

MINUTES  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL

June 2, 2009

5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held June 2, 2009 at 5:04 p.m.

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor James Worrall. Council Members Charles Lewis, Joe Kusar, Phyllis Bynum-Grace, James Moore and Willie King.

Elected Official Absent: Mayor Pro-Tempore Riley Hunt.

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour.

City Departmental Staffing: George Potter – Director of Public Safety, Deputy Fire Chief Joel Gray – Fire Department and Annie Warren - Recording Secretary.

Guests: Mr. Penrose Wolf – Perry Housing Authority, Mr. Bob Hubbard – Perry Planning Commission, Mr. Walter Woods, Ms. Becky Woods, Ms. Kim Green-Martin, Ms. Shneequa Lake, Ms. Carla Hammock, Ms. Michelle Green (Camp Character) and Mr. Jimmy Faircloth – Perry Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority.

Press: Charlotte Perkins – Houston Home Journal, and Row Jerles – Houston Home Journal.

**Not on the agenda:**

Council Member Joe Kusar advised Council of the request from Ms. Ellie Loudermilk of using the house on Northside Drive for storage and use as a museum. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised Council of his conversation with Mr. Jim Moody of renting the house to a possible tenant for a daycare center. Council Member Joe Kusar asked if the City would have to make any repairs to the house to receive any income. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated the house would be rented “as is”. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated there is a difference between what Public Safety would have required moving into the house verses a standard commercial business. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised that the house does have a termite problem and need some painting but it is not substandard enough for a commercial group not be able to rent. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked Council if the house is not rented, do they want to proceed with an

agreement allowing the house to be used as a museum. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that the agreement should be temporary, at no cost to the City and that they may be asked to move. Council concurred. Council Member Willie King asked what is the condition of the roof and was advised that the roof is fine. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that if the house is rented, then Council should advise Ms. Loudermilk that once the armory roof is repaired than they can store their items there. Council Member Charles Lewis stated this would make it a viable situation. Council Member James Moore suggested that the City Attorney draw up the agreement and Council review it. City Manager Lee Gilmour will have the City Attorney draw up the agreement and have it ready for Council to review at the next work session.

Mayor Worrall advised Council of the "Campaign Management 101" class that the Perry Chamber is hosting on June 4, 2009 in the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter. Mayor Worrall is one of the speakers and asked for suggestions from Council of items that could be included in the discussion of how to get elected for public office.

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor James Worrall.
  - 3a. Presentation Ms. Kim Green Martin – Camp Character. Ms. Green-Martin advised Council that her staff would be making the presentation this afternoon. Ms. Shneequa Lake – Director of Camp Character thanked the Council for use of the facility for the camp. Ms. Lake advised Council of concerns the organization has – when the camp was first started it was done in conjunction with the recreation department. Ms. Lake asked the Council what financial contributions can they make toward the camp. There are currently twenty-four (24) children registered for the camp with more children coming in. Ms. Lake stated that when they first proposed the camp, which they are doing in conjunction with the recreation department, they were not informed that they would have to purchase liability insurance for the camp and that a portion of their resources went toward the liability insurance. Ms. Lake stated that when they left the last meeting, they left with a liability waiver that was to be given to the City Attorney that they could give to the parents. Ms. Lake stated they did not get that, we receive a liability waiver for us to come in to do the camp. This liability waiver made it look like we took on the sole responsibility for this camp when we actually we have Mr. Kilgore and the recreation department taking an equal responsible role for doing this camp. Ms. Lake requested a model that they can use as basis to know what to expect when organizing a camp. Ms. Green-Martin shared with Council the story of a child who wanted to attend camp with his brother but could not attend because the family could not afford to send him. Council Member James Moore asked the City Manager if he would tell the group what the City can and cannot legally do. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised if Council enters into a contract with the group the City can provide what the group is

