

MINUTES
PRE COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
February 16, 2016
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. called to order the pre council meeting of the Perry City Council held February 16, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll.

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

Elected Official(s) Absent: Council Member Phyllis Bynum-Grace

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, City Attorney David Walker, and Recording Clerk, Cyndi Houser

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – 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): Terre Walker, Sammy Wright, Rashad Wright, Bill Loudermilk, and Ellie Loudermilk

Media: Jake Jacobs – Houston Home Journal

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

3a. Discussion of February 16, 2016 council meeting agenda.

5b. Appointment to the Perry Housing Authority of the City of Perry. Council Member King requested the appointment be delayed until further research could be conducted. It was the consensus to allow the delay until the March 1, 2016 meeting.

9a.(1) Resolution for declaration of official intent to reimburse costs of acquiring equipment with tax exempt financing. Ms. King advised that a more stringent review process has been initiated by GMA for lease-purchase financing. It was recommended that a resolution be adopted showing the City's intent to reimburse itself from lease proceeds prior to approval for financing and that it should also be done before a new fiscal year.

9b.(2) Resolution to amend the City of Perry Fee Schedule. Mr. Gilmour stated this was a follow up regarding the procedure for customers transferring a current utility account to a new location or adding an additional account.

9c.(1) Award animal facility improvements design/build project. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the process for the recommendation to award a contract for a design/build project to improve the animal control facility. Mayor Faircloth stated he had received a call from the Mayor's Task Force requesting they be allowed to review the proposals; he further stated he would like to extend this courtesy even though they had been advised it would not change the proposal recommendation. It was the consensus of Council to delay the vote until the March 1, 2016 meeting.

9d. Request from Perry Area Chamber of Commerce to block certain streets for a pre-Dogwood Festival promotional event. Chief Lynn stated the Chamber is not asking for any City services other than cone placement; they have made arrangements for an alternate location and a rain date; the police department recommended approving the request.

9e. Consideration of the Perry Convention and Visitors Bureau, Perry Kiwanis Club and Perry Pilot Club request for City services for the 12th Annual Peaches to Beaches Yard Sale. Chief Lynn noted that the start time for set up had been delayed one hour on Thursday, March 10th because the Elections Office must be available to anyone wishing to file for office. Handicap parking will be accessible because no booths will be set up on Jernigan Street and the County is aware of the event.

3b. Proposed path improvements at Evergreen Cemetery. A follow up discussion was held regarding the reasons for improving and identifying the pathways at Evergreen Cemetery. Mr. Hunt agreed with Ms. Loudermilk's letter sent on behalf of the Perry Area Historical Society, that the project not be continued and leave the cemetery as it has been. It was the consensus of Council to not proceed with the project.

4. Other Business/Supplemental Agenda:

4a. Requests from the Notting Hill Community

- Consider request to place No Parking signs in the park area.
- Consider placing barricades at the end of Notting Hill by lots 133/134 going into the wooded area.

Mr. Armistead requested the City install No Parking signs, but Mr. Gilmour pointed out the City has no control over private property and Chief Lynn concurred. The City Attorney rendered an opinion that it would not be proper for the City to install barricades. The Staff recommended the barricades not be installed, but noted that the home owners association could put up their own. However, if the barricades are installed by the homeowners association, they must be back from the end of the pavement. It was the consensus to not install No Parking Signs or barricades in the Notting Hill Community.

5. Council Member Items:

No reports from Mayor Pro Tempore Walker, Council Members Jackson, and Jones.

No reports from Mr. Gilmour and Attorney Walker.

Council Member King reviewed the background for the Westwood Trailer Park noting that a letter was sent out Tuesday to all the residents/utility accounts providing a status of the Park. Mr. King then introduced Mr. Sammy Wright and Mr. Rashad Wright explaining they were trying to get the utilities reconnected for the trailer where their grandfather lived so he could spend his last days in his own home under the care of Mr. Sammy Wright. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus to allow this one time re-connection with the understanding that the account be brought up to date and must be kept current.

5. Department Head Items:

No reports from Ms. King, Mr. Smith, and Chief Gray.

Chief Lynn provided an update regarding the anonymous tip letter about a supposed drug house in Perry. He advised the address provided was not a valid address.

Mr. Dye stated he had submitted a recommendation that the request for a tennis center not be considered at this time. However, staff supports new tennis courts.

Mr. Aaron provided information regarding the yard debris bagging incentive program set to begin March 21st will go out in the form of letters, flyers in City Hall and other locations and an article in the electronic newsletter *FYI*. It was noted bagging is not mandatory, but the \$3.00 credit would be an incentive for residents to help the environment. At the current time there is no cutoff date for the program. Mr. Aaron also advised that the culvert on Airport Road extension will need to be replaced but the road has been stabilized.

Ms. Terre Walker shared that there are four (4) new businesses coming to Perry and a portion of an article about Perry's growth from a 1947 magazine article.

Mayor Faircloth reported the personnel subcommittee reviewed the most recent round of applications for the Director of Community Development position. There were no applicants meeting the desired qualifications and the committee recommended seeking the services of a headhunting company. They further recommended obtaining a list of qualified firms from GMA. It was the consensus to move forward with this process and once the firms have provided pricing, it will be brought back to Council for approval.

6. Adjournment: With no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Jackson motioned to adjourn the February 19, 2016 pre council meeting at 5:57 p.m.; Council Member Hunt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.