

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
June 5, 2017
5:04 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr., Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held June 5, 2017 at 5:04 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, Assistant City Attorney Matthew Hulbert and Recording Clerks Annie Warren and Janet Duffin.

Staff Absent: None

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Police Department, Robert Smith – Economic Development Director, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Kevin Dye – Director of Leisure Services, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, John Schell – Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Ellen Palmer – Digital Communications Manager, Catherine Edgemon – Main Street Coordinator, Chad McMurrian - Lead Engineering Technician, Todd Ennis – Solid Waste Supervisor and Major Bill Phelps – Police Department.

Guest(s)/Speaker(s): None

Press: Ms. Kristin Moriarty - The Houston Home Journal

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

3a. Administration:

1. Requests from residents of Langston Place Subdivision – Mr. Lee Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour reviewed a list of concerns from two homeowners in this neighborhood. The first concern addressed speeders on Rippling Water Way and the homeowners request to lower the speed limit to 15 mph. Mr. Gilmour advised the speed limit cannot be reduced past 25 mph on any publically maintained street; therefore we are not legally able to honor their request. The homeowners also requested that the developer's sign indicating the speed limit of 15 mph remain in their neighborhood. Mr. Gilmour

advised that since this is private property the sign can stay; however they have been advised it is un-enforceable.

Major Phelps stated the homeowners complained there was no playground for their children to play in and there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood. They further stated suspicious and speeding vehicles have been seen driving through the subdivision, drivers are disobeying stop signs, and dead animal carcasses as well as other debris are being left in the cul de sac. After checking the call history for the last year with the 911 Center, it was discovered that none of these incidents have been reported. Major Phelps met with the homeowners and stressed to them the importance of calling 911. Major Phelps stated he would place one of the city's speed detectors in the subdivision.

2. Request from ham radio operators to place equipment on armory water tank – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour advised the City has been approached to allow ham operators to place an antenna on the City's Armory water tank. Mr. Gilmour recommended that a written agreement be put together for anyone who might want to utilize any of the City's water tanks. It was decided that Mr. Gilmour would check to see if there were any current agreements with Houston County and City of Warner Robins and then a determination would be made.
3. Consider Change of distribution for the façade grant program – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour advised that in order to avoid any legal issues we should keep the façade grant program but go through Uptown Perry Partnership as a 501(c)3. Assistant City Attorney Matthew Hulbert did not see any issues with this change. Council agreed to proceed.
4. Consider a moratorium for the installation of non-asphalt/concrete parking areas – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour requested not allowing the installation of non-asphalt/concrete parking areas until research can be done. Then the matter can be brought back to Council to make an informed decision. Council agreed to proceed. This item will be placed on council's regular agenda.
5. Consider resurfacing/striping for LMIG program – Mr. Gilmour.

* Mayor Faircloth excused himself from the meeting at 5:35 p.m. by reason of point of personal privilege; Mayor Pro-Tempore Jackson assumed the duties of presiding officer and continued with the meeting.

Mr. Gilmour referred Council to his memo on the Elko Road/MLK striping and re-surfacing. He advised a citizen is concerned about the striping on Limerock Road. He recommended that nothing be done this year and that these streets would be striped at the same time next year during the 2018 LMIG. Council agreed to proceed as recommended.

* Mayor Faircloth returned at 5:41 p.m. and resumed his duties as presiding

officer.

6. Follow-up on 1616 Main Street (Mr. C. Morris) relative to driveway improvements – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour advised that driveways are the responsibility of the property owner. He recommended the City make adjustments to the grade so it matches. He further stated that the City will address the turning radius coming onto Keith Drive at a later time. Council concurred to proceed.
7. Review amended appointment process for members of Perry Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour advised there are two vacancies on this board and recommended that no appointments be made until after July 1st.
8. Review proposed animal care program guidelines – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour advised that a memo has been submitted by Chief Lynn describing the process for the handling of animals within the City. Mr. Gilmour stated that the City's responsibility is to handle animals as a nuisance and it is not the City's or the taxpayer's responsibility to rescue animals. He recommends that the City establish and adopt a policy to make it clear who is responsible for the animals after they are picked up from the Animal Control Facility and taken to PetSmart to be adopted. It was decided that the terms of the agreement be discussed with FOPAS and postpone action until the next meeting.
9. Review City support for Dogwood Festival – Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour recommended that the City look at the City's support costs associated with the police providing overnight protection and monitoring for events such as Dogwood Festival, Peaches to Beaches, Perry Music Festival, etc. Mr. Gilmour recommended a determination be made as to what is an appropriate level of service for the City to provide and proceed accordingly.

3b. Department of Community Development

1. Greenville S.C. downtown features – Mr. B. Wood. Mr. Wood presented an overview of the downtown Greenville revitalization efforts that may be able to be transposed to the City of Perry in some form.

3c. Department of Leisure Services

1. Review proposed location sites for the dog park – Mr. K. Dye. Mr. Dye advised that the potential alternative sites for a new park are Calhoun Park, Hafley Park and A.D. Redmond Park. Mr. Dye continued by citing the pros and cons for each location. It was decided that Heritage Park would be the best choice for relocation of the park. Council agreed to proceed with this suggestion.

3d. Public Works Department

1. Presentation of Carl Vinson Institute management project – Mr. T. Ennis. Mr. Ennis reviewed his presentation on increasing yard debris bagging in the City of Perry. Mr. Ennis advised that bagging creates efficiency, increases route efficiency, clears stormwater drains and provides less wear and tear on City equipment. His goal is to educate City residents and obtain 60% participation city-wide.

