, Texas

The City Council of the City of Meadowlakes held its Regular Meeting at Meadowlakes Municipal Building in Totten Hall on November 17, 2020, beginning at 6:00p.m. in accordance with the duly posted notice of said meeting.

Present:

Mary Ann Raesener, Mayor
Mark Bentley, Mayor
Jess Lofgreen, Councilmember
Barbara Peskin, Councilmember
Jerry Drummond, Councilmember
Eddie Wise, Councilmember
Gerry Mason, Councilmember

Staff:

Johnnie Thompson, City Manager
Evan Bauer, City Secretary
Debbie Holley, Treasurer

Absent:

Mike Barry, Councilmember

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM DETERMINATION.** Mayor Raesener called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and announced the presence of a quorum.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER.** Mayor Raesener led Council and staff in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Mason led the Council and guests in prayer.
- 3. CITIZEN COMMENTS.**
Resident Christine Forsyth emailed her comments to the City Secretary and they were read into the minutes. Ms. Forsyth commented on something that was mentioned at the previous council meeting; it was noted that the golf course had lost more money than the restaurant. Council considered the restaurant losses were unsustainable and something had to be done. However, the golf course was absolutely necessary and the City could not lose the golf course no matter what. The City needs somewhere to put their effluent water, but Ms. Forsyth said it did not necessarily have to be a golf course. She suggested other ideas like turning the course into a green belt or a park area. Her second comment was regarding the amount of time that is spend patrolling the school buses in Meadowlakes. In her opinion, too many hours are spent patrolling the school bus loading/unloading and more time could be spent patrolling during the evening hours.

OLD BUSINESS item 6. A was taken out of order. It was discussed right after CITIZEN COMMENTS.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

A. Discussion/Action: Election - Swearing in of New Mayor and Councilmembers (This item was discussed right after CITIZEN COMMENTS). Mayor elect Mark Bentley, Councilmember elect, Jess Lofgreen, and Councilmember Jerry Drummond were sworn into office by City Secretary Evan Bauer and took their respective places on council immediately after. Due to the May election being postponed until November, each will only serve an 18 month term instead of 2 years. Mayor Bentley and Councilmembers Lofgreen and Drummond's terms expire in May of 2022.

4. MONTHLY STANDARD LIVE REPORTS (Progress and Status Reports Only.)

A. Operations in general - City Manager Johnnie Thompson

1. Ordinance and Animal Control Report – In October, our Ordinance/Animal Control Officer responded to 30 calls, issued 82 violation notices, mostly related to visible trash cans, sign ordinance violations, and parking violations. There were 7 warning tickets issued for parking infractions, and 7 warning notices issued: 3 for parking a trailer on a lot or in a drive for over 3 days in 7 or over 7 days in 30, 3 for allowing a dog to leave the lot line unrestrained and not being registered with the City, and 1 for displaying more than one political sign per candidate. Four dead animals were picked up and removed from the city. One animal (fox) was caught and submitted for rabies testing; it did come back positive and a rabies alert was issued to the City. Two political signs were removed from property within the city, and two citations were issued for parking violations.
2. Patrol Activity Report – In October, our patrol officer logged 51 total hours and 198 total miles. He issued 2 citations; both for speeding (40 & 37 in a 25 mph zone). He also gave 3 verbal warnings.
3. Building Committee Report – In October, the Building Committee issued 7 building permits total. The permits issued are as follows: 4 fence, 1 deck, 1 patio remodel, & 1 new construction at 105 Broadmoor. There was 1 boat dock application tabled. Currently, there are 24 ongoing projects within the city.

B. Briefing on Golf and Food & Beverage Operations – Head Golf Pro, David Klotz, briefed council on golf course and restaurant operations. He informed council of the limited hours of operation on Thanksgiving Day in addition to the fact that the restaurant is receiving more to-go Thanksgiving orders than dine in reservations. Restaurant manager, Debbie Ingalsbe, has several holiday parties on the calendar for the month of December, and will be following all safety guidelines put into place by the CDC to ensure the health of everyone who attends. Mr. Klotz also pulled numbers from GolfNow, the on-line reservation booking system that the course uses to manage their on-line bookings, and golf play from June – October 2019 and June – October 2020 almost doubled at Hidden Falls. These numbers do not include bookings made over the phone or walk-ins. Most of the new play are players from the Austin/San Antonio area.