asking for from a legal standpoint. The City Manager had two concerns: 1. We are in a tight financial situation, 2. The precedence that it establishes. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised that the City is not in the social assistance business as it stands now. It has been City policy to stay out of the social assistance business other than where it can assist groups with the use of its physical assets, such as use of Creekwood Park pool or Rozar Park without charging a fee. Council approved the use of Rozar Park. If you go beyond that and start providing funding then it would be difficult for Council to say no to next the group who has a worthwhile program. Ms. Lake advised at the last meeting this was not stated. Council Member Joe Kusar advised Ms. Lake that this was discussed and Council stated they would provide use of the facility. City Manager Lee advised that when Camp Character came in and made the presentation and the proposed costs, there was an approximate \$8,000.00 shortfall. When asked how they were going to make up the shortfall, Camp Character advised they would be soliciting donations. At the meeting of the Administrative and Finance Oversight Committee, the consensus of the Committee was that the City was not in a position to provide financial assistance. Mr. Penrose Wolf – Perry Housing Authority Commissioner, advised Council that Camp Character is a worthwhile goal for the summer and is willing to make a personal contribution to the group. Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace stated that she is sorry about the shortfall and advised Camp Character that when she ran Camp Can Do she received personal donations from Council. Council Member Charles Lewis advised the reason why he suggested separating the two issues, the use of the facility and money, is because he knew the City was short on funds. Council Member Charles Lewis stated that he will make a donation to Camp Character. Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace stated that she would give a donation also. Mayor Worrall advised Council that the same week the newspaper article was published relative Camp Character, he received two requests from organizations requesting assistance.

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

Mayor Worrall congratulated Public Safety Director George Potter, of the recognition from the Chief's Association acknowledgment of the Perry Police Department.

Deputy Chief Joel Gray shared with the Council that the fire truck is back. Mr. Potter advised that the truck is 90% complete.

Mayor Worrall advised Council of the requirement to appoint two members of Council to the Pension Committee. Mayor Worrall advised that he asked Council Members Joe Kusar and Willie King to serve and they agreed. Council concurred.

Mayor Worrall advised Council that he asked Council Member James Moore to work with him on the Water Conservation program and he agreed. Council concurred.

Council Member James Moore asked about the appliances/repair at Rozar Park. City Manager Lee advised this has been taken care of.

Council Member Willie King asked for a status on Westwood Trailer Park. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised that Mr. Rick Saunders, Saunders Engineering Consultants, Inc. has received proposals from surveyors. City Manager Lee Gilmour will follow up with Mr. Saunders.

Council Member Charles Lewis – No.

Council Member Joe Kusar advised Council that he had a conversation with Mr. Carl Lumpkin relative to Big Indian Creek trail north end. Council Member Joe Kusar asked City Manager Lee Gilmour if he would be available Friday morning to meet with him and Mr. Lumpkin at Big Indian Creek trail. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised yes and Council Member Joe Kusar advised Council that they are welcome to come as well.

Mayor Worrall advised Council that they are invited to the opening of Flat Creek Park on June 5, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace asked Mr. Potter and Deputy Chief Gray how the Junior Police Academy was going. They stated well. City Manager Lee Gilmour advised everyone that the academy is funded by donations.

City Manager Lee Gilmour advised Council of two updates. At the last work session Mayor Pro-Tempore Riley Hunt had concerns relative the sign content at Lubefast. Director of Community Development – Mike Beecham spoke to the owner, the owner was not inclined to make a change. There is a delay in the opening of Creekwood Park pool. We are waiting on the inspection from the State.

Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace followed up on the information of opening a new business in Perry. City Manager Lee Gilmour this has been taking care of, there is a sign in sheet in Community Development to track citizens' requests and Mr. Beecham will provide Council a monthly report.

City Manager Lee Gilmour advised that he and Council Member Bynum-Grace are working together to compile a list for other groups similar to

Camp Character to use when they come in requesting use of a City facility/funding.

5. Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor James Worrall adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.