

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

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

2. Roll:

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

* Council Member Willie King arrived at 5:15 p.m.

Elected Official Absent: Council Member James Moore.

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

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

Guests: Mr. Penrose Wolf – Perry Housing Authority, Mr. Jimmy Faircloth – Perry Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority, Mr. Randall Walker and Mr. William Jackson – DDA.

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

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

- 3a. Review of Fencing Installation Policy. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the fencing installation policy. The policy states that fencing would be installed on City property, maintenance of the fence would be the responsibility of the City, and access gate(s) shall be provided if needed. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that when a City public project may cause a conflict with a private property owner the City will install fencing; i.e. Big Indian Creek walking trail. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked if Council concurs to proceed to present at next City Council meeting for approval. Council concurred.

- 3b. Review of System damage cost. City Manager Lee Gilmour presented to Council a memo outlining damage to the City's water/sewer system. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated the damages are the responsibility of the listed party. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that if Council concurs he will notify the affected party of the damage to the City's water/sewer system and the charges. Council concurred.
- 3c. Review of disability transportation options. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the disability transportation options. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the City does not have any public transportation or the funding for public transportation. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that he just wanted to make Council aware of the requests.
- 3d. Review of Employee Benefits.
1. Review of Sick Leave Incentive program. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the memo about the City's sick leave incentive program. The program will pay an employee a varying amount if the employee does not use more than one (1) day of sick leave in the prior calendar year. The program was created in 1997 as an incentive to accumulate sick leave. As of 6.24.09, only five employees have the maximum number of hours. The Administration recommends the current program be replaced with one that adds your cumulative sick leave to your retirement calculation regardless of when you separate from the City as long as you are vested. Council Member Joe Kusar asked what is the maximum amount of sick leave you can accumulate. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated 640 hours. Council Member Joe Kusar asked what happens to sick leave if you leave the City. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the employee would lose the time. Council Member Willie King asked about employees abusing sick leave. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the City watches for patterns and employees may have to show a doctor's excuse for time off. Mayor James Worrall asked if Council needs to make a decision tonight. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that it is for discussion.
 2. Review of Holiday Impact. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the holiday impact memo. The holiday impact shows based on the current salary date what the costs would be relative to costs paid with no production \$14,892 and extra costs of \$5,885, these costs would be paid even if no holiday occurred. The extra cost refers mostly to the Public Safety department due to their working hours.
- 3e. Review of screening gates for Solid Waste pick up for City vehicles. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the proposed screening gates for the City dumpsters. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the chain link with slats is the cheapest and most cost effective. City Manager

Lee Gilmour stated that the City would set the standards for the other businesses that have dumpsters in public view. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that he would like the chain link to be taller than the dumpster. Council Member Willie King asked about littering inside the fencing for the dumpster. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that if there is litter then the business would get a warning and/or ticket. Mr. William Jackson stated that every new business coming into the downtown area must have a solid fencing around the dumpster. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the chain link fencing with slats meet the City's requirements. Council Member Joe Kusar asked what other cities are doing and Council Member Willie King asked them to be compared to the downtown areas also. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that he would look at the alternative options suggested and report back to Council.

- 3f. Discussion of water levels. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the recommendation from the Public Works department to move the City to EPD Level 3 – which would only allow irrigation water only once a week. The recommendation of the administration would be not to go to EPD Level 3, but to send out notices to all customers to adhere to the current water restrictions and timing. All members concurred with the recommendation from the Administration.
- 3g. Discussion of nomination of citizens for the WRATS citizens committee. City Manager Lee Gilmour discussed with Council the citizen's committee nominations for WRATS. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the City would need to appoint two (2) citizens. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked Council to let him know of any persons that would be interested in serving.
- 3h. Consider requirements for burial in City cemeteries. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the proposed requirements for funeral homes to bury in the City cemeteries. The funeral homes would be required to fill out a permit or information form before burying anyone, and anyone buried in the cemetery would be required to have granite, marble, concrete or brass marker stating the name of the deceased and date of death. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that he has spoken with the City attorney and was advised that 'yes' the City can have cemetery requirements if the requirements are beneficial to the operation of the cemetery. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked if Council concurred to proceed. All members concurred.
- 3i. Review of election law requirements. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the election law requirements. Mr. John Walker – City Attorney is present to answer any questions Council may have. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the City has five (5) seats coming up in the 2009 General Election. The State law states that if an elected official

resigns their seat, that seat is considered vacant immediately, if a current Council member runs for another office that position becomes vacant upon qualifying. The State laws only apply to elected officials. Mayor James Worrall stated that the State also requires newly elected officials to attend a three (3) day class.

- 3j. Consideration of banning plumbing contractors from working in City. City Manager Lee Gilmour reviewed with Council the request to ban certain plumbing contractors from working in the City. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that during the building “boom”, plumbing contractors did not make the connection on the sewer lateral to the main. Since the recent discovery the building inspection department is inspecting from the stub-out. Council Member Joe Kusar suggested giving the plumbing contractors due process before they are banned from working in the City. Council Member Willie King stated that the connection could have been knocked loose from dirt while contractor was filling up hole. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the recommendation per legal review would be to send out a warning and if City continues to have problems then go through due process of banning the contractors from working in the City. All Council members concurred to proceed.
- 3k. Consider offering public safety leadership presentation for local public safety agencies. Mayor Pro-Tempore Riley Hunt stated that he recently attended the Georgia Funeral program which offered an Exceptional Leadership class. Mayor Pro-Tempore Riley Hunt stated that the class was exceptional and would encourage everyone to attend the class. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that if Council concurs to proceed the City’s obligation would be housing for one night for the presenters’. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that the class would need at least 40 participants and recommended contacting local law and health agencies to attend class. Mayor James Worrall stated that some of the discussion items for the class would tie in with the incident command center and also dealing with swine flu. Council Member Joe Kusar asked if Mayor Worrall could recommend the class to the Vision 20/20 group. Mayor Worrall stated that the next Vision 20/20 meeting is tomorrow and he would discuss the class with the group. City Manager Lee Gilmour asked if Council concurs to proceed. All members concurred.

4. Other items as needed:

Mayor James Worrall asked Council if they had any concerns:

Council Member Joe Kusar - Passed out a copy of the VA Pledge/Mission and stated that he would like to have a survey for citizens to fill out about customer service. Council Member Joe Kusar stated that he would like to

discuss at an Administrative and Finance Oversight Committee meeting and then provide a presentation to Council.

Council Member Willie King – Asked about the status of the engineer report for Westwood Trailer Park. City Manager Lee Gilmour stated that he has not heard anything.

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