

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
July 01, 2013

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held July 01, 2013.

2. Roll:

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

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour.

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Joel Gray – Fire & Emergency Services Department, Deputy Chief David Stanton, Chief Steve Lynn – Police Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mary Beth Bass – Director of Economic Development, Michael Beecham – Director of Community Development, Susan Miles – Revenue Collection Manager and Christine Sewell - Recording Secretary.

Guests: Ms. Vickie Graham, Ms. Carrie Harkin, and Ms. Angie Jett.

Press: Ms. Jessica Clark – Houston Home Journal.

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

- 3a. Request from Boy Scout Troop #96 for use of Jaycees' building

Mayor Faircloth advised he received a request for use of the old Jaycees' building from the troop as their current meeting space agreement was ending at year's end. Ms. Angie Jett of Cub Scout Pack #419 addressed Council and advised both the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts would use the facility on Mondays, every third and fourth Tuesday, excluding summer months, store two small cargo trailers and utilize as a staging area for outings. Mayor Faircloth inquired how many participants; Ms. Jett advised 80 to 90 between both troops. Council Member Hunt inquired responsibility of the trailers when left on site; Ms. Harkin advised the Boy Scouts of America would be solely responsible and insurance is carried on both of them.

Mayor Faircloth advised the troop leaders the City recently came into possession of the building and there has been no consensus of a future use of the property either on a permanent or temporary basis. Mr. Gilmour voiced concern that any furniture needs required may not be suitable for the troops and recommended the troop leaders contact Mr. Mike Beecham to tour the facility.

On conclusion of discussion Mayor Faircloth tasked Mr. Beecham with bringing

back to Council for further review a report on what would need to be accomplished to have the building ready for occupants immediately and a time frame for completion.

- 3b. Authorize transfer of surplus city vehicle to Perry-Houston County Airport Authority.

Mayor Faircloth advised he was contacted by Airport Manager Patsy Goff on the current condition of their two courtesy vehicles the airport provides for pilots' use and the extreme need for replacement. Their current vehicles consist of a van that is barely running and a car, which has gone out of service and not worth repairing. Mayor Faircloth was requested when an opportunity arose for the City to donate a surplus vehicle, could the airport be considered as done in the past. Mayor Faircloth was advised by Chief Lynn the Police Department has one scheduled for surplus and could provide as early as this week. Council Member Hunt inquired who paid the insurance; Mayor Faircloth advised the Airport Authority. On conclusion it was the concurrence of Council to proceed with the transfer of a surplus City vehicle to the Perry-Houston County Airport Authority; matter will be brought forth to Council at their regular meeting July 2nd for final approval.

- 3c. Consider public notice process for City boards and commissions.

Mr. Gilmour advised the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in recently reviewing their by-laws felt some type of public notice such as in the City newsletter, website, and public advertisement could be done when filling a board vacancy to encourage citizen involvement. Mr. Gilmour agreed with idea as it showed government transparency and was an additional way to reach out to the community. Council concurred with process to be implemented for all of its authorities, boards, and commissions.

- 3d. Discuss priority of streets for resurfacing.

Mr. Gilmour provided a list of City streets to be resurfaced under the GDOT Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant program for FY2014. Mr. Gilmour advised from a staff standpoint all streets listed need resurfacing, but some should be a higher priority and requested of Council their top priorities. Council Member King inquired how much funding was available; Mr. Gilmour advised \$132,600. Council Member Jackson felt staff was best to determine priority need. Mr. Gilmour advised Airport Road Extension should be placed first and would confer with staff on the others. Council Member Walker inquired as to why Airport Road Extension; Mr. Beecham advised there is a high volume of thru traffic and there had been an issue with heavy trucks, but recently a "No thru Trucks" sign was posted and should alleviate problem. On conclusion of discussion it was the consensus of Council to place Airport Road Extension as a top priority with staff to review and provide recommendation for other streets.

- 3e. Review proposed maintenance agreement with GDOT for certain DOT route maintenance.

Mr. Gilmour reviewed with Council the agreement for the mowing and litter control of right-of-way State routes within the City's jurisdiction. It was noted the agreement did not include I-75. Mr. Gilmour advised the City is currently mowing Sam Nunn Blvd., U.S. 41, and Perry Parkway, which the agreement included and would generate \$100,178 annually. Concern arose that additional staff would need to be hired, as well as equipment purchased. Mr. Gilmour advised at least one additional staff member would need to be hired. Council Member Hunt inquired the benefits of saying no; Mr. Gilmour advised none. Mayor Pro Tempore Posey felt the State would be the ones benefiting and some areas in the City are currently being mowed. Mayor Faircloth noted it was likely the areas in the agreement would be cut more than once and the City would benefit in getting payment for what we are already cutting. Council Member Jackson asked for the actual mileage of what is not being maintained now; Council Member Walker felt the \$2,600 per mile was not sufficient. Mr. Gilmour advised he would perform an additional review to cover the costs of staff and equipment that would be needed, but felt it should only be one position. Council requested staff to provide figures for additional staff and equipment and a map depicting the areas the City is currently maintaining.

