

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
November 19, 2013
6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer, called to order the regular meeting of the Perry City Council held November 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll.

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

Elected Official Absent: Council

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, City Attorney David. Walker and Cyndi Houser, Recording Clerk.

City Departmental Staffing: Fire Chief Joel Gray – Perry Fire and Emergency Services, Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Mike Beecham – Director of Community Development, Brenda King - Director of Finance and Administration, and Mary Beth Bass – Economic Development Director.

Guests/Speakers: Mr. Penrose Wolf, Mr. James Joyner, Colin Scarbrough, Mr. Wynn Scarbrough, Mr. Alton Ellis, Ms. Sharon Kelly, Mr. Chad McMurrian and Mr. Ryan Bode.

Press/Media: Ms. Ruth Lehenbauer - ComSouth 100, Mr. Chris Hogan – Houston Home Journal, and Ms. Christina Wright, Macon Telegraph.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Rev. Willie King of Faith Bible Fellowship gave the invocation and Colin Scarbrough, BSA Troup 96, led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

4. Recognition and Award of Performance: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- Mr. Alton Ellis, Department of Recreation, was recognized by Mayor Faircloth for going above and beyond to increase the number of enrollees in the basketball program by placing signage near the elementary schools and sending flyers to previous participants. This resulted in nearly doubling the participants from last year. Mr. Ellis acknowledged his co-workers efforts which were and are instrumental in making the City's Recreation Department one of the best in the area.
- Ms. Sharon Kelly, Mr. Chad McMurrian and Mr. Ryan Bode, on behalf of ESG Operations, Inc., were recognized by Mayor and Council for three awards for 2013: Water Distribution System, Water Collection System and the Wastewater Treatment Plant for Public Education by the Georgia Water Association Professionals. The Public Education award was a first time entry and was given for the nature trail developed and

maintained by the staff of ESG. The trail is maintained strictly by donations and is available for tours six (6) days a week. Mayor Faircloth commended the many previous awards and the efforts of the entire team to make the City's water and wastewater plant a superior operation.

5. Citizens with Input.

None.

6. Consent Agenda Items: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- 6a. Council Consideration – Minutes of November 4, 2013 work session, November 5, 2013, pre council meeting and November 5, 2013 council meeting.

Council Member Bynum-Grace motioned to approve the November 4, 2013 work session minutes. Council Member Hunt seconded the motion; motion carried with Council Member King abstaining.

Council Member King motioned to approve the November 5, 2013 pre council minutes and November 5, 2013 council minutes. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion; motioned carried with Council Member Walker abstaining.

7. Old Business: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

7a. Mayor Faircloth – No report

7b. Council/Manager/Attorney – No report

8. New Business: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- 8a. Matters referred from the November 18, 2013 work session and November 19, 2013 pre council meeting.

1. Mr. Penrose Wolf of the City of Perry Housing Authority.

Mr. Wolf, Chairman of the Perry Housing Authority, and Mr. James Joyner, Executive Director, gave an operations report for FY13 which ended in March. The City does not have any legal liability for the Housing Authority, but the Authority likes to keep the City apprised of its operations. They reported that HUD funding to the capital funds was decreased by over \$88,000 resulting in an operating loss. However, funds are being re-allocated this fiscal year. The eviction of three (3) residents and the repair of those units also contributed to the operating loss. Mr. Joyner urged the public to ask about volunteer opportunities, including repair and/or replacement of some of the playground equipment for the children living there. He further stated the goal of the Housing Authority is to provide safe, decent and sanitary living conditions.

- 8b. Matters referred from the November 18, 2013 work session and November 19, 2013 pre council meeting:

1. Approved proceeding with purchase of property discussed during the November 18, 2013 executive session. Mayor Faircloth reviewed the discussion of entering into a contract to purchase certain real estate. Council Member King moved to approve the purchase of certain real estate; Council Member Jackson seconded. The motion carried with Council Member Hunt opposing.
2. Approved restricting all part-time and seasonal employees to no more than 25 hours per week. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the possible impact on the City's health care costs from the Affordable Care Act with regard to part-time and seasonal employees working more than 25 hours per week. The Administration's recommendation is to limit all part-time and seasonal employees to no more than 25 hours per week. Council Member King moved to restrict all part-time and seasonal employees to no more than 25 hours per week; Council Member Jackson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
3. Approved canceling December 16th and December 17th council meetings. Mayor Faircloth noted that Council traditionally cancels the last work session and council meetings in the month of December due to the holidays. He then entertained a motion to consider the cancelation of these meetings. Council Member King moved to cancel the December 16th and December 17th council meetings; Council Member Posey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ordinance(s) for First Reading and Introduction.

