

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
March 16, 2010
6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer, called to order the regular meeting of the Perry City Council held March 16, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll.

Elected Officials Present: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer and Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King. Council Members Riley Hunt, Joe Posey and Randall Walker.

Elected Official Absent: Council Members Phyllis Bynum-Grace and William Jackson.

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour and City Attorney David Walker.

City Departmental Staffing: Brenda King – Director of Administration, George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Deputy Chief Joel Gray – Fire Department, Mike Beecham – Director of Community Development, Ronnie Jones – Director of Public Works, Rick Kilgore – Director of Parks and Recreation, Steve Howard – Chief Building Inspector and Joni Ary - Recording Secretary.

Guests/Speakers: None.

Press/Media: Ms. Charlotte Perkins – Houston Home Journal, Mr. John Krueger - ComSouth and Mr. Thomas Day – Macon Telegraph.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Rev. Roland Fall of Perry United Methodist Church gave the invocation and Navy Veteran Tommy Wood led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

5. Citizens with Input. None.

6. Consent Agenda Items: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

6a. Council Consideration – Minutes of March 1, 2010 work session, March 2, 2010 pre council meeting and March 2, 2010 regular meeting. Council Member Riley Hunt motioned to approve the minutes. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Old Business: None.

8. Any Other Old Business Matters: None.

9. New Business: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

9a. Ordinances for First Reading and Introduction.

1. **First Reading** of an ordinance amending the Perry Code by deleting Section 3-50 in its entirety. (*No action required by Council*).
2. **First Reading** of an ordinance amending the Perry Code by deleting Section 15-181 in its entirety. (*No action required by Council*).

9b. Alcohol License - Manager Change:

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1. Application for Manager Change on Mixed Drinks/Beer/Wine Alcohol License for Applebee's Neighborhood Bar & Grill, located at 100 Valley Drive. Change of Manager to Mr. Benjamin Johns. Mayor Faircloth stated the applicant was not present for the meeting, suggested postponing approval of application. All members concurred.

9c. Resolutions for Consideration.

1. Adopted Resolution No. 2010-12 to amend the City's vacant lot mowing policy. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. reviewed with Council the resolution to amend the City's vacant lot mowing policy. Council Member Randall Walker motioned to amend the City's vacant lot mowing policy. Council Member Joe Posey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. (*Resolution 2010-12 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).
2. Adopted Resolution No. 2010-13 to name the armory the Perry Arts Center. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. reviewed with Council the resolution to name the armory the Perry Arts Center. Additionally, once the re-roofing is complete the Courtney Hodges Armory lettering will be installed in a visible location. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King motioned to name the armory the Perry Arts Center. Council Member Riley Hunt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. (*Resolution 2010-13 has been entered in the City's official book of record*). Council Member Joe Posey asked about the status of the re-roofing. Chief Building Inspector Steve Howard stated in about four (4) weeks the roof should be complete.

9d. Approved unanimously recommendations of the City Council work session from their meeting held on March 15, 2010.

1. Recommendation to cancel appropriations for the months of May and June to the following agencies due to the decrease of the hotel/motel tax if necessary.

Perry Area Chamber of Commerce
21st Century Partnership
Downtown Development Authority of the City of Perry
Perry – Houston County Airport Authority

Council Member Randall Walker made the motion to cancel appropriations for the months of May and June to the listed agencies due to the decrease of the hotel/motel tax. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Kim Mullins of the Downtown Development Authority stated he felt the appropriate parties were not notified about the changes and was not happy about the way the situation was handled. Mr. Davis Cosey of the Downtown Development Authority stated in his capacity as treasurer for the Perry Area Convention & Visitors Authority when the City shifted from receiving 36% from the Hotel/Motel tax revenue to 40% the extra income was to be used for the downtown promotion and development.

2. Authorize selection of insurance broker for carrier lines. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the proposals from insurance companies to be selected as the City's insurance broker for liability, property and crime coverage. The recommendation of the Administration is to authorize hiring Walker Insurance Company.

Council Member Riley Hunt made the motion to authorize hiring Walker Insurance Company for the City's insurance broker for carrier lines. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- 9e. Consider waiver of the fees and support for the Perry Hospital/Perry Dogwood 5K Run, April 10, 2010. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. reviewed with Council the request to waive the fees and support for the Perry Hospital/Perry Dogwood 5K Run, April 10, 2010. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King motioned to authorize the waiver of the fees and support for the Perry Hospital/Perry Dogwood 5K Run, April 10, 2010. Council Member Randall Walker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- 9f. Consideration of blocking off section of Main Street (from Ball Street to Jernigan Street) for the Kick-Off Event for the Perry Dogwood Festival, April 9th from 6pm – 8pm. Request submitted by the New Perry Hotel. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. reviewed with Council the request for blocking off section of Main Street (from Ball Street to Jernigan Street) for the Kick-Off Event for the Perry Dogwood Festival, April 9th from 6pm – 8pm. Mayor Faircloth added if necessary to block off a portion of Carroll Street and Ball Street for the festival. Council Member Riley Hunt motioned to authorize the blocking off section of Main Street (from Ball Street to Jernigan Street) for the Kick-Off Event for the Perry Dogwood Festival, April 9th from 6pm – 8pm and if necessary to block off a portion of Carroll Street and Ball Street for the festival. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. Department Head Items. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. asked each department head if they had any items and they responded as follows:

George Potter, Director of Public Safety –Reviewed with Council that over this past weekend an 82 year old man with Alzheimer's that was missing from Sarasota, Florida ran out of gas at a service station in Perry and the police were notified and worked with the family to help get the man back to his family.