3e. Economic Development Department

1. Discuss bids to stabilization proposal for 702 Carroll Street (Sinclair Station/former Miss Peggies) – Ms. C. Edgemon. Ms. Edgemon advised only one bid was received in the amount of \$134,641.00 and it was incomplete. Ms. Edgemon recommended re-bidding based on the lack of response. Mr. Gilmour stated this bid would need to be rejected at the next scheduled meeting and recommended sending out an RFP to negotiate with different people. Council agreed to place on the agenda to reject this bid at the next meeting.

3f. Police Department

1. Surplus vehicles update – Chief S. Lynn.

*Mayor Faircloth recused himself at 6:45 p.m. based on appearance of a conflict of interest relative to topic discussion and asked Mayor Pro-Tempore Jackson to assume his duties and continue this portion of the meeting.

Chief Lynn addressed Council Member Hunt's previous request on the possibility of selling surplus vehicles. Chief Lynn advised that based upon his research, it would not be cost effective to make surplus vehicles ready for sale, therefore it would not be a good option. CGTC gets no funding in their budget for police vehicles. Council agreed with Chief Lynn's proposal to transfer these vehicles to the school.

* Mayor Faircloth returned at 6:51 p.m. and resumed his duties as presiding officer.

4. Council Member Items:

Council Member Bynum-Grace advised she has been told the striping is off on James Street and asked if anyone has had an opportunity to look at it. Mr. Gilmour advised that Council had previously adopted a policy that only arterial and collector streets would be striped and James Street is neither.

Council Members Jones and Walker had no reports.

Council Member Hunt advised the traffic light at Jernigan and Main Street was creating a problem by staying red or green too long. Mayor Faircloth requested that we ensure the traffic light is operational and request that an alternative means of traffic

control be considered for that intersection. John Schell advised he would check with DOT on the timing and get back with Council.

Council Member Jackson had no report.

Council Member King advised he had received complaints from citizens attending Houston County graduations who stated Miller Murphy Howard Building was not large enough to hold everyone, as well as issues with attendees not being allowed to leave their seats to go to the restroom and then not being allowed back in. Mr. Gilmour stated he would follow up by preparing something to go out addressing the issues at hand. Council Member King reminded everyone about the water issue at Westwood Trailer Park. Mayor Faircloth advised that issue was being worked by the City Attorney and requested Mr. Hulbert get back to Council with an update. Additionally, Mr. Schell will check on the tree branch issue on MLK Drive.

Mayor Faircloth advised that the Houston County Board of Education Opening Ceremonies this year has been moved from the Miller Murphy Howard Building to Southside Baptist Church. Additionally, Mayor Faircloth suggested postponing the Walk with the Mayor this month, and will be resumed next month.

Assistant City Attorney Hulbert had no report.

5. Department Head Items:

Mr. Dye reported

- Fall sports registration will be July 10 – 14; late registration will be July 17 - 21

Mr. Smith, Chief Parker, Mr. Wood, Ms. King, and Ms. Palmer had no reports.

Chief Lynn reported

- Demolition of old Animal Control Facility has been completed

Ms. Warren reported

- GMA packages should be received this week via mail

Mr. Schell reported

- Air-conditioner in the upstairs area of the Fire Department is a 15 year old mis-matched unit, is leaking, not cooling and creating mold. Need to consider possible replacement.
- Air conditioner in the server room at the Police Department is a 33 year old unit and need to consider replacing this summer.

Mayor Faircloth requested Mr. Gilmour obtain bids on both. Mayor Faircloth advised there is a brick that is sinking next to Roughton Park and requested Mr. Schell look into it. A citizen has placed a cone in the area of concern.

Ms. Edgemon reported

- The Merchants Association sold 222 tickets for the Annual Wine Tasting.
- Both tram tours were rescheduled due to inclement weather and one has been rescheduled for Thursday, June 8th.

Mr. McMurrian reported

- The sewer repair project at Tucker Road and Ball Street is high priority and will be done during daytime hours. Projects will not be done simultaneously.
- Airport Road Ext. will be closed near 200 Valley Drive this week for repairs.

Mayor Faircloth items

- Received a request from Stephen Shimp, Executive Director – Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agri-Center for visitors to access information on activities at the Fairgrounds through our website. Ms. Palmer will research this possibility and report back to Council with information.
- Wal-Mart is having a grand re-opening Friday, June 9th at 8:00 a.m.
- Striplings is coming to Perry.
- Next Work Session will be Monday, June 19th at 5:00 p.m.
- Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, June 6th

6. Executive Session entered at 7:30 p.m.: On a motion by Council Member Walker, seconded by Council Member King and carried unanimously, Council went into executive session for the purposes of personnel and real estate acquisition.
7. Executive Session adjourned at 8:25 p.m.: Council regular meeting reconvened. Council adjourned the executive session held June 5, 2017 and reconvened into the Council's work session meeting.
8. Adopted Resolution No. 2017- 17 stating purpose of the executive session held on June 5, 2017 was for personnel and real estate acquisition. On a motion by Council Member Bynum-Grace, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jackson and carried unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2017-17 stating the purpose of the executive session held on June 5, 2017 was for personnel and real estate acquisition. (*Resolution 2017-17 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).
9. Adjournment: On a motion by Council Member Jones, seconded by Council Member Hunt and carried unanimously, the reconvened meeting of Council held June 5, 2017 was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.