

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
May 19, 2014

1. Call to Order: Mayor Pro Tempore Walker called to order the Perry City Council work session of May 19, 2014 at 5pm.
2. Roll: Mayor Pro Tempore Walker, Council Members Hunt, King and Jackson were present.

Elected Officials Absent: Mayor Faircloth; Council Members Bynum-Grace and Posey.

Staff: Lee Gilmour – City Manager and Christine Sewell – Recording Clerk.

Departmental Staff: Chief Joel Gray – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Chief Steve Lynn – Police Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mary Beth Bass – Economic Development Director, Ms. Catherine Edgemon – Main Street Coordinator.

Guests: Mr. Troy Rowell, Capt. Bill Phelps, Lt. James Buck, Capt. Heath Dykes, and Ms. Vickie Graham.

Press: None

3. Departments FY 15 Budget Presentations:

- Perry Police Department

Chief Lynn provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the department's budget. It reflected the impact staff reductions would have under the reduced services budget, including elimination in the State certification program. Chief Lynn advised the request for an additional four patrol officers was due to City size and population growth, and an increase in emergency calls. Mayor Pro Tempore Walker inquired on why the increase of calls, as population has not grown considerably and is there a breakdown on the type of calls; Chief Lynn advised he was working on compiling that data. Chief Lynn noted there would also be an additional four officers requested in FY16 to obtain adequate staffing. Chief Lynn also reviewed the request for equipment stating increase in technology advances, as well equipment will be necessary if four officers are approved, and the equipment need for officers who are members of the Sheriff's Response Team.

- Perry Fire and Emergency Services Department

Chief Gray provided a memorandum detailing explanation of reduced and sustained budget requests. Chief Gray noted if equipment is reduced the current could still be utilized, however the department is working with ten year old equipment and repairs

and/or replacements could be an unforeseen expense. Chief Gray advised with either the sustained or improved budget the department would still be able to function accordingly.

- Department of Community Development

Mr. Gilmour on behalf of Mr. Beecham, who was out ill, presented the department's budget noting there was no significant impact and the department could function adequately with either the reduced or sustained. Mr. Gilmour noted Council should give consideration to hiring a Code Enforcement Officer as the current number of volunteers is decreasing and building permits have increased not allowing the remaining staff additional time for code enforcement activities. Council Member King inquired of Mr. Gilmour's confirmation that a Code Enforcement Officer be considered in the budget; Mr. Gilmour advised it should be.

- Department of Economic Development

Ms. Bass presented a PowerPoint overview of the department's coordination and outreach with various agencies, along with the impact of the reduced budget, which included the loss of the Main Street Coordinator, which would greatly impact the work done to date in designating the City as a Main Street Community, it was noted this board would need initial seed money, but with time would seek revenue from outside sources, the same was noted for the GICH program. Council Member Jackson expressed approval for continuing with the Main Street Program as extensive work has already been completed. Ms. Bass briefly reviewed Community Development Block Grants and the impact for the community if selected to pursue.

4. Adjourn: Mayor Pro Tempore Walker called for any comments from Council or Staff; there being none the meeting was adjourned at 5:56pm.