

MINUTES  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL  
February 17, 2009  
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held February 17, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: None.

Departmental Staffing: Mike Beecham - Director of Community Development, George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Deputy Chief Joel Gray – Fire Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration and Joni Ary - Recording Secretary.

Guests: Mr. Penrose Wolf – Perry Housing Authority

Press: Charlotte Perkins – Houston Home Journal.

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

- Mayor James Worrall advised Council that City Manager Lee Gilmour would not be attending the meeting and Director of Community Development Mike Beecham would be presenting tonight's agenda.

3a. Report from Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace and Council Member Willie King relative to Mayors Day. Council Member Willie King gave his report on the Mayors Day classes that he took. At the classes some of the things that were taught were about moral, logic and having a good attitude. Council Member Willie King stated that all the information was very useful and interesting. Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace stated that she left the handouts at her office and would present to Council at the next meeting. Mayor James Worrall passed out to Council information about the changes for the upcoming 2009 GMA Convention schedule.

3b. Review anticipated fiscal impact of ISO adjustment. Director of Community Development Mike Beecham reviewed with Council the

anticipated fiscal impact of the ISO adjustment. Mr. Beecham reviewed the different options outlined in a memo from the City Manager the City could take relative to the temporary fire station location at the Houston Lake Storage facility. Option (1) the costs associated with converting the facility, staffing (12 positions) and equipment would cost \$1.1 million; Option (2) would include the reassignment of one (1) apparatus and 6 new positions would cost \$402,200. Mayor Pro-Tempore Riley Hunt asked how much it would cost to construct a new fire station. Deputy Fire Chief Joel Gray estimated the cost for a new fire station to be around \$1.2 million. Mr. Beecham stated that the other alternatives outlined in the memo stated that the City could; (1) proceed on the regular plan, construct a new station in three years, spread staffing over four years; (2) Assuming legal, plan for new station and staffing in option one and provide credit assistance to affected property owners. Council Member Charles Lewis stated that an alternative could be to building a fire station over a period of time on Langston Road. If a new fire station is constructed on Langston Road the ISO rating would also cover Houston Lake and Wooden Eagle and the fire station would be keep fire trucks off Sanderfur Road. Deputy Fire Chief Joel Gray stated that he would like to go back and take a look at the alternative Council Member Charles Lewis suggested. Council Member Joe Kusar suggested referring this item to the Public Safety oversight committee for further review and requested having the committee revisit the impact fees that will be going into affect July 1<sup>st</sup>. All members concurred to refer this item and impact fees to the Public Safety oversight committee for review.

- 3c. Proposal to adjust for water provisions relative to the downtown area. Director of Community Development Mike Beecham presented the proposal to adjust for the water provision relative to the downtown area. At this time there are 13 -15 water faucets in the downtown area that are not metered. The water faucets are currently being used to water the plants in the downtown area. The proposal for the water faucets is to remove all the water faucets and have only one metered faucet in the downtown area. Council Member Joe Kusar recommended instead of metering the water faucets, use a lock out tag out box on the faucets. The boxes can be used by City personnel and would hinder anyone trying to take free water. All members concurred with Council Member Joe Kusar recommendation to install lock out tag out boxes on the water faucets in the downtown area.
- 3d. Review plans for the green space area at Cherokee (Yorktown). Director of Community Development Mike Beecham reviewed with Council the revised plans for the green space area at the Yorktown stormwater retention pond. The revised plans removed the trees from the damn and in the water and proposed using pompous grass and weeping willow trees along the walkway on top of the damn. Mayor Pro-Tempore Riley Hunt

asked what the costs were associated with the project. Director of Community Development Mike Beecham stated that the project would have to go out to bid. Council Member Joe Kusar asked that when this item comes before Council for approval to indicate where the funding would come from. Director of Community Development Mike Beecham asked if Council concurred to start the bid process for the project. All members concurred.

3e. Discuss tasks assigned to various Committees and consider adjustment. Mayor James Worrall stated that Council members at anytime could make changes or suggestions about the Committee assignments. Mayor James Worrall stated that in the last 10 years the City has only received one suggestion about a change to a Committee assignment. Mayor James Worrall asked if Council was okay with the Committee assignments. All members concurred to keep the Committee assignments as they are.

4. Other items as needed: Mayor Worrall asked Council if they had anything they wanted to share.

Mike Beecham - Director of Community Development – Updated Council about the letters sent to property owners about the grass cutting of vacant lots. Any calls about the letters that was sent out can be forwarded to the Community Development Department.

Council Member Charles Lewis – No.

Council Member Joe Kusar – No.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Member Riley Hunt – No.

Council Member Willie King – Update on Westwood Trailer Park drainage from Director of Public Works Ronnie Jones and Mr. Kim Mullins. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that the City is waiting to hear back from the Engineer.

Council Member James Moore – Wanted to know about the grassy knoll mound at the City Park at the fountain area, the mound was not part of the plans that was presented to Council by DDA. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that the mound does not look good and could be dangerous for any kids that play on it because of the sidewalk that is around the mound. Director of Community Development Mike Beecham stated that he would contact DDA about the mound not being in the plans presented to Council and report back to Council.

Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace – No.

Mayor Worrall – Reported on the General Courtney Hodges lighting project, the poles and fixtures for the medium that were ordered were not the right size or type

of pole. The DDA requested that the poles be tampered instead of round like the ones that were ordered. Mayor James Worrall suggested having a meeting sometime soon and reviewing the entire General Courtney Hodges project. All members concurred. Mayor James Worrall asked if all Council members have received a packet from the FMCA for their upcoming event in March. Mayor James Worrall passed out information about the Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>; at the meeting the Public Safety Fire Department was honorees and also the new Chamber's Chairman is Mr. Kim Sheridan.

George Potter – Director of Public Safety – Reported that about a year ago Congressman Jim Marshall offered the City a \$60,000 grant to finish purchasing and installing the mobile data terminals for all the police vehicles and possible a fire truck, today I received information stating that the City can start drawing down those funds. Director of Public Safety George Potter stated that he would get the information to start the bid process.

Fire Chief Joel Gray – No.

5. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor James Worrall adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.