

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
March 20, 2017
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held March 20, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official(s) Absent: None

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

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Police Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Robert Smith - Economic Development Director, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services, Kevin Dye – Director of Leisure Services, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Ellen Palmer – Digital Communications Manager, John Schell – Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, and Chad McMurrin – Lead Engineering Technician.

Guest(s) / Speaker(s): Anthony Concolino and David Kosick – KMA Design, Jim Kizer – Constantine Engineering, Ryan Bode and Travis Falcione – ESG Operations, Inc., Mr. Miller Edwards – Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC and Becky Powell.

Media: Kristin Moriarty - Houston Home Journal

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

3a. Administration

1. Audit presentation - Mr. M. Edwards of Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC. Mr. Edwards provided an overview of the most recent audit noting that Perry has a healthy financial position; there are cash reserves of four (4) months in the enterprise fund balances and there are good margins with positive cash flows. He further noted there were no systemic breakdowns; the pension is funded at 97% indicating good management and investment; and overall a clean audit with only one finding which should be corrected this year.
2. Discussion of a chain link fencing – Mr. L. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour

reviewed his memo dated March 14, 2017 requesting direction from Council to proceed with allowing chain link fencing in all land districts except for downtown. This should reduce the number of variance requests. It was a consensus of Council to proceed with the change and place a resolution on the March 21, 2017 meeting agenda.

3. Discuss street striping – Mr. L. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour polled Council about streets they felt should be on the striping list. It was suggested that the parking spaces in the downtown area be added to the list.

3b. Economic Development Department

1. City of Perry Wayfinding System – Mr. R. Smith. Mr. Smith gave some background for a proposed wayfinding system that was to be developed after the branding program was accepted. Mr. Smith introduced Mr. Concolino and Mr. Kosick of KMA Design. A conference call was initiated adding Mike Martin, Jeremy Detweiler and Daniel Grushecky to the presentation. Council provided feedback on style and color preferences for the proposed concepts. The KMA representatives will tweak the suggestions and present them at the next work session.
2. City of Perry 2017 CDBG Project - Mr. R. Smith. Mr. Smith reviewed the proposed CDBG grant application which would affect 16 homes in the Sandhill neighborhood if awarded. Part of the grant requirements would be a commitment from Council for \$25,000 for the acquisition of five homes that would be slated for clearing and demolition. This commitment would make the application more competitive. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with the application.
3. Your City program – Mr. R. Smith. Mr. Smith presented a draft of a program designed to educate and encourage people to become involved in their local government. The program would be 8 weeks long and structured around six strategic topics. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with the program and that it should be advertised on the various media platforms, scheduled to begin about mid-August and limited to 1 person per family.

4. Other Business/Supplemental Agenda – Mayor Faircloth

a. Community Development Department

1. Presentation relative to new water plant – Mr. J. Kizer Mr. Kizer reviewed the previous survey of the City's need for a new water treatment plant, the fact that costs have gone up in the past two (2) years, the need for a redundant well in the event of a catastrophe, and the requirements for constructing a new plant. He suggested that if Council approved moving forward, that a phased plan be instituted. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with phased plans for a 2 million gallon/day capacity water treatment plant.

5. Council Member Items:

Council had no reports.

Mr. Gilmour and Assistant City Attorney Hulbert – no reports

6. Department Head Items:

Mr. Dye, Chief Lynn, and Chief Parker had no reports.

Mr. Smith reported that the “Beards & Brews” event held in downtown Perry was deemed successful.

Mr. Wood announced that a new code compliance specialist will begin her duties March 27th and a 107 acre annexation proposal has been submitted and will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at their April 10th meeting.

Ms. King provided a phone system update: training has been conducted for all departments and ESG is scheduled for next week. April 4th is the anticipated cut-over date.

Mr. Schell reported the solid waste division is now offering a limited number of 35-gallon totes for recycling. They are available on a first-come, first served basis. Contact Customer Service to sign up.

Ms. Palmer had announced that the City is now connected with “LinkIn”.

Ms. Houser passed out new security badges to Mayor and Council.

Mayor Faircloth:

- Reminded everyone to vote in the SPLOST referendum on March 22nd.
- Walk with Mayor and Council will be on March 28th at 5:30 pm in Legacy Park of District 2.
- March 22nd is RAFB day at the legislature with Colonel Levy as the featured speaker.
- Provided flyers to Council about the annual Freedom Banquet on April 8, 2017 sponsored by Houston County NAACP
- Budget meetings will begin in April as part of the work sessions with the actual budget hearing scheduled for the June 6th and adoption on June 20th. The public is welcome to attend any of these meetings.
- Spring break is scheduled in most of the schools next week.
- Starbucks has broken ground.

6. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the work session held March 20, 2017 Council Member Walker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Jackson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.