First Reading of an ordinance amending City of Perry FY 13 Operating Budget. (*No action required by Council*).

8d. Award of Bid(s):

1. Awarded Southern Champion Construction, Inc. the bid for the WPCP Improvements Project. Mr. Gilmour presented for Council's consideration bids for improvements to the Frank Satterfield Wastewater facility. These improvements are required as a part of the ongoing permitting process. Staff recommendation was to award the bid to low bidder, Southern Champion Construction, Inc., for \$4,079,893.00. Mr. Gilmour advised funding would come from the 2007 Water and Sewer Revenue Bond. Council Member Walker motioned to award the bid to Southern Champion Construction Company Inc., in the amount of \$4,079,893.00. Council Member Hunt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Awarded Vigilant Solutions the bid for a license plate recognition system for the Perry Police Department. Chief Lynn presented for Council's consideration bids for a license plate recognition system. The Police Department field tested several systems, obtained references from other law enforcement agencies, and felt this system met all the requirements as well as coming in under the budgeted amount. Staff recommended Vigilant Solutions/Synergistic Solutions, Inc. be qualified as a sole source provider and awarded the bid of \$22,775.00

for the license plate recognition system. Council Member Jackson motioned to award the bid to Vigilant Solutions/SSI in the amount of \$22,775.00. Council Member Walker seconded and it carried unanimously.

8e. Authorize easement and use of a portion of Calhoun Park for utilities for Windstream. Mr. Gilmour presented an easement agreement proposal from Windstream Communications, LLC, for the use of some of their telecommunications equipment in Barbara Calhoun Park. The easement will not interfere with the use of the park and approval would be subject to review by City Attorney Walker. Administration recommended approval of the easement. Council Member King motioned the approval to authorize an easement agreement with Windstream Communications, LLC subject to review by the City Attorney Walker. Council Member Jackson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Department Head Items.

Chief Lynn reported that Officer Chapman had been awarded an expert drug rating certification; there are currently three (3) K-9 teams in training at the Ag Center for national certification.

Chief Gray thanked the police department for their assistance during two fires which stretched the assets of the Department. He also reported the Department assisted with a record number of seven (7) motor vehicle accidents on Sunday.

Mr. Beecham stated Meramac Grove at the Grand Reserve subdivision has a new builder, Custom Homes, which pulled three (3) permits this week. The new builder is planning to build out the subdivision which will add to the tax base.

Ms. Bass reminded Mayor and Council of the November 20th meeting with the Georgia Recreation officials and the launch of the master plan meeting for November 21st. Ms. Bass also announced that the Worrall Foundation would be hosting a book signing of local author Conrad Boterweg at the Perry Historical Society on Saturday November 30th from 2-4 pm with proceeds going to the Foundation.

Ms. King reported that the “Go-Green” Campaign, which started in October, has been very successful. The capability to pay on-line is because of the new software and the public only needs to provide an e-mail address. Mayor Faircloth complimented the ease of signing up for this service.

10. Council Member and General Public Items. Members of Council did not have any reports; Mr. Gilmour and City Attorney David Walker did not have any reports.

11. Mayor Items.

Mayor Faircloth reminded Council:

- Taste of Perry will be December 5 at the Ag Center
- Hotel/Motel consultant meeting, December 6 at the CVB

- City Christmas Party on December 6 at 5:30 pm at the Perry Arts Center.
- Annual Christmas parade December 7 at 4pm.
- Christmas at the Square, December 8
- Grand opening of the Artisan Center at the Welcome Center, December 10.
- First annual Buzzard Drop in downtown Perry on December 31, from 9pm – 1 am

Mayor Faircloth noted that the November and December “Walks with Mayor and Council” fall just before holidays. It was the consensus of the Council to cancel November and December and begin again in January 2014. A concerted effort will be done to make the public aware that this is a way to speak with the Mayor or any council member about issues of concern in their district or the City in general. Mayor and Council wished Christina Wright, Macon Telegraph, success in her new position with a paper in Memphis, Tennessee.

12. Adjourn. There being no further business to come before Council Mayor Faircloth adjourned the November 19, 2013 Council meeting at 6:57pm.