

**MINUTES**  
**WORK SESSION MEETING**  
**OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL**  
November 4, 2013

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth Jr., Presiding Officer called to order the work session meeting held November 04, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: Willie King

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour.

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Joel Gray – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Chief Steve Lynn – Police Department, Mary Beth Bass – Economic Development Director, Michael Beecham – Director of Community Development, Susan Miles – Revenue Collection Manager, and Recording Clerk, Christine Sewell

Guests: Mr. Paul Armistead and Mr. Raul.

Press: Chris Hogan – Houston Home Journal

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

3a. Update of Notting Hill traffic control.

Mr. Beecham provided update of neighborhood association's request for addition of seven to nine speed bumps on Haddenham Court; there is currently one in place. Mr. Armistead, representing Notting Hill, was making the request and felt the addition of the speed bumps would deter speeders going through Notting Hill to Sutton Place. Council Member Jackson voiced concern if the speed bumps would actually be a deterrent and there would be no other speed bumps in the neighborhood, and if added, it would create pods in the neighborhood. Mayor Faircloth inquired of both Chief Lynn and Chief Gray if there would be any potential problems for emergency vehicles; both felt there potentially could be. Chief Lynn advised the last three years' emergency calls were reviewed and there were no calls for accidents or speeding, but (22) suspicious vehicle calls. Council Member Walker and Mayor Pro Tempore Posey voiced concern the addition of nine was too much. Mayor Faircloth asked Mr. Armistead if he could reach out to Sutton Place Home Owners Association to try and resolve the issue and report back to Council; Mr. Armistead agreed he would, as well bring the matter to the Notting Hill Home Owners Association in December. On conclusion of discussion it was the unanimous decision of Council to deny the request.

3b. Review fire fee proposal.

Mr. Gilmour provided data on fire service calls (emergency medical and fire/other) and with respect to proposed fees the same process as stormwater be used, which is if property owners do not pay, all metered customers do.

Mr. Gilmour agreed additional fire fighters were needed and was not aware of how many residents were affected by the current ISO rating, but it was suggested to table until the next budget process to allow more time for input from homeowners. Council Member Hunt inquired if the ISO rating was changed how long before it could be changed back; Chief Gray advised within (90) days, however for insurance companies it could be anywhere from 12 to 24 months. Mayor Pro Tempore Posey advised he had spoken with a local agent and was given an estimation of a \$200 increase. Mayor Faircloth advised no one disputes the fact additional fire fighters are needed, but an acceptable resolution is required.

Council concurred to review the matter again during the FY 15 budget process which would begin in February/March.

3c. Review the 2013 Perry Music Festival.

Mr. Gilmour provided a breakdown depicting revenue and expenditures for the 2013 festival. Council was asked to consider continuing with the festival for an another year, as well as the different aspects of the festival, which may include restricting time on the stages, transferring t-shirt sales to a non-profit, cease poster sales. Council agreed to bring back matter for further discussion and decision at next Council meeting.

3d. Consideration of adjusting water/sewer rates.

Mr. Gilmour provided and reviewed data for the water/sewer system revenue fund, along with consumption data. Concerns were raised on the figure of zero consumption meters and if some may actually be irrigation meters. Mayor Pro Tempore Posey inquired if the zero consumption meter locations could be checked to clarify vacancy; Mr. Gilmour advised clarification could be done and findings will be brought back to Council. Mr. Gilmour noted there would be an estimated \$650,000 short fall for 2014 and is recommending an increase of 2 1/2 % to 3%. On conclusion of discussion it was the consensus of Council to implement on consumption only an increase of 2½% with data to be reviewed again in three months.

3e. Consider approval for directional signage.

Mr. Gilmour provided example of directional signage for area businesses to be placed at the intersection of Ball Street and Larry Walker Parkway; if approved to proceed, it was the recommendation of Administration that six inch standard lettering be used and an arrow indicating direction of business location. Council Member Jackson inquired who was paying for the sign; it was noted the City would be. Mayor Pro Tempore Posey asked if other areas would also have the same type of signage; Mr. Gilmour advised the industrial businesses would. Council voiced concern over the City paying for the sign and the demand that may arise from other businesses requesting the same. Council Member Jackson thought downtown signage should be investigated, with consideration to kiosk signs with individual placard signs available for purchase by local businesses. It was also noted the current wayfinding signage project the City is working on with the Perry Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. Council

denied request as submitted and requested Ms. Bass to provide an update in thirty days on alternate signage options.

3f. Review proposed road side commercial bulk fee.

Mr. Gilmour requested approval of implementing a \$50.00 special bulk waste collection fee for commercial, institutional, and industrial customers not being served by standard toter service. Council Member Walker asked for consideration for the fee to be applied to residential customers as well. Council concurred with proceeding with the implementation of the fee with all affected customers notified in writing; further review of applying to residential customers will be brought forth at a later date.

3g. Consider term of Mayor Pro Tempore.

Mayor Faircloth advised when first elected it was proposed to change the Mayor Pro Tempore term to six months, but Council decided to keep the term at one year. He requested input from Council if they would like to change; Council concurred to have the term of Mayor Pro Tempore remain at one year.

\* Council Member Bynum-Grace left at 6:50pm.

3h. Consider providing water analysis testing.

Mayor Faircloth advised he had been approached about having the City's water analyzed on a regular basis or by request. It was noted ESG Operations, Inc. adheres to all necessary regulatory requirements. Council concurred after brief discussion to continue with only required testing.

3i. Continuation of planning session discussion.

Ms. Bass reviewed and presented a power point of Council's previous planning work sessions and the results and recommendations gathered from the sessions. In regards to the Strategic Planning Partners and the various subcommittees, Mayor and Council were asked to review to ensure all partners were included and elect to serve on one subcommittee and advise in tomorrow's pre Council meeting. Ms. Bass noted January 2014 would be the first meeting.

4. Other items as needed:

Mr. Gilmour advised the right-of-way mowing contract had been received from GDOT with a start date of November 01, 2013 and if agreed, contract would commence as the City has currently been mowing; if not, start date would be January 01, 2014. Mr. Gilmour was also seeking authorization to advertise for an additional maintenance position. Council concurred with GDOT contract start date of November 01, 2013 and to advertise for a maintenance position.

No report from Chief Gray or Mr. Beecham.

Chief Lynn advised November 08<sup>th</sup> Middle Georgia Traffic Enforcement would be in various areas of the City conducting sobriety checks points.

Ms. Bass advised the Chamber of Commerce's new leadership program is accepting applications until November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Faircloth – November 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day Program at 11am at the Perry Arts Center and November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Byron Municipal Complex – WRATS Policy Committee meeting.

5. Adjourn.: There being no further business to come before Council the November 4, 2013 work session meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm.