

# **City of Meadowlakes Stated Meeting Minutes November 8, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM DETERMINATION:** Mayor Don Williams called the meeting to order at 5:00 declaring that a quorum was present at the Meadowlakes Municipal Building in Totten Hall, 177 Broadmoor, Meadowlakes, Texas. Council members present were Paul Sarcione, Franzella Jones, Barry Cunningham, and Rusty Crawford. Also present were City Manager Johnnie Thompson and City Secretary Stephanie Littleton.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:** Paul Sarcione led the meeting members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Christine Forsyth led the meeting members and guests in prayer.

**III. MONTHLY STANDARD LIVE REPORTS:**

- City Manager Activity Report - Johnnie Thompson
- Review of Fiscal Year 2011 Financial Status
- Consent Items as listed below

Mr. Thompson briefed Council on the financial position of the City funds for the last fiscal year. He cautioned the Council that his findings are pre-audit and subject to change. He outlined how each fund ended the year with an increase in cash reserves due to a combination of at or less than budgeted expenses and higher than anticipated revenues.

**IV. CONSENT ITEMS:**

- A. October 11th, 2011 Meeting Minutes – Stephanie Littleton, City Secretary.**
- B. Meadowlakes Public Facility Corporation Financial Reports-PFC Board Member**
- C. Ordinance Enforcement October Activity Report – Pat Preston**
- D. Animal Control October Activity Report - Robbie Galaway, Officer**
- E. Patrol Activity October Report – provided by Meadowlakes Patrol Officers.**
- F. Vandalism/Incident October Activity Report – Stephanie Littleton, City Secretary**
- G. City Building Committee October Activity Report - Don Wheeler, Chairman**
- H. Public Works Department October Activity Report - Mike Williams, PWD**
- I. General Fund October Detailed Financials Report - Eileen Harrison, Treasurer**
- J. Utility Fund October Detailed Financials Report - Johnnie Thompson, City Manager**

After reviewing the monthly patrol reports, Councilmember Sarcione asked for more overnight patrols. City Manager Johnnie Thompson replied that the city is currently short two patrol officers, and that he and Officer Bindseil are actively working to increase overnight patrols. In reference to the PFC Financials, Councilmember Franzella Jones asked PFC Board President Steve Hawkins to present his findings. Mr. Hawkins presented Council with a report indicating a loss of \$32,767 for fiscal year 2010-2011. Mr. Hawkins also cautioned the Council that his findings are unaudited, and to expect changes to the final numbers. He indicated that the Hidden Falls Golf Club restaurant made \$2,300. He explained that the increased need to water the golf course due to the drought had a negative impact on the budget and that cash flow is a concern. Mayor Williams asked Mr. Hawkins for his income projection for the coming year. Mr. Hawkins replied that the FY 2011-2012 budget should be cash positive assuming expenses stay at or below those budgeted. He went on to explain that the PFC is actively discussing effective measures for raising fees and increasing outside play. Mr. Hawkins concluded his presentation by stating that holiday bookings for the restaurant are up and that the cooler weather will allow for less watering of the course. After the conclusion of council discussion, Councilmember Jones made a motion to approve the consent items as presented. Councilmember Crawford seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the council members present.

- V. CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Robert Phillips and Gina Holton from Pedernales Electric Coop came to make a presentation about their Community Giving program. They asked the Council to put the word out to local eligible non-profit organizations and distributed informational packets to the Council.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Action/Discussion:** Nomination Selection for Burnet Central Appraisal District Board of Directors- Resolution 11-13. City Secretary Stephanie Littleton presented a ballot from the Burnet Central Appraisal District to the City Council asking for their 39 votes to be cast for the listed candidates. Council discussion ensued, in which the Council agreed that because they were not familiar with any of the candidates they did not feel comfortable casting any votes. Councilmember Crawford made a motion to abstain from casting any votes; Councilmember Sarcione seconded the motion. It passed by a unanimous vote of the Councilmembers present.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Action/Discussion:** Solid waste collection methods and extension of contract with BFI Waste Services of Texas, LL (Allied Waste). City Manager Johnnie Thompson and Mayor Williams introduced this item by briefing Council on the need to renew our current contract with Allied Waste and to look at incorporating some changes to the terms of the contract and services provided by Allied. Allied representative Keith Conrad addressed the Council. He introduced Allied representatives Guy Reed, Dwight Batch, and John Decker before outlining the biggest proposed change to the contract; converting to rear load to automated pick up. Mr. Conrad talked about the benefits of switching to the new system, stating that all of the surrounding municipalities have converted and that the new procedure is much safer for the sanitation workers. He explained that if the City makes the switch, Allied will ensure a seamless conversion, including one week of

- dual pickups. He explained that the switch will necessitate moving collection day to Friday. He stated that as an incentive for the City to switch, Allied will honor the current contract price for first year. The switch would also change the recycling collection schedule to every other week instead of twice monthly and provides for bulk items and leaf collection twice a month. Allied will continue to provide 4 roll-offs to the City free of charge. Families who require an extra container may do so for an additional \$4.50 per month. Council discussion ensued. Mayor Williams confirmed with Mr. Conrad that there will be a 5% cap on the contract. Mayor Williams stated to the Council that the City had conducted a trial of 10 Meadowlakes households of varying size and then surveyed the residents for their opinion of the new containers. City Manager Johnnie Thompson presented the results of survey. Council and audience discussion ensued. Councilmember Jones made a motion to accept the proposal as presented pending final contract and legal approval. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Crawford and passed by a unanimous vote of the Councilmembers present.
- B. Action/Discussion:** Appointment of Barbara Kast to replace Van Estill on the Building Committee. Resolution 11-014. After Committee discussion and confirmation of approval of the nomination by the POA, Councilmember Jones made a motion to approve Resolution 11-014; Councilmember Sarcione seconded the motion and it passed by a unanimous vote of the Councilmembers present.
- C. Action/Discussion:** Authorizing City Manager to execute a contract with Southwest Engineers to perform a complete water system assessment. City Manager Johnnie Thompson and Public Works Director Mike Williams addressed Council on the need for a study to provide an accurate assessment of future needs. Council discussion ensued. In response to Councilmember Sarcione's inquiry, Mr. Thompson explained that the City is prohibited from obtaining requests for bids because engineering firms provide a professional service. After further Council discussion, Councilmember Cunningham made motion to grant authority to Mr. Thompson to execute a contract for service with Southwest Engineers. Councilmember Sarcione seconded, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Councilmembers present.
- D. Action-Discussion:** Water conservation and 2012 water supply outlook. PWD Director Mike Williams and City Manager Johnnie Thompson recently attended a meeting with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) where future water supply and a possible 20-30% curtailment were discussed. Mr. Thompson briefed Council on the measures that the City will need to take in the coming year in order to comply with LCRA restrictions, including a 6-10% reduction in water use from the previous year. He outlined the possibility of adjusting the City's pricing tiers in order to reduce consumption. Mandatory Stage 2 water restrictions remain in effect. Mr. Thompson concluded by informing Council that further projections will have to wait until the next LCRA meeting after the first of the year.
- E. Action-Discussion:** Water contract with the Lower Colorado River Authority and possible effect on City owned water rights. City Manager Johnnie Thompson briefed Council that the City is facing the end of a 5-year contract with the LCRA to purchase an additional 75 acre feet of water annually. Mr. Thompson explained why the City only has a 5-year contract instead of the industry standard 40-year contract. Mr. Thompson outlined the steps the Public Works Department will take to stop intermingling of

