

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
January 19, 2016
6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer, called to order the regular meeting of the Perry City Council held January 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll.

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

Elected Official(s) Absent: Council Member William Jackson

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, 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, Decius Aaron – Director of Public Works Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration and Robert Smith – Director of Economic Development.

Guest(s)/Speakers: Dr. Mark Scott – Superintendent Houston County Schools, Ms. Sharon Kelly, Mr. Chad McMurrian, and Mr. Darryl Bailey – ESG Operations, Inc.; Mr. Jimmy Knight - Georgia Association of Water Professionals; Mr. Larry Bailey, Mr. Jimmy Autry and Ms. Kim Wynn.

Media: Chris Rogers – Channel 100; Jake Jacobs and Cheri Adams – Houston Home Journal; and TJ Strickler – WGXA Television.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Reverend Robert Jones, Grace Church youth pastor, gave the invocation and Council Member Riley Hunt led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Community Partners Update(s):

Dr. Scott provided information on the many anticipated and current projects of the Houston County Board of Education. Highlights included: the Board of Education manages almost 1.7 million square feet in 720 classrooms; security has been increased in the school buildings by remodeling the entrances or installing cameras and buzzers; fire protection and fire protection equipment needs updating in 31 facilities; driveway access is scheduled to be improved at Kings Chapel and Tucker Elementary schools; HVAC upgrades are being prioritized; looking to possibly build a new elementary near Veterans High School due to the growth along the Highway 96 corridor and build a new centralized bus facility. Dr. Scott also touched on the ESPLOST vote coming up March 1, 2016 and how it will be used. If approved, it would be the first time the money could be used to purchase school buses. Dr. Scott passed out flyers regarding how the ESPLOST has been used in the past and projects for the future.

Mr. Jimmy Autry a community volunteer, also spoke on behalf a committee promoting the approval of the ESPLOST vote noting that this will be a continuation of a current ESPLOST and if it passes, the needs of the school system will be addressed based on assessment. Mr. Autry stated the School Board has been a good steward of the monies public, noted further details can be found at houstoncountysplost.com and urged all to vote on March 1st.

5. Recognition(s)/Presentation(s)/Introduction(s): Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

Mr. Aaron introduced Mr. Jimmy Knight, representing the Georgia Association of Water Professionals, who provided an overview of the association, the award process and how the nominations are judged. The City of Perry received the highest award for Lab Quality Assurance, a gold award for Collection Systems and a silver award for the Distribution System which were presented to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Knight noted Perry has received awards for the last five (5) years. Mr. McMurrian thanked the City for their support and introduced Mr. Darryl Bailey, the new gas supervisor for ESG Operations, Inc. Mr. Bailey stated he and his wife are planning to move to Perry soon.

6. Appointments to Boards, Authorities and Commissions. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

6a. Council Post 2 – District 3 Appointments.

Council Member Hunt announced the following appointments:

Mr. Martin Beeland appointed to the Perry Planning Commission until December 31, 2019.

Ms. Kimberly Wynn appointed to the Perry Area Convention and Visitors Bureau until December 31, 2019.

Mr. Hunt is still seeking a person for the Perry Public Arts Commission.

7. Citizens with input:

None

8. Public Hearing: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:37 P.M. Mayor James E. Faircloth Jr. called to order a public hearing at 6:37 p.m. to provide any interested parties with an opportunity to express their views and concerns in accordance with O.C.G.A. Sec. 36-67A-3 (c).

8a. Amendment to Perry Land Development Ordinance –Section 106-Signs.

Staff Report: Mr. Gilmour advised the amendment changes were made according to suggestions from Council over the past two (2) months.

Public Input: Mayor Faircloth called for any public input for or opposed to the amendment.

In Favor: Ms. Terre Walker, 800 Evergreen Street, Perry, GA supported the amendment noting Council had worked with the Perry Planning Commission, and property owners and the amendment was well thought out.

Opposed: Mr. Larry Bailey, 821 Woodsdale Drive, Perry, GA, felt the amendment was taking away more freedoms; a business owner needs to be able to advertise his business, but not with a big gaudy sign, and the business people are helping to pay for this.

Mr. Mark Hamby, Hamby Auto, Perry, GA requested a clarification regarding definitions, but did not speak for or against the amendment.

Public Hearing Closed at 6:47 p.m. Mayor James E. Faircloth Jr. closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.

9. Consent Agenda Items: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- 9a. Council's Consideration – Minutes of the January 4, 2016 work session, January 5, 2016 pre council meeting, January 6, 2016 council meeting and January 11, 2016 called work session.

Mayor Pro Tempore Bynum-Grace moved to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2016 work session, January 5, 2016 pre council meeting, January 6, 2016 council meeting and January 11, 2016 called work session. Council Member Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. Old Business: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- 9a. Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. - None
- 9b. Council Members - None
- 9c. City Manager Lee Gilmour - None
- 9d. Assistant City Attorney Hulbert – None

11. New Business: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

- 11a. Matters referred from January 11, 2016 called work session and January 19, 2016 pre council meeting.

