

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
March 17, 2014
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held January 6, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: Councilman Joe Posey

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour and Recording Clerk, Nancy Graham

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

Guests/Speakers: Mr. Lee Smallwood, Robbie Weaver, David Forrester and Jeff George.

Press: Don Moncrief, Houston Home Journal

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr

3a. Update from Utility Service Group relative to water tank maintenance: Mr. David Forrester submitted to Council a letter summarizing his recommendation for Utility Service Group to continue as the City of Perry's provider for tank maintenance. He also presented his responses to the discussion at the February 3, 2014 work session concerning the maintenance of the City's water storage tanks.

Mr. Forrester asked if Council had any questions of him.

Councilman Hunt stated that after the February meeting, he went to the Holiday Inn tank and noticed areas he felt were not up to normal standards. Mr. Forrester advised that repairs have been made since the last meeting. Councilman Hunt asked if there was a tank found out of date. Mr. Forrester responded, no. Councilman Hunt inquired about the leakage that occurred while sandblasting. Mr. Forrester stated the leakage could be due to stress areas and movement. Mr. Forrester advised the hairline fracture was spotted by the contractor while sandblasting. Mr. Forrester advised the leakage was repaired.

Councilman King asked Mr. Forrester if a report is given to Mr. Gilmour following inspections. Mr. Forrester advised an annual inspection is performed and a report is sent to Mr. Harold Deal and ESG Operations, Inc. Councilman King also questioned

the life cycle of a tank. Mr. Forrester advised with proper maintenance, the tanks will last for the duration.

Mr. Jeff George addressed Council and reiterated the importance of proper tank maintenance and the life cycle of tanks.

Mayor Faircloth requested that Mr. Forrester provide a schedule outlining the service history on the tanks and forward to Council.

Mayor Faircloth advised this item will be an agenda item at the work session meeting in April.

- 3b. Consider supporting Ocmulgee National Park and Preserve Initiative: Ms. Bass asked Council to pass a resolution expressing the City's support to expand the boundaries of the Ocmulgee National Monument and National Wildlife Refuge. Mayor Faircloth advised Mr. Gilmour to add as an agenda item at the March 18, 2014 regular meeting.
- 3c. Consider naming walking trail at Rozar Park: As discussed at a prior meeting, the Council requested a series of suggestions to be submitted as names for the walking trail at Rozar Park. Names were submitted and provided to Council. Mr. Gilmour requested each Council member to select four (4) to five (5) names from the list to be discussed at the next work session. Council concurred.
- 3d. Department of Recreation: (1) Consider removal of pavilion room at Creekwood Park – Council agreed to remove the kitchen/storage area at the end of the pavilion. Mr. Gilmour advised that it is a safety issue with the City's insurer and its removal would provide a clear view through the pavilion which is an advantage to public safety personnel. Tables and chairs will be provided when the pavilion is rented. Council concurred. (2) Upgrade lighting at Worrall Community Center gym – Mr. Gilmour advised Council the lighting at the gym needs to be upgraded/replaced. The funding will come from SPLOST 12. Council gave authorization to go out to bid to include the estimated energy savings and how the product will be warranted.
- 3e. Outline of additional firefighters cost: Following up on Council's request for the cost of hiring additional firefighters, Mr. Gilmour provided information outlining the estimated cost of additional firefighters as well as funding options.
- 3f. Follow up response for Purple Heart City request: Mr. Gilmour advised he had spoken to Mr. John Flener. Mr. Flener requested a proclamation to give the City of Perry a Purple Heart designation. The proclamation will help build statewide support for Congress to declare certain federal highways honoring Purple Heart recipients. Mayor Faircloth advised this item be placed on the March 18, 2014 regular meeting agenda.
- 3g. Update on inspections: Mr. Beecham advised Council of the situation with Crossroads Motel. According to Georgia law, inspections are allowed only when a building is converted from one use class to another and/or when a permit is issued. Mr. Beecham also noted that Gwinnett County does an annual inspection of apartments.

Council agreed to continue under the City's current statutes and advised Mr. Beecham to contact Gwinnett County.

- 3h. Consideration of water plant #2 painting: Mr. Gilmour presented to Council a list of areas in need of repainting and cost. Council advised Mr. Gilmour to proceed with the repairs at a cost of \$34,016.00.
- 3i. Discussion of waiver process to keep wild animals, livestock and fowl: A City resident is requesting a waiver from Council to keep a goat on his property. Mr. Beecham advised Council of the animal control ordinance **Sec 4-28. Keeping of wild animals, livestock, or fowl.** A public hearing will be held on this item at the March 18, 2014 regular meeting.
- 3j. Follow up information on power upgrade on Carroll Street: The Perry Area Chamber of Commerce has requested an upgrade to the electric power in the 800 block of Carroll Street. The project cost is \$11,000.00.

Council concurred to proceed. Council advised future projects should be kept in mind when upgrade is installed.

4. Department Heads Items:

Ms. King advised David Ragan did not meet bid award. Reminder - approaching 90 days for the 2013 taxes before a penalty is applied.

Ms. Bass advised the Family Motor Coach Association is at the fairgrounds; Houston County Development Authority scheduled the Industry of Appreciation Reception, April 14, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.; Robins Regional Chambers of Commerce Eggs and Issues, March 20, 2014; Thank you for support at the Strategic Planning Kickoff meeting.

Chief Lynn reported that from a law enforcement standpoint, Peaches to Beaches went well and his staff is currently patrolling the fairgrounds.

Chief Gray advised repairs (grease trap) at Station #2 is scheduled for March 18, 2014; Chief Gray also thanked Council for their support in considering additional staff.

Mr. Beecham – No report

Mr. Gilmour – No report

5. Council Member Items:

Councilman Jackson, Mayor Pro- Tempore Walker, Councilman Bynum-Grace – No report

Councilman King advised he has been contacted by Mr. Harold Deal relative to the Westwood and Creekwood projects.

Councilman Hunt asked how the Council was going to address the tank issue. Mayor Faircloth advised Mr. Gilmour, following his review of all information submitted, make a

recommendation to Council relative to keeping the City's current provider or bid it out to make the best decision and best value for Perry's citizens.

6. Adjourn: There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. adjourned the March 17, 2014 work session meeting at 7:15 p.m.