

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 6, 2007

1. Call to Order: Chairman James Worrall, Mayor called to order the work session meeting held February 6, 2007 at 5:00 p.m..

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor James Worrall, Presiding. Mayor Pro-Tempore Joe Kusar. Council Members: Phyllis Bynum-Grace (*5:30 p.m.), Bobby Glover, Riley Hunt and James Moore.

Elected Officials Absent: Council Member Brian Bowen.

Staff/Guests/Press: City Manager Lee Gilmour. Departments: Department of Public Works: George Potter, Director and Ken Ezell, Detective. Finance/Administration Director Brenda King. Press: Ms. Charlotte Perkins, Houston Journal and Ayanna McPhail, Macon Telegraph.

- February 20, 2007 meeting time changed to 7:00 p.m.: Mayor James Worrall announced the February 20, 2007 meeting of the Perry City Council will need to be rescheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. in order for the Adult Leadership Perry Class activities.

3. Items of review and discussion:

- 3a. Council advised of selection of Perry for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Spring 2007 - Resource Team: City Manager Lee Gilmour announced the City being approved for a Spring 2007 GA/DCA Quality Resource Team meeting in Perry. The initial kick off meeting is scheduled with some of the team members on Monday, February 12, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at City Hall. Council was encouraged to attend the kick off meeting. The work sessions of the group will begin March 26-30, 2007. Department of Community Development is serving as the group's City host. Focus of the group is on the commercial areas of the community.

- 3b. Council concurs with City making contact with its local legislative delegation relative to City annexation rights: The Manager advised Council there is a strong push from the Association of County Managers of Georgia to have the General Assembly pass legislation which would greatly restrict the ability of City's to annex statewide. The Manager suggested to the Council, if agreeable, that the City notify it's legislative delegation, that the process of annexation should remain as is and should be worked out between County and a City at the local level and would not

favor restricting a property owners' right to request annexation into the City. Council Members concurred with the City contacting the body as suggested.

Mayor James Worrall also noted the legislation proposed regarding franchise fee caps and that the City needs to keep a watch on that and keep up with this legislation. Council Member Joe Kusar inquired if the County Commission's review of the Georgia Power's charging of a franchise fee to County customers to pay the City's franchise fee was ever resolved? The Manager advised that this is still in a review, no resolution, suggested the City should remain neutral on the matter. The Manager noted that the importance of collection of franchise fees relieves the burden on the property taxpayers.

- 3c. Public Safety Director seeks tighter regulatory ordinance on coin operated amusement video machines - Council concurs with City Manager and City Attorney to meet with Public Safety Director to discuss: City Manager reviewed the status on the coin operated amusement video machines. The Manager reviewed that the concern first came forth to the City from Department of Public Safety over illegal payouts. The Council put an ordinance in place to give some controls and separate licensing and distance requirements. The original regulatory ordinance was in place approximately a year (adopted July 19, 2005), when an amendment ordinance was prepared by the City's Attorney and subsequently adopted by the Council (adopted November 21, 2006). The amendment ordinance was passed to address action taken by the General Assembly, that removed the authority that local governments had for licensing, shifting the license to the State. (City could not license and have the regulatory fees). This further impacted what the City could do regarding the holding of the license (criteria for holding license was no longer with the City). The distance requirements the City originally had in place were reviewed and the City's amendment included a change in the language regarding distance requirements that parallel with the City's set requirement criteria as in the alcohol sales distance. Chief George Potter advised Council that his department enforced, two weeks ago, several cases and seizures of the video machines due to his understanding of the distance requirements from Churches, however they have been challenged due to the way in which they charged owners for the violation. Chief Potter reviewed statistics for increased robberies and other crimes resulting from having the activity in convenience stores. Chief asked that the City look at tightening its ordinance up so that they can enforce. City Manager Lee Gilmour suggested Chief Potter and he meet with David Walker, City Attorney and review the ordinance further. The Manager expressed that he would be surprised to find if a local government can ban something that the State law allows. Council to be advised after this meeting of the recommendation from staff.

4. Other:

- Public Safety radio contact/and E-911 system discussed: The Council was briefed on the current status of the multi-jurisdictional advantages of having a centralized radio frequency for area response teams. There was general discussion regarding the area agencies the City has on the same 800 mhz frequency. The Manager noted that the E-911 system is operated on percentage basis for the governmental entities participating.
- Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace: Ms. Grace reported to the Council she's hearing from neighbors in the Whipple Street area concerned with a business operation (Smith Drive/Whipple Street) starting as early as 6 a.m. and as late as 6-7 p.m., working 7 days a week. Heavy equipment being operated seven days a week. The Manager will look into the matter.
- Bill Court - a resident of Northside Drive expressed concern with lack of stripping on Northside Drive.
- Charlotte Perkins, Writer - The Houston Journal inquire when the City is planning to install a walking path at Rozar Park? Council Member Glover advised that Creekwood Park has a paved walking track.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Council at the work session meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.