None

11b. Ordinance(s) for First Reading(s) and Introduction:

1. **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend the Perry Land Development Ordinance Section 106-Signs. *(No action required by Council.)*

11c. Resolutions(s) for Consideration and Adoption:

1. Adopted Resolution No. 2016-04 amending the City of Perry Fee Schedule to provide for a fee for a delinquent Certificate of Appropriateness. Mr. Gilmour explained that on occasion businesses/owners fail to abide by the Certificate of Appropriateness requirements; when this happens extra administrative time and enforcement occurs. Council Member Bynum-Grace moved to amend the City of Perry Fee Schedule to provide for a fee for a delinquent Certificate of Appropriateness. It was seconded by Council Member Jones and it carried unanimously. (*Resolution No. 2016-04 has been entered into the City's official book of record.*)

11d. Approval of an amendment of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Middle Georgia Regional Commission and the City of Perry relative to the Perry Public Arts Commission website. Mr. Gilmour explained the new Perry Public Arts Commission would like to develop a website in conjunction with the City of Perry's website; the initial cost would be \$3,290 with an annual maintenance fee of \$840. This would be funded from the Hotel/Motel tax. The recommendation from Leisure Services Department is recommending approval of the amendment. Council Member Jones moved to approve an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement between the Middle Georgia Regional Commission and the City of Perry relative to developing a website for the Perry Public Arts Commission for an initial amount of \$3,290 and an annual maintenance fee of \$840. Council Member Walker seconded and it carried unanimously.

11e. Request from the Perry Downtown Merchants Association and the Perry Arts Center Committee for the closing of the 700,800 and 900 blocks of Carroll Street and the 900 and 1000 blocks of Jernigan Street and Ball Street relative to *First Friday*, February 5th from 6 pm-11 pm. Major Phelps advised Council the police department and fire department have approved the request. Mr. Randall Walker moved to approve the request from the Perry Downtown Merchants Association and the Perry Arts Center Committee for the closing of the 700, 800 and 900 blocks of Carroll Street and the 900 and 1000 blocks of Jernigan Street and Ball Street relative to First Friday, February 5th from 6 pm-11 pm. Council Member Jones seconded and it carried unanimously.

11f. Request to proceed with the CDBG administration procurement. Mr. Smith stated the Perry Housing Team is in the process of applying for a grant to improve approximately 11 homes in the Sandhill area. Part of the process is obtaining a grant writer/administrator. Staff recommends Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. as the grant writer/administrators for the application. Mayor Faircloth noted that if the grant is approved, the City would be required to have a \$10,000 match which would be brought to Council at a later time. Mr. King moved to approve proceeding with hiring Grants Specialists of Georgia, Inc. as the grant writer/administrator for the CDBG grant application. Mayor Pro Tempore Walker seconded and it carried unanimously.

11g. Adopted Resolution No. 2016-05 authorizing the renewal of the Jointly Owned Natural Gas loan with CB&T Bank for the Kumho Tire project. Mayor Faircloth explained the City of Perry is an owner in Jointly Owned Natural Gas (JONG) and a multi-year loan was taken out to install a gas pipe in the Sofkee Industrial Park for the Kumho Tire plant. He also noted current

council cannot obligate future councils and therefore the loan must be renewed with a new council. Council Member Jones moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the renewal of the JONG loan with CB&T for the Kumho Tire Project in Sofkee Industrial Park. Mr. King seconded and it carried unanimously. (*Resolution 2016-05 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).

11h. United Way Campaign 2016. Ms. Houser reported to Mayor and Council the 2016 Campaign was again successful and exceeded the pledge amount from 2015. A part of the campaign included an incentive to administrative employees pledging at least \$2/pay period to either wear jeans and tennis shoes or put their name in a drawing for a \$100 gift card. Employees wearing uniforms were also offered the option of placing their name in a drawing. Mayor Pro Tempore Walker drew the name of Alton Ellis as the winner of the gift card.

12. Department Head Items.

Mr. Aaron, Ms. King, Chief Gray and Major Phelps had no reports.

Mr. Smith announced the housing team will be seeking public input for the CDBG grant for the Sandhill area on February 4, 2016 at 5 pm in Council Chambers. Middle Georgia Regional Commission will be holding a regional planning meeting on January 27, 2016 at the Perry Arts Center at 5 pm. They are asking for public input to create a long-range plan for housing, transportation, and economic development for the area.

13. Council Member Items:

None

14. General Public Items: None

15. Mayor Items:

- January 22-25, 2016 will be the annual Mayors' Day Conference to be held in Atlanta.

Mayor Faircloth entertained a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of real estate.

16. Executive Session entered at 6:45 pm: On a motion by Council Member Hunt, seconded by Council Member Jones and carried unanimously, Council went into Executive Session for the purpose of real estate.

17. Executive Session adjourned 7:43 pm; Council's regular meeting reconvened. Council adjourned the Executive Session held January 19, 2016 and reconvened into the Council's regular meeting.

18. Adopted Resolution No. 2016-06 stating purpose of the executive session held on January 19, 2016 was for the purpose of real estate. On a motion by Council Member Hunt, seconded by Council Member King and carried unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2016-06 stating the

purpose of the Executive Session held on January 19, 2016 was for personnel. (*Resolution 2016-06 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).

19. Adjourned: On a motion by Council Member Hunt, seconded by Council Member Bynum-Grace and carried unanimously, the meeting of Council held January 19, 2016 was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.