

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
April 19, 2010
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held April 19, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace.

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

City Departmental Staffing: George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Deputy Chief Joel Gray – Fire Department, Brenda King - Director of Administration, Mike Beecham – Director of Community Development, Rick Kilgore – Director of Parks and Recreation, Harold Deal – City Engineer, *Annie Warren – Executive Secretary and Joni Ary - Recording Secretary.

* Annie Warren – Executive Secretary left at 5:10 p.m.

Guests: Ms. Mary Lou Simons and Mr. Keith Newton.

Press: Charlotte Perkins – Houston Home Journal.

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.
 - 3a. Review proposal to provide computerized notebooks for Mayor/Council. Ms. Annie Warren, Executive Secretary reviewed with Council the quotes for Dell notebooks. Ms. Warren advised the differences between the two quotes and that the promotional price is only for five (5) notebooks. The notebooks would be for Council onsite and would save the City approximately 2,700 pieces of paper per meeting. The information would be on the computer for Council to review the night of the meetings. Council Members would be issued a flash drive with the information to be taken home and reviewed. The cost savings for electing computerized notebooks would allow the City to purchase 2 ½ notebooks per year. Mayor Faircloth stated he liked the idea, but can also see a multiple use in the notebooks not only for Council, but other committees also. Council Member Willie King asked about information being added and how

Council will be updated. Council Member William Jackson stated he would like to see a strategy of how it will work. Mayor Faircloth asked for a dry run of how the system will work at the next City Council work session meeting and a summary of how the notebooks can be used and the cost savings for converting to paperless. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated if Council is favorable a summary will be put together which outlines the uses and cost savings. All members concurred. Mayor Faircloth also asked to find out when the deadline for the promotional price on the notebooks ends.

- 3b. Consider application with the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition relative to grant for vehicles purchase. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the request to authorize applying for grants funded by the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition. The total amount of the grant is \$440,000.00; the grant, if awarded, would be used to assist on purchasing vehicles with lower omission rates. The deadline for applying for the grant is before City Council adopts the FY 11 budget. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised the grant would pay for 80% of the cost and 20% would have to be paid by the City. The recommendation of the Administration is to proceed applying for the grant and depending on the award of the grant final approval of funding for three (3) pick-up trucks. All members concurred to proceed.
- 3c. Consideration of resolution and procurement from the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition. Mayor Faircloth reviewed with Council the request for a resolution and procurement from the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition to “Go Green”. The Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition is asking all municipalities to take steps to become a green community with water, soil and fuel conservation. The City is being asked to participate, but it is noted that it can cost more money to go green. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated the recommendation of the Administration if Council concurs, to study and report back to Council on the findings. All members concurred.
- 3d. Consideration of changing meter deposits to activation fee. Mayor Faircloth reviewed with Council the request to change the wording of meter deposits to activation fees. The Georgia Public Service Commission proposed ruling states that deposits held longer than six (6) months would accrue interest. The Houston County Board of Commissioners voted to change the language from meter deposit to activation fee. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated the recommendation of the Administration, if Council concurs, is to come back to Council with process to change the City’s policy relative to deposits. All members concurred.
- 3e. Follow up request from Lieutenant Nathan Waters relative to Google Fiber application. Mayor Faircloth passed out a proclamation for all of Houston

County Commissioners and City Council to hereby declare the area above our respective jurisdictions as “Google Airspace” to demonstrate our desire for Houston County to be selected for participation in the Google’s Fiber For Communities program. Mayor Faircloth stated if Council concurs to read and approve proclamation at tomorrow night’s City Council regular meeting. All members concurred.

