

MINUTES
PRE COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
October 20, 2015
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Pro Tempore, Phyllis Bynum-Grace, called to order the pre council meeting of the Perry City Council held October 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll.

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

Elected Official(s) Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, Assistant City Attorney Matthew Hulbert and Recording Clerk, Cyndi Houser

City Departmental Staffing: Major William Phelps – Perry Police Department, Chief Joel Gray – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Robert Smith – Economic Development Director, Kevin Dye – Director of Leisure Services, Brenda King – Director of Administration and Decius Aaron – Director of Public Works Department.

Guest(s)/Speaker(s): None

Media: Laura Corley – Macon Telegraph, Jake Jacobs – Houston Home Journal

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Pro Tempore Phyllis Bynum-Grace.

3a. Discussion of October 20, 2015 council meeting agenda

Mayor Faircloth arrived at 5:05 pm and resumed his duties.

6a. Public Hearing Amendment to Perry Land Development Ordinance – Section 106 – Signs

Mayor Faircloth advised there were some items that needed work in the ordinance. Council was asked for input on procedure preference. It was the consensus to table the hearing until the next meeting so that the recommended changes could be discussed at the next work session. Council members will provide feedback to Mr. Gilmour in order to update the ordinance.

8a. Ordinances(s) for Second Reading(s) and Adoption

1. Second Reading of an ordinance to amend the FY2015 Operating Budget.

Mr. Gilmour advised this is the final amendment which is done annually following the audit to adjust for suggestions from the auditors. He noted all funds have done well; the general fund-restricted accounts show transfers from 2014 which were spent in 2015.

2. **Second Reading** of an ordinance to amend the FY2015 Operating Budget

Mr. Gilmour stated the proposed ordinance would amend the Operating Budget through September 30, 2016. This includes projected expenditures for the additional police officers, but does not include the revenue. This will be adjusted once the tax digest is received.

3. **Second Reading** of an ordinance to amend the Perry Code by deleting Chapter 22 (Solid Waste) in its entirety and adding a new Chapter 22.

Mr. Aaron noted the ordinance was sent over to the City Attorney with the recommended revisions from Council. Staff recommended approval subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.

10c. Award of Bid(s)

1. Natural gas main upgrade

Mr. Gilmour explained there are bare steel natural gas mains in the Stanley Street area which need to be replaced as soon as possible. ESG Operations, Inc. recommended the low bidder, C&H Pipeline, perform this work. He also noted ESG Operations, Inc. is not qualified to perform this work.

10d. Request for exemption from the City's wastewater connection policy.

Houston Healthcare-Perry Hospital Administrator, David Campbell, submitted a request to waive the hook up to the City's wastewater system for a modular building that will be used for a backup meeting/conference room. ESG Operations, Inc. verified the cost is prohibitive and the problems associated with the hook up due to elevation. The Board of Health will not consider a septic tank application unless an exemption is given by the City. Staff recommended approval of a one-time exemption for this modular building.

11a. Request for street closings in downtown (Carroll Street, Ball Street, Jernigan Street) relative to the Paintings, Pitchers and Pints event sponsored by the Perry Arts Center Committee on November 6, 2015, 6 pm-9 pm.

Major Phelps noted the police department had no objections to the request, and had also added some streets which would allow people with open containers for the event to cross the streets. Downtown merchants are assisting with this event and all proceeds will go to the new animal shelter.

4. Council Member Items:

Mr. King asked for a status report regarding Westwood Trailer Park. Mr. Hulbert provided information and options for the City. He indicated that Mr. David Walker would like to visit in person with the defendant's attorney when he returns to the office.

5. Department Head/Staff Items:

Mr. Gilmour provided a follow up to Council regarding the question of whether there would be enough room on Washington Street for ADA access if standard lights were installed. There is enough room as well as a bench. It was also noted the pedestrian lighting is owned by the City and will be removed and stored for future use when the plan is completed.

Major Phelps reminded everyone of the Zombie Run at the Guardian Center. Perry Police Department will be assisting with traffic/security which is being paid by the sponsor. October 31, 2015 will be Treats & Sweets from 4-6 pm in downtown Perry sponsored by the Downtown Merchants Association. October 24th there will be a classic car show on Jernigan Street. The Perry Police Department also assisted at the National Fair with over 2,300 hours. The Fair had a record number of attendees with over 500,000. The Police Department also assisted the Houston County Sheriff's Department with a search when a Perry resident was served with a warrant fled the house. Tucker Elementary was placed on lock-down, but resumed operations once the person was captured.

Ms. King stated the tax file has been sent to a third party printer for processing of the notices.

Mr. Gilmour followed up on Major Phelps information about the Zombie run noting it is expected there will be 5,000-7,000 participants and the majority of them are from out of town or out of state.

6. Adjournment: With no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Walker motioned to adjourn the October 20, 2015 pre council meeting at 5:32 p.m.; Council Member Hunt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.