

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
July 16, 2018
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held July 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: Council Member Robert Jones

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, Assistant City Manager Robert Smith, Assistant City Attorney Josh Waters and Recording Clerk, Nancy Graham.

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Annie Clerk – City Clerk, Captain Michael Paull – Fire and Emergency Services Department, and Catherine Edgemon – Main Street Coordinator.

Guest(s)/Speaker(s): Ms. Ellie Loudermilk

Press: Mr. James Simpson, II - Houston Home Journal

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

3a. Office of City Manager:

1. Discuss plans for former Sinclair Gas Station: Ms. Loudermilk presented for Council's consideration a request to save the Sinclair Gas Station. Ms. Loudermilk stated that she has collected more than 1,000 signatures from the community, asking that the station be saved and has raised over \$27,000 dollars and continues to receive donations. Administration recommended to Council the building be demolished and a plaque installed, commemorating the site.

After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to give the Perry Historical Society an extension to December 31, 2018 to raise more funds under the following conditions: (1) One half of the current bid must be raised, in cash and (2) No additional extensions will not be granted.

2. Review proposal from Houston County Board of Commissioners to participate in certain engineering task for St. Patrick's Drive improvements: Mr. Gilmour referred to the memo from Mr. Robbie Dunbar relative to the St. Patrick's Drive project. Administration recommended that the City not participate in the task because of the following: (1) No funding source has been identified for the project and (2) There is no confirmation of the affected property owners donating the necessary right of way. Council concurred.

3. Discuss bid results for Calhoun Park tennis courts: Mr. Gilmour advised that the bid results are in for Calhoun Park tennis courts improvements.

After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to rebid the project as long as the bid specifications are reviewed by someone who understands the construction of tennis courts. This item was directed to be placed on tomorrow's Council meeting agenda.

4. Consider deposit requirement for delinquent utility customers: Mr. Gilmour advised that the current utility service policy does not require a deposit. Administration recommended that Council approve a policy that requires a deposit in the event a utility service customer is cut-off for non-payment on an account four (4) times within a twenty-four (24) month consecutive billing cycle and service shall be cancelled until the customer provides a deposit equal to 1.5 times the average bill for the twenty-four month billing period.

Mayor Faircloth, Jr. suggested that the policy should be amended to include that cut off times will be customer based, not location based. Council agreed.

After discussion it was the consensus of Council to move forward with Administration's recommendation as amended.

Council Member King advised that customers should be made aware of the policy.

3b. Fire and Emergency Services Department

1. Fire Department future planning: Chief Parker presented for Council's consideration, for future planning, the Perry Fire Department's concept relative to sharing resources between the Perry Fire Department and Houston County Fire Department.

3c. Community Development Department

1. Acceptance of new violation notice format: Mr. Wood presented for Council's review and thoughts examples of letters that could be sent to customers with violation issues. Council gave suggestions for changes in the letters to Mr. Wood.

4. Council Member Items:

Mayor Pro Tempore Walker, Council Members Hunt, King, Bynum-Grace and Jackson had no reports.

City Manager Gilmour, Assistant City Manager Smith and Assistant City Attorney Waters had no reports.

Mayor Faircloth reviewed the following items for informational purposes only:

- Georgia Department of Transportation approved the State Hwy US route system revisions for the City of Perry and Houston County for state routes 11 Bus. 341 and 341 Bypass
- Notice from the City Attorney relative to annexation

5. Department Heads /Staff Items:

Ms. King and Ms. Warren had no reports.

Chief Parker advised that the Fire Department's Push In Ceremony is July 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Headquarters Station and introduced to Mayor and Council new Fire Marshall, Michael Paull.

Chief Lynn reported:

- He received good feedback from the active shooter training last Tuesday which was held at Perry High School.
- Clay County Sheriff's Department wants Council to consider selling one of the City's vehicles to use for their school resource officer. He stated the vehicle is in the process of being declared surplus. Administration recommended that the City should donate it. Council concurred.

Mr. Wood reported that Council Member King was interviewed by WGXA relative to improvements of the Sandhill Community Grant. Mr. Wood stated Council Member King did a good job.

Mayor Faircloth advised the Pre Council and City Council Meetings are 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., respectively and that all meetings are opened to the public.

6. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the work session meeting held July 16, 2018, Council Member Bynum-Grace motioned to adjourn the meeting 6:10 p.m. Council Member Hunt second the motion and it carried unanimously.