

MINUTES**LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 14, 2011**

The City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, met in Regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on March 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present to-wit:

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Marcus E. Knight
Walter Weaver
Marco Mejia
Mayor Pro Tem James Daniels
Clyde Hairston
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Nina Morris
Council District 2 vacant

City Staff Present:

Opal Mauldin Robertson, City Manager
Alicia Oyedele, Assistant to the City Manager
Thomas Griffith, Assistant Fire Chief
Sean Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director
Robert E. Hager, City Attorney
Dolle Downe, City Secretary

Call to Order:

Mayor Knight called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 14, 2011.

Invocation:

Pastor John Richardson gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Councilmember Marco Mejia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens Comments:

Linda Hickman, 1267 Alhambra Drive, expressed concerns about Meadow Creek Park saying there is criminal activity and loitering at the park; stated that people just hang out there till all hours of the night; stated she has called Police in the past, but it has not improved the situation; said there is drinking, smoking and gambling and that she and other neighbors should not have to live with that; stated council just needed to drive over to the park and see what is going on.

Art Haffery, 1900 Watermill Road, provided councilmembers with information on Lancaster home sales outlining foreclosure sales percentages at 65.7% last year with a declining value of average home sales prices; expressed concern about absent landlords.

Action:

- 1. Consider confirmation of John Thomas Griffith as Fire Chief of the Lancaster Fire Department; and administer the Oath of Office.**

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Daniels made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hairston, to confirm John Thomas Griffith as Lancaster Fire Chief. The vote was cast 6 for, 0 against.

City Secretary Downe administered the Oath of Office for Fire Chief Griffith. Fire Chief Griffith thanked Council and the City for the opportunity to serve the great city of Lancaster extending his appreciation for the confidence placed in him and acknowledging members of the Fire Department. He introduced his wife, Mrs. Vicki Griffith, and his family.

Consent Agenda:

City Secretary Downe read the consent agenda.

- 2C. Consider approval of minutes from the City Council Regular Meeting held February 28, 2011.
- 3C. Consider Resolution 2011-03-18 of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, approving Amendment No. 1 to the Airport Restaurant Lease and Operating Agreement by and between A La Carte Catering & Cakes, Inc. and the City of Lancaster at the Lancaster Regional Airport to amend certain hours of operation; authorizing the City Manager to execute said amendment; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
- 4C. Consider Resolution 2011-03-19 of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, approving the terms and conditions of an Interlocal Agreement by and between the City of Grand Prairie, Texas, and the City of Lancaster, Texas, for the cooperative purchase of goods and services; repealing Resolution No. 2010-09-80 in its entirety; authorizing the City Manager to execute said amendment; designating the City's Purchasing Agent as the official representative; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
- 5C. Consider Resolution 2011-03-20 of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, amending Resolution No. 2011-02-11 ordering a general election to be held on Saturday, May 14, 2011, for the election of one councilmember for District 2, one councilmember for District 4, and one councilmember for District 6; to provide for revised branch early voting polling locations; and providing an effective date.

2011-03-20 considerar una resolución del Consejo Municipal de la ciudad de Lancaster, Texas, se modifica la Resolución No. 2011-02-11 solicitando a las elecciones generales que se llevara a cabo el sabado, 14 de Mayo 2011, para la eleccion de un concejo de Distrito 2, un concejo de Distrito 4, y un concejo de Distrito 6; prestacion para poder votar temprano revisando lugares de votacion, y proporcionar una fecha de vigencia.

- 6C. Consider an ordinance of the City of Lancaster, Texas, amending the Lancaster Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3, by repealing Article 3.800, "Fence Regulations", in its entirety and replacing with a new Article 3.800, "Fence Regulations"; providing for Definitions; providing a Permit Requirement, Application and Fee; providing for the Encroachment of Public Property; providing for Construction within Easements; providing for Height Limitations - Rear and Side Yards; providing for Fences on Reverse Frontage Lots; providing for the use of barbed wire or electronically charged Fences; providing for Fence construction and materials; providing for gates; providing for inspection; providing for Maintenance and Standard of Fence; providing for the Appeal of Specific Requirements; providing for the Appeal Process; and by amending Chapter 14, Lancaster Development Code, by repealing Article 14.500, Section 14.501, Subsection (h), "Fences", in its entirety and reserving the same for future use; providing for severability; providing a savings clause; providing a repealing clause; providing for a penalty clause; and providing an effective date.**

MOTION: Councilmember Hairston made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Morris, to approve consent items 2C - 6C. The vote was cast 6 for, 0 against.

- 7. Discuss and consider Resolution 2011-03-21 of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, approving the name "Smokler Moo Meadows" for the designated park property located along Ten Mile Creek adjacent to Lancaster Regional Airport; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.**

Mayor Pro Tem Daniels asked the City Manager to elaborate on how this park property came about. City Manager Mauldin Robertson stated that in the purchase of land from the Smoklers for the Airport runway extension, there were approximately 100 acres in the flood plain that the Smokers donated to the City for a park, contingent upon having naming rights. The Smokers requested the name "Smokler Moo Meadows".

Mayor Pro Tem Daniels asked about use of the land. City Manager Mauldin Robertson indicated that there is a lease agreement in place for agricultural use of the land for which the City is receiving revenue.

Councilmember Mejia asked about the name itself. City Manager Mauldin Robertson stated that the land had been in the family for a number of generations and they desired to use the family name as a part of the park name.

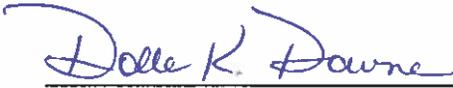
Councilmember Hairston asked about the letter submitted by the Smokler family and the reference to "mooring" in the meadows. Parks and Recreation Director Johnson commented that the Smoker family had a ranch with cattle on the property, and the reference was to the livestock.

MOTION: Councilmember Hairston made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mejia, to approve Resolution 2011-03-21 approving the name "Smokler Moo Meadows" for the designated park property located along Ten Mile Creek adjacent to Lancaster Regional Airport. The vote was cast 5 for, 1 against [Daniels].

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hairston, to adjourn. The vote was cast 6 for, 0 against.

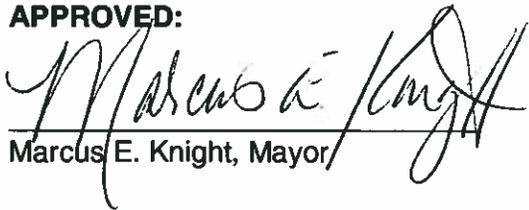
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:



Dolle K. Downe, City Secretary

APPROVED:



Marcus E. Knight, Mayor