

**YOLANDA FORD**  
Mayor

**VASHAUNDRA EDWARDS**  
Councilmember at Large Position No. 1

**CHRIS PRESTON**  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Councilmember at Large Position No. 2



**CHERYL STERLING**  
Councilmember District A

**JEFFREY L. BONEY**  
Councilmember District B

**ANTHONY G. MAROULIS**  
Councilmember District C

**FLOYD EMERY**  
Councilmember District D

## CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Missouri City, Texas, met in special session on **Monday, June 1, 2020**, at the City Hall, Council Chamber, 1522 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas, 77489, at **5:30 p.m.** to consider the following.

*Due to the COVID 19 Disaster and the Center for Disease Control's recommendation regarding social distancing measures, the Mayor, City Council, City Staff members, and members of the public were not physically present during this meeting. The meeting was made possible through the cloud-based video conferencing platform Zoom.*

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ford called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Those also present: Mayor Pro Tem Preston, Councilmembers Edwards, Sterling, Boney, Maroulis, and Emery; Interim City Manager Atkinson, City Attorney Iyamu, City Secretary Jackson, Assistant City Manager Martel, Director of Financial Services Portis, Director of Communications Walker, Director of Information Technology Cole, Assistant City Attorney Santangelo, Purchasing/Risk Manager Pleasant, Media Specialist II Sanders, and MCTV Producer Penalba.

Mayor Ford asked for a moment of silence for former Missouri City Detective Caleb Rule and for the family of George Floyd and any victim of racism.

### 2. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

- (a) Discuss public and private roadways in the City, including roadways in Meadowcreek, Section 4.

Assistant City Attorney Santangelo presented an overview on public and private streets in Missouri City. Councilmember Maroulis asked if the information had been shared with the Meadowcreek residents and interested parties. Santangelo stated it had been shared over the last several months, as staff had met with individuals from Meadowcreek Homeowners Association. He added that they had addressed open records requests, which provided records of what the City had for the subdivision.

**Trina Powers**, 2963 Creekway Circle, spoke for six minutes as Dawn Bailey yielded her public comments time to her. Powers believes the streets in the Meadowcreek subdivision were public.

**Jim Fonteneaux, Sr.**, spoke for 42 minutes as Delbert Simperts, Willie Jones, Dorothy Jones, Vonda Washington, Henri M. Gadoury, Edna M. Gadoury, Shotzie Price, Jeanette Crummedyo, Lauren Lee, Denise Castleberry-Martinez, Alicia M. Hunter-Lynch, Beth Watson, and LaTonya Kelley yielded their public comments time to him. Fonteneaux addressed concerns regarding the public/private streets in the Meadowcreek subdivision. He noted Meadowcreek Section 1 and 4 were dedicated as public use streets and easements. Fonteneaux also yielded five of his minutes to Mr. Simperts.

**Delbert Simperts**, 2614 Creekway Circle, addressed concerns regarding the public/private streets in the Meadowcreek subdivision.

**Dawn Bailey**, 2222 Cottonwood Court, addressed concerns regarding the public/private streets in the Meadowcreek subdivision.

Councilmember Boney thanked the residents who participated and went over a timeline of communications with the Meadowcreek HOA and City staff in order to seek a resolution.

Councilmember Maroulis stated it was mentioned streets were not up to City standards and asked if they would get to a point where the City would take over the area and asked who would be responsible for bringing the streets up to par.

Mayor Ford stated City Council would take action on how to move forward. Sharon McFarland asked how long would the resolution take and where they stood. Mayor Ford stated she could not give an exact time, as it requires City Council action to know how they would move forward. McFarland asked if it would be resolved at another meeting and how. Ford stated City Council would meet and have a discussion over it and she suggested having a workshop.

City Attorney Iyamu stated state law was clear and stated if the plat dedicated property or improvements to public use the City would still have to accept it. Iyamu noted that in this case the City had not accepted Creekway Circle as a public street. Jim Fonteneaux, Sr. further addressed his concerns. Mayor Ford asked that he send her the video and pictures he referenced.

Councilmember Emery stated he was open to touring the area and added that the residents of Quail Valley paid waste management dues through their HOA. Emery requested staff check what activities the police could not administer or monitor because it was a private street. City Attorney Iyamu stated that according to documentation from 1973 from the Planning and Zoning Commission, which the developer of the area stated that the development would remove vehicles from the street. Councilmember Emery asked Iyamu to provide a copy of such document to Mr. Fonteneaux and have something from the Police Department that notes what they could and could not do.

Delbert Simperts spoke of an incident where police was not responsive. Interim City Manager Atkinson asked if they wanted to add an item in the future that took into consideration all private and public development. Mayor Ford stated there was a discrepancy on public and private streets. She asked if the issue was sent over to the AG's office. City Attorney Iyamu stated they had not asked the Attorney General's Office. Ford asked if City Council wanted a workshop in order to understand all the factors. City Council expressed support of a workshop. Mayor Ford stated they would move forward with a workshop and get an estimate on how long it would be to get this information together. Once they had the information, they would provide Meadowcreek with the meeting date.

At 7:30 p.m., without objection, City Council recessed the special City Council meeting.

At 8:12 p.m., City Council reconvened the special City Council meeting.

- (b) Discuss city contract processes and administration.

Interim City Manager Atkinson stated the agenda item was brought forth at the request of City Council regarding the BrandEra contract. Atkinson noted new processes and procedures for contracts were in place. Director of Financial Services Portis presented an overview of policies, procedures and processes. Mayor Ford asked if the amount of the contract was encumbered ahead of time. Portis stated for a contract they use a purchase order module but they were encumbering the funds.

- (c) Discuss and consider the procurement of legal services for potential civil service matters.

City Attorney Iyamu presented on the procurement of legal services for potential civil service matters. Iyamu asked if there was a desire to retain outside council for civil service matters on a consistent basis. Mayor Ford asked about the cost of the council. Iyamu stated outside council would be used on an as needed basis and that would determine the cost. She noted one of their least expensive contract costs was \$175 while some of the most expensive could be \$350 or higher.

Mayor Pro Tem Preston asked for examples of legal representation. Iyamu stated it may include a dispute with discipline, and an officer may elect to have arbitration to handle the disciplinary process. She recommended having someone on call if citizens elect to have civil service.

Mayor Ford recommend having an expert available. Without any objection, staff would move forward with procurement of legal services.

- (d) Consider and discuss the City's board, committee, and commission member appointments and reappointments.

City Secretary Jackson provided an update on the City's board, committee, and commission member appointments and reappointments. Councilmember Sterling suggested allowing other people to serve. Councilmember Maroulis noted they had performed interviews. Mayor Ford stated they could set a meeting to interview with new candidates and current candidates. Councilmember Edwards stated current members should be allowed to interview as well. Councilmember Boney stated he was in support of interviewing new candidates.

Councilmember Maroulis asked if there were applicants for the Parks Foundation. Jackson stated they had not received applications. Maroulis suggested recommending applicants not chosen for boards to consider serving on the Missouri City Parks Foundation.

### **3. ADJOURN**

The special City Council meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes PASSED AND APPROVED this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020.

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Maria Jackson, City Secretary