5. CONSENT ITEMS (The items listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the City Council and may be approved by a single motion of the Council. No separate discussion or action on any of the items is necessary unless desired by Council; at

which time the select item(s) may be discussed separately under consent items and separate motion(s).

- A. Minutes of the prior Council Meetings/Workshops
- B. September 2020 and October 2020 Financial Reports

After discussion, Councilmember Wise made a motion to approve the consent items as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mason and carried with a unanimous vote.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

- B. Discussion/Action: Election of Mayor Pro Tem.** The Texas Local Government Code States that the Mayor shall preside over all council meetings and requires the governing body to elect one Councilmember to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore for a term of one year. The Mayor Pro Tem shall act as Mayor if the Mayor is unable to perform their duties as Mayor. Councilmember Wise made a motion to elect Councilmember Drummond to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore for a term of one year. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mason and carried unanimously.
- C. Discussion/Action: Resolution 2020-06-Declaration of Disaster.** Newly seated Mayor Bentley is asked to sign Resolution 2020-06 which continues the existing Disaster Declaration that was signed by Mayor Raesener in March of this year. The drafted resolution keeps the disaster declaration in place until either the State or the County lifts theirs. After discussion, Councilmember Lofgreen made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-06 as drafted. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wise and carried unanimously.
- D. Update on COVID-19.** Mr. Thompson updated Council on the COVID testing procedures now being offered at the Marble Falls Fire Station. Testing is being performed every Wednesday from 9am – 1pm, and it is a drive through process. You do not have to be showing any symptoms, nor do you have to have a note from your doctor. Additional information can be found in the weekly newsletter or by calling the Marble Falls Fire Rescue Office. He also gave a comparison of COVID cases per 1000 people by county in Texas. Both the number of cases as well as the death rate continue to rise; the majority of deaths are in people over 70 years of age. (All of this data will be linked in tomorrow's newsletter or can be emailed to you upon request).

7. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Discussion/Action: Ordinance 2020-10 – Appointment of Municipal Judges.** In 2006, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2006-10, which established Meadowlakes Court of Record #1. Our judges are usually appointed for a two-year term coinciding with the Mayor's term of office. Due to the May election being cancelled because of the pandemic, the new Mayor's term is for 18 months. Ordinance 2020-10 reflects Judge Adams and Judge Keith's reappointment and their term of 18 months. After discussion, Councilmember Drummond made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-10 as drafted.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lofgreen and carried unanimously.

B. Discussion/Action: Appointment of Committee to Review Golf Shop and Restaurant Retail Operations Along with Discussion Points.

In response to public comments regarding concerns about the Recreation Fund budget, Mayor Bentley prepared a power point presentation outlining the requirements of a committee, or task force, to review golf shop and restaurant operations. He outlined membership requirements, goals of the task force, such as providing a path forward, looking at past studies and financials, getting input from citizens, etc. The committee will be composed of 9 members, none of them being City Council members, but all being property owners in Meadowlakes, and it is hoped to have a report from the committee by the March council meeting. A copy of this presentation can be emailed to you upon request.

C. Discussion/Action: Discussion regarding opening of Council meetings to the Public.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Council meetings have remained closed to the public since April. However, with certain precautions, such as maintaining a 6 - foot distance from one another, some entities have reopened their meetings to the public. Mr. Thompson discussed with council a couple of options. Due to the size of the council room, options such as Plexiglass would have to be used between Councilmembers in order to provide space for public seating. Another option would be to move the meetings to the restaurant. There would be plenty of space to provide the 6 – foot social distancing, however, there might be some issues with moving the sound equipment and not having adequate internet to be able to broadcast the meeting live. There was no action taken on this item.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Bentley presented outgoing Mayor Raesener with a plaque of appreciation for a job well done in her 2 years as serving as a Councilmember and 6.5 years as Mayor of Meadowlakes.

The next City Council meeting will be held December 15, 2020.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Bentley adjourned the meeting at 7:17 pm.

Approved: _____
Mayor, Mark Bentley

Date: December 3, 2020

Attest: _____
City Secretary, Evan Bauer

Date: December 3, 2020