

MINUTES  
WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL  
October 21, 2008  
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held October 21, 2008 at 5:05 p.m.

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Pro-Tempore Phyllis Bynum-Grace. Council Members, Charles Lewis, Joe Kusar and Riley Hunt.

Elected Official Absent: Council Members James Moore and Willie King.

Departmental Staffing: City Manager Lee Gilmour, Mike Beecham - Director of Community Development, George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Deputy Fire Chief Joel Gray - Fire Department, Brenda King - Director of Administration, Ronnie Jones – Director of Public Works, Bob Taylor – Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor, Dianne Abney – Secretary Public Works Department and Annie Warren-Riley - Recording Secretary.

Guests: Ms. Terri Moody Walker and Ms. Becky Walton.

Press: Ms. Natasha Smith – Macon Telegraph.

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Pro-Tempore Phyllis Bynum-Grace.
  - 3a. Discuss overtime costs in fire division of Department of Public Safety. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council overtime costs in the fire division of Department of Public Safety. Discussion with Deputy Fire Chief Gray revealed the need to substitute on two of the three shifts a person in order to make sure each of our units, pumper and aerial truck, have a minimum staffing of three persons. Deputy Chief Gray provided a memo of graphs depicting the staff needed for each shift. City Manager Lee Gilmour provided Council a memo reflecting the results of a survey of cities in similar size of the City of Perry that have fire protection and their staffing. Administration recommendation to Council, in order to be effective, Council should authorize two (2) additional firefighter positions. Council will make a determination at the next Council meeting.
  - 3b. Discussion of policy of overgrown vacant lots. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the issue of vacant lots overgrown. Director of Community Development Mike Beecham advised Council that

the lots are so overgrown that they are having problems locating fire hydrants on the lots. Mr. Beecham provided Council with pictures of lots overgrown where the fire hydrants could not be seen. The current regulations states that vegetation must be kept at eight (8) inches or less. Mr. Beecham's recommendations to Council are: 1. Lots contiguous to occupied lots must keep vegetation at eight (8) inches or lower. 2. All rights-of-ways should not exceed eighteen (18) inches in height. 3. Vegetation around fire hydrant should not exceed eighteen (18) inches in height for a radius of 7.5 feet. Council Member Joe Kusar made the suggestion of enforcing four (4) feet height limit on vacant lots. City Manager Lee Gilmour suggested to Council to ask City Attorney David Walker for his input relative to subdivisions that have not been accepted by the City for maintenance before proceeding.

- 3c. Review process of unsalvageable equipment. City Manager Lee Gilmour presented Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Bob Taylor to Council to review the process of unsalvageable equipment. Mr. Taylor advised Council that once a piece of equipment is determined deadline or surplus, it goes through an overall condition inspection. Next, if there is a piece of equipment of similar type, we will keep it to cannibalize for spare parts. Mr. Taylor advised that technology has changed so much that it is impossible to cannibalize spare parts. The equipment that could not be cannibalized was cut up and sold as scrape steel. Council Member Joe Kusar asked about auction equipment. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the auction process of operable equipment. If the equipment is declared operable it is grouped and surplus and put into the auction process. The last few years the City would pool the operable equipment and take it to the State of Georgia Department of Administration Central Yard in Americus, Georgia and get our share relative to the cost. If the equipment is determined to be non-operable there are two options: 1. If someone inquires about it, it is given to them at no charge for hauling it away. 2. The equipment is cut up and sold as scrape material.
4. Other items as needed: Mayor Worrall inquired about the memo relative Keck and Wood and the Ball Street project. City Manager Lee Gilmour updated Council on the status of the project.
5. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor James Worrall adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.