

MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
March 19, 2018
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Pro Tempore Randall Walker, Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held March 19, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official(s) Absent: Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr.

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

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Kevin Dye – Director of Leisure Services, and Ellen Palmer – Digital Communications Manager.

Guest(s)Speaker(s): None

Media: Kristin Moriarty – Houston Home Journal

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Pro Tempore, Randall Walker

3a. Administration

1. Request for Crossing Guard - Mr. L. Gilmour. Council Member Jones recused himself from this discussion. Administration reviewed a letter from The Westfield School requesting the City provide a crossing guard during the school year. Council discussed several options and came to a consensus they would partner with the school systems on a 50/50 basis if they desire a crossing guard.

2. Response to audit constructive suggestions. – Mr. L. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the responses from the audit suggestions for the Perry Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority. Administration recommended the City take over the accounting functions of any entities, such as the PACVBA, associated with the City. It was the consensus of Council to accept the recommendation of Administration.

3. Continuing Education Proposal – Mr. L. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour advised he had been approached by an employee desiring to continue their education, and asking if the City would advance the money. The City has a policy of reimbursement, but not advancing educational fees. Administration suggested a possible alternative, but after a discussion, Council requested further information for more discussion at the next work session.
4. Proposed policy to require individual meters for commercial locations – Mr. L. Gilmour. Administration recommended a requirement for separate water and/ or gas meters on new construction or alteration/ remodeling of any commercial structure that has units that can be leased, rented or sold. This would fairly distribute costs for each unit. It was consensus of Council to move forward with the recommendation effective immediately.

4. Council Member Items:

Council Members Bynum-Grace, Jones, Jackson and Hunt had no reports.

Council Member King inquired about how a citizen obtains the larger recycling containers. He was advised residents must call Customer Service to request one.

Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Smith and Mr. Hulbert had no reports

5. Department Head/Staff Items:

Ms. King – No report

Chief Parker stated he and Chief Lynn had attended a meeting regarding the impending weather and there was minimal risk for the Perry area.

Mr. Dye stated Wallace Brown is working with Ansley Fitzner to brighten up the smaller parks and rights of way in town. Mr. Brown is also replacing the section markers in Evergreen Cemetery. The County is close to completing its dirt work for the new tennis courts. When it is done, bids will go out for the remainder of the project.

Chief Lynn presented a request from First Baptist Church to close certain streets on Wednesday nights. It was Council's consensus to deny the request. Chief also reported that 2,700 units were at the Family Motor Coach Association at the Fairgrounds and the Good Sam Rally would be there from March 20-25. The Perry Police Department was the first agency in the state to adopt the "Train the Trainer" program last year and it is now expanding to other local law enforcement and some state agencies because of its success in Perry.

Ms. Palmer reported that the first New Employee Orientation was attended by 20 employees who received information on all City departments and how our City government works as well as touring various locations and becoming acquainted with employees in other departments. The feedback was very positive and the class will be done on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Wood gave a heads up that First Baptist Church inquired on the process to relocate the house at 2nd & Main Street.

6. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the work session held March 19, 2018 Council Member Jackson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Council Member Bynum-Grace seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.