

MINUTES  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL  
April 21, 2009  
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held April 21, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

\* Council Member Joe Kusar arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Elected Official Absent: Council Member James Moore.

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour. Departmental Staffing Mike Beecham - Director of Community Development, George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Rick Kilgore – Director of Parks and Recreation, Deputy Fire Chief Joel Gray – Fire Department, Steve Howard – Chief Building Official, Annie Warren – Executive Secretary and Joni Ary - Recording Secretary.

Guests: Mr. Penrose Wolf – Perry Housing Authority, Mrs. Penrose Wolf, Ms. Tish Chase – DDA Manager, Mr. Bob Hubbard – Planning Commission, Jimmy Faircloth – Perry Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. Mr. Ralph Gentry – Jointly Owned Natural Gas Board. Mr. Rodney Deal and Mr. Rusty Huff – Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia. Ms. Kim Martin, Ms. Shneequa Lake and Ms. Carla Hammock – Camp Character summer camp.

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

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

- 3a. Presentation: Ms. Kim Martin relative to Summer Camps. Ms. Kim Martin reviewed with Council the proposed seven (7) week Camp Character summer camp. The summer camp would begin June 1<sup>st</sup> running thru July 17<sup>th</sup> with hours of 7:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. and extended care hours of 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The extended care hours will cost an additional \$15.00 per week. The Camp Character organization is requesting use of Rozar Park facilities for the summer camp. The summer camp will be a way to reach out to the community to help develop good character traits

with our children. The summer camp will only be able to accommodate 50 children. Ms. Shneequa Lake reviewed with Council the costs associated with the summer camp as follows:

- Cost per child - \$55.00 per week
- Meals for the camp - \$7,000
- Camp Counselors/Leaders and Volunteers - \$ 16,275
- Miscellaneous expenses (t-shirts, awards, arts & crafts)- \$2,150
- Field Trips - \$3,818

The total camp expenses are \$29,243, the total revenue from camp fees are \$20,500; with \$8,743 funds needed. Ms. Shneequa Lake stated that the camp is seeking private donations and fundraisers to sponsor children. Ms. Lake stated that the camp is here to ask the City for the \$8,743 additional funds that are needed for the camp. Ms. Lake stated that Mr. Rick Kilgore, Director of Parks and Recreation, volunteered to get all the background checks for camp staff and volunteers. Ms. Lake stated that they have been talking to local churches about using their vans to transport the kids for the field trips. Mayor James Worrall asked how they will notify the public about the camp. Ms. Lake stated that due to limited space, they will be going through the recreation department to advertise. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked what happens if the camp can't get the additional funding that is needed, would they have to downscale? City Manager Lee Gilmour asked about any conflict with the camp using the senior citizens kitchen at Rozar Park. Mr. Rick Kilgore, Director of Parks and Recreation stated that there would not be any conflict, and has notified the camp to have bag lunches on those days. Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace suggested looking at some places in central Georgia that would cost less for field trips and suggested reducing the number of camp counselors and getting the teenagers to work for free. Council Member Joe Kusar asked if the City Attorney could review the liability waiver form and stated that funds are always hard to find and the City's property tax delinquency rates are the highest this year than they have ever been. There will be a short fall that will have to be dealt with in the budget. Council Member Joe Kusar suggested the money saved by individuals not attending the GMA conference in Savannah, could be made available for the summer camp. Council Member Charles Lewis stated that the issues should be separated out so as to not hold up the summer camp use at the Rozar Park facilities at no cost. Council Member Willie King suggested letting Council discuss the issue of additional funding for the camp and go ahead and proceed with authorizing the summer camp use of Rozar Park. Council Member Joe Kusar requested that Council review the budget before making any decision on funding. Council Member Joe Kusar recommended to Council to authorize Camp Character use of Rozar Park facilities at no cost for the summer camp. All members concurred.

- 3b. Discussion of Natural Gas Product Cost Comparison. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the follow up from the March 17, 2009

work session request relative to the Jointly Owned Natural Gas works. Mr. Rodney Deal and Mr. Rusty Huff from Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia presented to Council information about natural gas pricing and hedging. Currently, we are in a boom-bust industry, when production increased prices went down. Declining rig counts will affect production eventually, but will take time due to strong production rates of wells currently producing. The City of Perry hedges, but consults with an outside source for hedging decisions. The City's current hedge price for March is \$3.60 with a positive hedge of \$2.00 per unit. The natural gas rate is broken down into four components; (1) pipeline charges, (2) commodity price, (3) municipal gas authority charges and (4) City distribution margin. The pipeline charges are associated directly with firm capacity charges that are paid for the amount of Southern natural gas. The commodity charges are for molecule gas and fuel surcharges. The municipal gas authority charges are associated with general and administrative charges. The city distribution margins are used by the cities to recover monies. Council Member Joe Kusar asked if the City's monthly demand charges are based solely on the City of Perry or all the cities with the jointly owned natural gas. Ms. Rusty Huff stated that the monthly demand charges are based on the demand for the City of Perry. Those charges are good through the contract period times which are 5 -10 year contracts and the next time the contract expires will be August 2010. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that due to time and the amount of information that is being covered, he recommends referring this item to either Public Works or Administrative and Finance Oversight Committee meeting to be discussed in detail. Mayor James Worrall asked if Council concurs. All members concurred. Mr. Rodney Deal and Mr. Rusty Huff from Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia stated that they would be glad to come back and review with Council.

**Mayor James Worrall recommended due to time restrictions to have Work session items (3c.), (3d.) and (3e.) discussed at the beginning of City Council regular meeting. All members concurred.**

- 3c. Update on funding for "Go Fish" project.
  - 3d. Update on Armory improvements costs.
  - 3e. Update on County warning system.
4. Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor James Worrall adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.