

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
January 6, 2009
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held January 6, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding Officer. Council Members - Charles Lewis, Joe Kusar, Willie King, Phyllis Bynum-Grace * and Riley Hunt.

* Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Elected Official Absent: Council Member James Moore.

Departmental Staffing: City Manager Lee Gilmour, Mike Beecham - Director of Community Development, George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Ronnie Jones – Director of Public Works and Annie Warren-Riley - Recording Secretary.

Guests: Mr. Walter Woods, Ms. Becky Woods, Mr. Pemrose Wolfe, Ms. Tish Chase – DDA Manager, Mr. Larry Yockachonis – ESG Operations, Inc. and Mr. Steven Lee, ESG, Operations, Inc.

Press: Natasha Smith – Macon Telegraph and Charlotte Perkins – Houston Home Journal.

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor James Worrall.

- 3a. Consider options relative sewer services Rozar Park. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the options for installing a sewer line at Rozar Park. Council concerned about other doctors requesting access. Council determined the sewer line was not needed at this time.

- 3b. Proposal to do spinal health screening. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the offer from Dr. Candace Baird of Perry Chiropractic Health Center P.C. to provide spinal health screening to City employees. Council concurred not to accept the offer.

Not on agenda: Mayor Worrall discussed the possibility of providing flu shots to City employees at the City expense. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised this will be revisited in March.

- 3c. Consider wish list items from General Assembly. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked Council to provide a wish list for the General Assembly. The following items were suggested:
1. Reinstatement of homestead monies
 2. Amending hotel/motel tax
 3. LARP program continue
 4. Resurface the tennis courts at Rozar Park
 5. Review Courtney Hodges project
 6. Refurbish/replace pool at Creekwood Park
 7. Provide assistance for right-of-way acquisition for I-75 frontage road.
 8. Approve the use of unused tier 1 and 2 economic assistance monies for projects to benefit low income areas of tier 3 and 4 counties.
 9. Assist in replacing roof at Perry Art Center building.
- 3d. Consider pursuing energy control review. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised Council that Johnson Controls has offered to perform a survey to show the City how to save money. Johnson Controls want a semi-commitment letter from the City advising if they find anything worth while the City present the findings to the Council. The recommendation from the Administration is to say no, we are not in a position to. Council concurred with the recommendation of the Administration.

Not on agenda: City Manager Lee Gilmour gave Council an update on the revision of the billing for the utilities division. The final drafts have been approved and in the process of testing of the cross over program, the bills should go out later this month or early February.

City Manager Lee Gilmour advised Council that for one reason or another no cut-offs have been done in a long time, we are going out doing those cut-offs now. We are advising those people that they can come in and make arrangements to settle their accounts within ninety days. There were some errors relative to the information provided for the system billing – 22 accounts have been over billed – we are making adjustments; 93 accounts were under billed - we will contact them to make arrangements to settle their accounts within ninety days as well. If a customer advises of a leak, the City investigates and if warranted, the City will make an adjustment. If some customers say somebody left them with the impression that the City will give them a credit that is not in accordance with City policy, they will have to settle up with the City within the ninety day period. Council Member Joe Kusar asked about the number of cut-offs, City Manager Lee Gilmour advised approximate 150 cut offs. Council concurred.

Public Safety Director George Potter advised Council of the current situation on the west coast of gang members moving into vacant homes. Mr Potter stated that he would like to work with the realtors and utility department to keep abreast of the vacant homes in the area. Mr. Potter advised Council of cases made during the Christmas holidays of drug stops and also the armed robbery on Monday night at the Texaco.

City Manager Lee Gilmour advised Council that a letter from the Mayor will be sent to the Houston County Sheriff thanking him for his cooperation relative to the arm robbery. Council concurred.

4. Other items as needed: None.

5. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor James Worrall adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.