

MINUTES
PRE COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
February 18, 2014
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Pro-Tempore Randall Walker, Presiding Officer called to order the pre council meeting held February 18, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

*Mayor Faircloth arrived at 5:15 pm.

Elected Official(s) Absent: Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace

City Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour and Cyndi Houser, Recording Clerk

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

Guests: Mr. George Smith, Mr. Kyle Smith, Mr. Mike Baker* – Perry Chamber, Ms. Bonnie Giles* – Perry Chamber, Mr. Rob Brooks* - Perry Chamber, and Mr. Brent Conway.

*Mr. Baker, Ms. Giles and Mr. Brooks left the meeting at 5:10 pm.

Media: Mr. Don Moncrief – Houston Home Journal

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Pro-Tempore Randall Walker. Mayor Pro-Tempore Walker requested reviewing the service request from Perry Area Chamber of Commerce as the first item.

3a. Members of the Perry Area Chamber of Commerce reviewed various changes proposed for the Perry Dogwood Festival scheduled for April 11-13th including a request to update the electrical service outlets on Carroll Street between Jernigan and Ball, reversing the audience and participant locations for the Dock Dogs and extending tram service after the balloon glow. Updating the electrical will allow greater flexibility for vendor placement, help with safety concerns and keep the crowds distributed better. Chamber members then answered questions from Council.

3b. Mr. Gilmour provided an updated ruling regarding the Affordable Care Act and part-time and seasonal employees' hours. Seasonal employees are exempt and will be allowed to work as many hours as needed for a position. Part-time (year-round)

employees are not exempt from this ruling. Council concurred regarding the change of policy; department heads will be notified of same.

- 3c. Discussion of February 18, 2014 regular meeting agenda. Mayor Pro Tempore Walker began the review of the regular meeting agenda with Council; Mayor Faircloth took over at 5:15 pm.

3. Invocation: Robert Jones of Grace Church

4. Proclamation(s)/Recognitions(s): Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- Proclamation recognizing Coach Ronnie Jones and Westfield School Football Team

7a. Ordinances for Second Reading and Adoption

1. **Second Reading** of an ordinance to rezone 1.287 acres from Houston County C-2, General Commercial District and 22.933 acres from Houston County R-AG, Residential Agricultural District to City of Perry C-2, General Commercial District. The property is located at 2403 Hwy 127 and 1946 Houston Lake Road, Kathleen, GA.
2. **Second Reading** of an ordinance to annex 1.287 acres from Houston County C-2, General Commercial District and 22.933 acres from Houston County R-AG, Residential Agricultural District to City of Perry C-2, General Commercial District. The property is located at 2403 Hwy 127 and 1946 Houston Lake Road, Kathleen, GA.

Mr. Beecham provided a matrix showing the original request from the petitioner and the recommendations of the Planning Commission along with possible variations for the Council to consider. Council members discussed at length the ramifications of the original request of the petitioner and the recommendations from the Planning Commission particularly concerning the number of driveways and what is allowed in each type of zoning. Mayor Faircloth recommended approving the original request of the petitioner.

3. **Second Reading** of an ordinance amending FY 14 Operating Budget

Mr. Gilmour explained Administration reviews the 6-month operating budget to assure the revenue and expenditures are in line and makes adjustments based on those numbers. Administration recommended adoption of the ordinance.

8b. Award of Bid(s):

1. Bid No. 2014-14 Zero Turn Mower – Industrial Grade

Mr. Gilmour explained the mower would be replacing an old unit. Administration recommended awarding the low bidder.

4. Other Council Member Items:

Mayor Faircloth asked if any member of Council had any items for discussion.

Mayor Pro Tempore Walker and Council Members Jackson, and Posey - No reports.

Council Member King reminded everyone about the focus group meeting for Wednesday, February 19, 2014, sponsored by GMA and hosted by Perry.

Council Member Hunt announced major improvements have been completed to the Perry Hospital making it a high quality healthcare facility of which the citizens can be proud of. Mayor Faircloth echoed those thoughts.

Chief Gray, Mr. Beecham and Ms. King did not have reports.

Chief Lynn reviewed the field testing the Police Department has conducted for a new uniform. Lt. Buck modeled the uniform which is Teflon coated and has specialized pockets in both the shirt and the cargo pants which allows the officers to carry much of their paraphernalia; is less expensive than the current uniforms and can be washed rather than sent to the laundry. It was the consensus of the Council to authorize the Police Department to replace their current uniforms with the model shown. Other items: Perry has been named in the top 50 safest cities in Georgia; Sgt. Craig Fowler is the Neighborhood Watch contact and this is an active community project; a recently retired Police K-9, Rex, passed away February 12th.

Ms. Bass informed Council of the upcoming Master Plan Steering Committee meeting February 20th at 5 pm with Michael Holbrook of the Vinson Institute; a group from Main Street will be going to Douglasville next week.

Remarks by guests: Mr. George Smith commended Mayor and Council for their service; Mr. Conway thanked Community Development for their assistance; Mr. Kyle Smith also commended Mayor and Council and stated it was good to be stationed back in the Middle Georgia area.

5. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Faircloth adjourned the pre council meeting at 5:50 pm.