Deputy Chief Joel Gray, Fire Division – Stated on Thursday and Friday the Fire Department will be hosting a building construction class to teach the structures of different buildings.

Rick Kilgore, Director of Parks and Recreation – Stated the 7 & 8 years old, 9 & 10 year old and 11 & 12 year old boys' basketball teams won the County Championship. The 9 & 10 year olds & 11 & 12 year old girls' basketball teams went to the championship, and placed 2nd. The Parks & Recreation Department is very active with baseball, spring soccer, church softball and track and field. The girls' volleyball team is going to Athens to compete, the ladies line dancers have been offered to compete in the GRPA line dancing competition and the instructor Ms. Shirley Thompson is trying to convince the ladies to compete. The Oscars came to Perry with the participation in the 2010 Senior Citizen's Academy Day was held on Friday at Rozar Park in the James E Worrall Building at the Middle Georgia Action Community Center.

Ronnie Jones, Director of Public Works – Stated today at 2:00 p.m. bids were opened dealing with the Perry Branch inflow and infiltration; seven bids were received.

Brenda King, Director of Administration – No report.

Mike Beecham, Director of Community Development – Stated (18) single family permits have been issued from his department for the month. Mr. Beecham stated the increase in permits is partly due to the tax breaks for first time buyers that cease at the end of April.

City Attorney David Walker – No report.

City Manager Lee Gilmour – No report.

4. Appearances: Request for consideration to support application for Google high tech system – “Fiber for Communications in Middle Georgia”. Lieutenant Nathan Waters of the Armed Forces Communication and Electronic Association reviewed with Council the information that was provided to them at their work session meeting on March 15th. Google is looking for communities to be a part of an experiment to increase the internet speed from 18 mega bites per second to 1,000 mega bites per second. No where else in the world does this technology exist. Industries would have to come to where it is located. Lt. Waters stated the City's part in the project would be to appoint an individual for the project to work with the Armed Forces Communication and Electronic Association and other agencies to build the responses and report back to Google all the information they are requesting. The Armed Forces Communication and Electronic Association is currently working to educate the public and get information about the project out to the citizens. Mayor Faircloth asked about the responses from the surrounding municipalities. Lt. Waters stated the City of Warner Robins, the City of Centerville and Houston County Development Authority are on board for the project. Houston County has been contacted and is working with them on the project. Council Member Joe Posey stated if Council concurs to support the application, the City or region may not be selected for the site of the experiment. Lt. Waters stated once all the information is turned into Google they will make their decision. Mayor Faircloth stated the recommendation before Council is to support the application for the Google high tech system and appoint an appointee from the City of Perry for the project. Council Member Randall Walker motioned to authorize support for the application for Google high tech system and appoint a City appointee for the project. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Faircloth asked City Manger Lee Gilmour to take the appropriate actions to appoint personnel from the City.

11. Council Members and General Public Items – No comments.

Council Member Willie King – No report.

Council Member Riley Hunt – No report.

Council Member Randall Walker – No report.

Council Member Joe Posey – No report.

There were no items from the General Public.

12. Mayor Items. Mayor Faircloth stated he had no report.

13. Executive Session entered at 6:50 p.m.: Council Member Riley Hunt moved to adjourn the regular meeting and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of real estate acquisition and pending litigation. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

14. Executive Session adjourned; regular meeting reconvened. Council adjourned the Executive Session held March 16, 2010 and reconvened into the regular meeting.

15. Adopted Resolution No. 2010-14 stating purpose of Executive Session held March 16, 2010 was to discuss real estate acquisition and pending litigation. Council Member Joe Posey moved to adopt a resolution stating the purpose of the Executive Session held on March 16, 2010 was to discuss real estate acquisition and pending litigation. Council Member Randall Walker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. (*Resolution 2010-14 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).

Approved to proceed as recommended by Administration for purchase of parcel for the Ball Street Extension project in the amount of \$43,000.00 as discussed in executive session. Council Member Riley Hunt motioned to proceed as recommended by Administration to purchase a parcel for the Ball Street Extension project in the amount of \$43,000.00 as discussed in executive session and Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Approved to proceed with payment in the amount of \$7,500.00 for quit claim deed for the railroad interest relative to the Ball Street Extension project. Council Member Randall Walker motioned to proceed with payment in the amount of \$7,500.00 for quit claim deed for the railroad interest relative to the Ball Street Extension project as discussed in executive session and Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

16. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the reconvened meeting held March 16, 2010, Council Member Randall Walker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Joe Posey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.