3f. Provision of information of interest from Georgia Municipal Association 2013 annual meeting.

Mayor Faircloth asked each member of Council for comment/input.

Council Member Hunt: Courses need a formatting change, more visuals, and qualified instructors; Mayor Pro Tempore Posey agreed.

Council Member Walker: Lower level courses could be taught on line.

Council Member Bynum-Grace: There needed to be more availability of courses; Council Member Jackson agreed, and there should be advanced and best practice courses. Council Member Bynum-Grace mentioned she had some ideas she would bring forth at a later date of future possibilities for the City she had learned of.

Mayor Pro Tempore Posey provided information on what has been done in other cities for leisure activities.

Mayor Faircloth provided a briefing on the Ethics course and encouraged all of Council to share any thoughts/ideas they may have.

4. Other items as needed:

Mayor Faircloth asked if any members of Council had any items for discussion; members of Council did not have any reports.

Mayor Faircloth asked if any members of staff had items for discussion:

Mr. Gilmour advised bids had been received for the landscaping of the Davis Farm Station and per the memorandum provided it was recommended to approve Paulk

Landscaping in the amount of \$36,500.00. Council Member Jackson requested confirmation of what is being provided is what was designed; it was noted Mr. Steve Gray had been contracted oversee the project. Item will be placed on Council's July 2nd regular agenda for approval.

Mr. Gilmour asked for Council's consideration of July 5th as a paid holiday for City employees. Council concurred.

Mr. Gilmour provided a memorandum requesting consideration from the Parks & Recreation Department for the adjustment of the recently adopted proposed fees for various sports programs, there is a concern if fees became too high the programs will not remain competitive. Council Member Jackson inquired what effect this would have on the budget; Mr. Gilmour advised if a reduction is done the department would still be between 85% and 90% of their budget. Mayor Faircloth voiced concern that if lowered, the fees would not cover the program costs and if there were not enough participants for certain sports there may be a need to look into the viability of those programs. Council Members Hunt and Jackson questioned why this issue was not raised during the budget process. Mayor Pro Tempore Posey expressed concern with participants from outside the City and felt there should be a way to balance out fairly. Discussions continued with the obvious need to provide recreation programs for the citizens, but to charge fairly for those programs with consensus being the proposed fees as approved in the current fiscal year budget remain, but after each sporting program participation, costs, and fees be evaluated with figures to be brought back in the fall for Council's review.

Mr. Gilmour advised there is a potential purchaser for the single seat airplane on the City's delinquent personal property tax roll and it is Administration's recommendation the past due tax amount be waived to allow for the sale of the aircraft. Council concurred with the recommendation of Administration.

Mr. Gilmour provided a listing of outstanding personal property taxes in the amount of \$18,478.02 which the Administration is requesting to have written off, as numerous collection attempts have been made with no success for reasons such as business is closed, change of ownership, bankruptcy, etc. Council concurred with the recommendation of Administration.

Ms. Bass reminded Council of the upcoming MBA Youth World Championship Barrel Racing event coming to the fairgrounds July 20th – 27th; an estimated 55,000 people are expected to attend this week long event. Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a tour of the Frito Lay facility on August 6th; and August 22nd the Chamber will be hosting the Legislative Appreciation Event at 5:30pm at the Go Fish Education Center.

Mr. Beecham advised he received a request from a landowner for a fruit stand not permissible by the current City ordinance. The requested location was on Houston Lake Road across from the Houston Lake Country Club. Mr. Beecham requested consideration of the request as when the ordinance was initially created it did not cover areas past Perry Parkway as they had not been in existence. Mayor Faircloth

asked if the property was in the City's jurisdiction; Mr. Beecham advised it was and was recommending approval.

Council concurred with the request and it was noted future requests would be handled on a case by case exception until it was determined if an ordinance change was necessary to include additional areas in the City not originally considered.

5. Executive Session entered at 6:55 p.m.: Council Member King moved to adjourn the work session meeting and enter into executive session for the purpose of real estate. Council Member Hunt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Adopted Resolution No. 2013-25 stating purpose of Executive Session held July 01, 2013 was to discuss real estate. Council Member Bynum-Grace moved to adopt a resolution stating the purpose of the executive session held on July 01, 2013 was to discuss real estate. Council Member King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. (*Resolution 2013-25 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the reconvened meeting held July 01, 2013, Council Member Walker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.