

MINUTES
WORK SESSION
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
August 31, 2020
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Randall Walker, Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held August 31, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Randall Walker, Mayor Pro Tempore Willie King and Council Members Robert Jones, Riley Hunt, Phyllis Bynum-Grace, Joy Peterson, and Darryl Albritton.

Elected Officials Absent: none

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, City Attorney Brooke Newby, Assistant City Manager Robert Smith, and Recording Clerk Maria Herrera.

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Mitchell Worthington – Finance Director, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Sedrick Swan – Director of Leisure Services, Anya Turpin – Special Events Coordinator, Ansley Fitzner – Public Works Superintendent, Ashley Hardin – Economic Development Manager, Annie Warren – City Clerk, Kyle Newman – Firefighter, Haley Bryant – Main Street Coordinator and Tabitha Clark – Communications Manager.

Guests/Speakers: None

Press: Lauren Harris – Houston Home Journal

3. PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:01 P.M. Mayor Randall Walker called to order a public hearing at 5:01 p.m. to provide any interested parties with an opportunity to express their views and concerns in accordance with O.C.G.A. Sec. 48-5-32.

3a. Proposed retaining of the operation at 14.050 mills- Ms. B. King.

Staff Report: Ms. King reported a property tax increase and advised unless your property has been increased due to reassessment, there will be no increase in your City tax bill.

Public Input: Mayor Walker called for any public input for or opposed to the proposed retaining of the operation at 14.050 mills.

For: None

Opposed: None

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 5:04 P.M. Mayor Walker closed the public hearing at 5:04 P.M.

4. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Randall Walker

4a. Office of the City Manager

1. Septic tank criteria – Mr. L. Gilmour. Administration recommended Council adopt the following criteria if septic tanks are to be permitted in the corporate limits of the City of Perry: 1) Parcel (s) must be zone R-1, 2) Each lot must be no less than minimum lot size permitted by the current Houston County regulations for septic tanks served with a well, 3) Each lot must be served by a City of Perry water meter, 4) An overall plan for servicing the lots with sewer service must be prepared and approved by the City prior to plat approval, and 5) A statement must run with the title indicating the owner will be required to connect to the City's sewer system when it is available.

Council had questions regarding the criteria of how septic tanks will be incorporated into the City if approved by Council.

Mayor Walker asked Mr. Gilmour if he needed a vote from Council or if it was concurred. Mr. Gilmour responded that if Council concurs, a resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Council concurred with Administration's recommendation.

2. Special Events presentation – Ms. A. Turpin.

- Update relative to Grub Crawl

Ms. Turpin provided Council with a proposed food vendor location map. The locations are: City Hall, Perry Public Library, Rozar Park, Davis Farms Fire Station, Barbara Calhoun Park, Perry Arts Center, Welcome Center, Creekwood Park, Rotary Park, Legacy Park and A. D. Redmond Park.

- My Colorful Community

Ms. Turpin presented a video inviting everyone to participate in a chalk event at Weeletka Trail at Rotary Park where citizens can choose a square to draw anything they like. This event will be scheduled for the weekend of September 11 - 13.

Mayor Walker and Council Member Bynum-Grace expressed it was a good idea and sounded like fun.

3. Review of organizations – Mr. L. Gilmour

- Planning Commission

Mr. Gilmour stated that it is very important for the Mayor and Council to select candidates for the Planning Commission. Per State law and City code, a member can only be removed for cause. Appointments expire at the end of the appointed official's term. The Director of Community Development will prepare an outline, commissioners' duties, and provide a suggested list of candidates. Mr. Gilmour suggested mandatory training, conduct semiannual meetings with Council, Commission, and appropriate staff.

Council had questions regarding mandatory training and attendance.

Mr. Wood responded that some training had been provided by the Carl Vinson Institute, but it costs money and takes time for the individuals to complete. Mr. Wood recommended in-house training. Mr. Wood will put together some ideas to improve the Planning Commission.

- Perry Tree Board

Mr. Gilmour recommended to eliminate this board and to delete it from code of ordinance.

Council concurred with Administration's recommendation to remove the Board.

5. Council Member Items:

Council Member Hunt stated that the sidewalk on Tucker Road is overgrown with grass and looks bad. Mr. Gilmour responded it would be taken care of.

Mayor Pro Tempore King, Council Members Albritton, Bynum-Grace, Jones, and Peterson had no reports.

Mr. Gilmour reminded Council the annual City service bill will be sent to customers this week or early next week. Mayor Walker asked how many customers the City has that fall into this category? Mr. Gilmour responded that approximately 45 to 60 customers.

Ms. Newby and Mr. Smith had no comments.

6. Department Head/Staff Items:

Chief Steve Lynn, Chief Lee Parker, Mitchell Worthington, Bryan Wood, Brenda King, Sedrick Swan, Anya Turpin, Ansley Fitzner, Ashley Hardin, Annie Warren, Haley Bryant, and Tabitha Clark had no reports.

Mayor Walker asked Ms. Bryant to address Council with the request from the wine merchant asking for an additional week extension for the special event permit. The special event permit expires on August 31, 2020.

Council had no objections providing an additional week extension.

Mayor

- Pre-Council meeting September 1 at 5:00pm
- Council Meeting September 1 at 6:00pm

7. Adjourn: There being no further business to come before Council in the work session held August 31, 2020, Council Member Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.