- 3f. Discuss security review of City Hall. Director of Public Safety George Potter stated after review of City Hall six (6) recommendations to improve security were recommended. They are as follows: (1). additional five new cameras, (2). remove outside drop box and replace with interior built in wall drop box, (3). add a cipher lock to the entrance to the Finance Department back door, (4). move receptionist area opposite the doorway to face the entrance, (5). institute training for all employees on the use of panic alarms, and (6). institute training for building evacuations due to fire, subject with a gun, bomb threats, weather, etc. Council Member William Jackson asked that fire alarms be looked at also. Mayor Faircloth stated that he already had plans to move the receptionist area. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated the recommendations would have to be phased in and would provide to Council a cost estimate for the recommendations. Mayor Faircloth asked Director of Public Safety George Potter to speak with Dr. Thompson to see if she still has the bank’s old night deposit box when she moved to her new location. All members concurred to proceed with getting a cost estimate.
- 3g. Consider sewer problem at Summer Hill Senior Living Center. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the sewer problem at Summer Hill Senior Living Center. Summer Hill Senior Living Center has been having this problem for several years and it was originally recommended to install a grinder pump to prevent the issue. Summer Hill Senior Living Center was given the opportunity to take care of the issue themselves, but it has not been resolved. Apparently, the Center continues to flush wipes, diapers, and debris down their drains, which are causing back-up/blockages and could cause spills. The recommendation of the Administration is to notify Summer Hill Senior Living Center and proceed with installing a grinder pump. All members concurred.
- 3h. Discussion relative to taking the minutes in executive session. Mayor Faircloth stated that when Council Member William Jackson and he attend the orientation for newly elected officials there was discussion about whether minutes should be taken in executive session. There was discussion for and against taking minutes in executive session. City Attorney David Walker stated his view is that all meetings should be open to the public with the exception of having a closed meeting (executive session) to discuss personnel, pending litigation and land acquisition. The only item that can be voted on in executive session is land acquisition. City Attorney David Walker advised in his opinion the City should

continue to conduct business as we have in the past relative to executive session and not keep minutes. All members concurred to conduct business as usual and not keep minutes in executive session.

- 3i. Consider policy amendment relative to private property owners who refuses to repair their sewer line. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the request to amend City police relative to private property owners who refuse to repair their sewer line. The sewer problems are on the customer side and the customer refuses to repair the sewer line. The suggestions for addressing this issue are as follows: (a). some type of fine, (b). replace and charge, (c). give warning and correct if called back, and (d.) shut down the business and/or residence and deem unsafe and unhealthy. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated the issue is that the homeowner and/or business have been notified the problem is on their side, but refuses to repair the sewer line, they would rather the City come out every so often and blow out the line. The consensus of Council is to fine the customer with a penalty great enough that the customer will repair the sewer line. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised that he would put together an outline to bring back to Council.
- 3j. Discuss Sandefur Road sewer main easement issues. Mayor Faircloth advised Council that after discussion with Charlie McGlamery of USA Development, USA Development has agreed to work with the City to obtain the sewer main easements at Wooden Eagle Subdivision on Sandefur Road.
- 3k. Rental reimbursement request – Central Bible Fellowship Church. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the request for partial reimbursement for the rental of the Perry Arts Center. When the renter arrived the air conditioning system was not working at the Perry Arts Center, the on call personnel were called and it was determined that the air conditioner was low of Freon and damaged by vandals. The air conditioner was back up and running at 7:10 p.m. Council Member William Jackson recommended refunding the renters all of their money. Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King stated the renters are only requesting a partial reimbursement. Council Member Randall Walker asked if the renters used the facility the entire time. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised that they did. After discussion, all Council Members concurred to reimburse all the money to Central Bible Fellowship Church.
- 3l. Department of Administration presentation. Ms. Brenda King - Director of Administration reviewed with Council a power point presentation of the Department of Administration policies, procedures and operations. After conclusion of presentation various questions were asked by Council concerning general questions on operations.

3m. Financial Update – City Manager Lee Gilmour. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the financial update for FY'10 as of March 31st for all City's funds.

4. Other items as needed:

Mayor Faircloth advised that the FY'11 Operating Budget meetings will be a series of meetings beginning on, Tuesday, April 27th, Monday, May 3rd and Monday, May 10th beginning at 5:00 p.m. The public hearing for the City's FY'11 Operating Budget will be held on May 18th at City Council regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Faircloth advised Council they have been invited to the Armed Forces Communication and Electronic Association luncheon on April 29th; the luncheon will be held at Robins Air Force Base.

Mayor Faircloth advised Council of the upcoming GMA District 6 listening session on May 6th; if any Council members would like to attend please let Ms. Annie Warren know as deadline for registration is April 29th.

Mayor Faircloth stated on Wednesday, April 21st there will be an Economic Development luncheon at the Holiday Inn, if any members of Council would like to attend.

Council Member Joe Posey asked about the customer service training. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised the training should begin in a couple of weeks and Council will receive a copy of the schedule.

Council Member William Jackson advised the Interstate exit ramp to Sam Nunn Blvd. is horrible; there was trash everywhere, illegal signs posted at the intersection and pigeon droppings was under the bridge. Since that exit ramp is the one most used by visitors to Perry, it should look better. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated he would have the respective departments take a look.

5. Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.