

MINUTES
WORK SESSION
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
August 17, 2020
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Randall Walker, Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held August 17, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Randall Walker, Mayor Pro-Tempore Willie King and Council Members Robert Jones, Joy Peterson, Darryl Albritton, Phyllis Bynum Grace and Riley Hunt.

Elected Officials Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, Assistant City Manager Robert Smith, City Attorney Brooke Newby and Recording Clerk Gail Price.

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mitchell Worthington – Director of Finance, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Sedrick Swan – Leisure Services Director, Tabitha Clark – Communications Manager, Haley Bryant – Main Street Coordinator, Ashley Hardin – Economic Development Manager, Annie Warren – City Clerk, Michael Paull – Fire Marshal, Ansley Fitzner – Public Works Superintendent and Todd Ennis – Solid Waste Manager.

Press: Lauren Harris – Houston Home Journal

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Randall Walker

3a. Appearance(s):

1. Discussion relative to a request for a reduced rental rate for the Main Hall at the Perry Arts Center. Ms. Gerrity requested a reduction in the rental rate at the Perry Arts Center. All Council members concurred to table this item until August 18, 2020.

3b. Department of Public Works

1. Downtown District Solid Waste Collection Plan. Ms. Fitzner shared with Council the presentation relative to the Downtown Solid Waste Proposal. Council concurred to move forward as presented.

3c. Fire and Emergency Services Department

1. Follow up relative to request for sidewalk encroachment for 757 Carroll Street. Chief Parker discussed the sidewalk encroachment for 757 Carroll Street. Administration recommends the owner be granted an easement for the platform subject to the following: 1) Platform must be reduced to minimum ADA standards, 2) Handrails installed on both sides and 3) Harmless Agreement executed between the City and Owner. This item will be added to Council's August 18, 2020 agenda for a vote.

3d. Office of the City Attorney

1. State Minimum Fire Safety Standards Ordinance – Amending Chapter 5A and Sections 6–10 & 6-11 of the LMO. Ms. Newby discussed the Fire Safety Standard Ordinances.

3e. Office of the City Manager

1. Special Events presentations – Ms. A. Turpin
 - Recap of Virtual Dance Party – Ms. Turpin shared with Council how many people were reached and the benefits of Virtual Events.
 - Grub Crawl Proposal - Ms. Turpin suggested food vendors come and set up in different locations within the city. Each location would feature two non-competitive vendors, one food vendor and one dessert/beverage vendor. Mr. Gilmour stated this was a good idea. Council concurred for a detailed plan be brought before them.
2. Relocation for the City Hall. Mr. Gilmour discussed the relocation for the city hall. Administration recommends Council authorize JMA Architects to prepare the renovation documents for the replacement City Hall. Council concurred to move forward.
3. Septic tank restrictions. Mr. Gilmour requested that verbiage be changed to septic system rather than septic line. Council concurred to move forward.
4. Downtown District ADA issues. Mr. Gilmour discussed the downtown district ADA issues. Administration recommended, ADA compliance should be accomplished on the property owner's parcel only, if ADA compliance is not be feasible the first option would be to use the alley easements and if there is no alley or not practicable to use the alley an easement may be granted by the City subject to Council review and approval. Council concurred to move forward as proposed.
5. Massee Lane proposed purchase. Mr. Smith discussed the letter he received asking to purchase 600ft. of right of way on Massee Lane. After some discussion Council declined the request.

6. Traffic calming policy proposal. Mr. Gilmour discussed the six points proposed. Administration suggested: 1) Device will require a petition signed by no less than seventy (70) percent, 2) No calming devices can be used on street designated as arterials or major collectors, 3) Street narrowing devices may be allowed if the street is over 1300 ft and no case shall the street width be reduced by twenty (20) foot, 4) Devices must be constructed to account for public safety vehicles, 5) Must be approved by Council after public hearing, and 6) City is responsible for planning, installation, maintenance, and funding. Council concurred to move forward.
7. Review of organizations – Mr. L. Gilmour
 - Perry Houston County Airport Authority. Mr. Gilmour discussed the Perry-Houston County Airport Authority. Administration recommends that no changes be made to the Perry Houston County Airport Authority. Council concurred with Administration’s recommendation.
 - Perry Public Facilities Authority. Mr. Gilmour discussed the Authority review. Administration recommends no changes. Council concurred with Administration’s recommendation.
 - Perry Recreation Commission. Mr. Gilmour discussed the Commission review. Administration recommends repeal sections, eliminate commission, duties assumed by the Director of Leisure Services. Council concurred to eliminate the Perry Recreation Commission.
8. Capital fixed assets request. Mr. Gilmour provided to Council the proposed FY 2021 fixed asset schedule. Administration recommends Council concur with the fixed assets schedule for FY 2021. The consensus of the Council was to move forward.
9. Request to purchase city property. Mr. Gilmour discussed the request to purchase City greenspace. Administration recommends not to sell, not to allow any encroachment and not to lease. This item will be moved to Council’s August 18 pre-council agenda.
10. Consider proposed demolition assistance. Mr. Gilmour discussed the demolition assistance program. Administration recommend and subject to review by the City Attorney in lieu of payment the city would obtain the property title. The City will pay the property owner the assessed value of the land only. The City would demolish any structures. City would title the property to the Houston County Land Bank. This option is only available to parcels being charged the annual fees. Council Member Bynum-Grace was concerned about the demolition in Sand Hill and the citizens not being provided an option. This item will be tabled until Council gets better clarification.

3f. Community Development Department

1. Petition to install speed bumps on Stonegate Trail. Mr. Wood advised his office has received a petition to add speed bumps in the Stonegate Subdivision to deter speed. The petitioner gathered 38 signatures supporting the speed bumps. Council concurred to move forward with a defined plan.

4. Council Members Items:

Mayor Pro-Tempore King, and Council Members Bynum-Grace, Hunt, Albritton and Peterson had no reports.

Council Member Jones – Inquired about progress at Inverness.

Mr. Gilmour and Mr. Smith had no reports.

Ms. Newby – Provided an update on the 5th Judicial Order.

5. Department Head/Staff Items:

Ms. King, Mr. Worthington, Mr. Swan, Ms. Clark, Ms. Warren, Chief Parker, Ms. Hardin, Mr. Wood, Ms. Fitzner and Ms. Bryant had no reports.

Chief Lynn

- Thanked Council for putting vehicles in budget.
- Discussed disposal of surplus vehicles.

Ms. Turpin

- Trivia night August 21, 2020
- My Colorful Community Event September 11 – 13, 2020

Mayor

- Pre-Council meeting August 18 at 5:00pm
- Council Meeting August 18, at 6:00pm

6. Adjourn: There being no further business to come before Council in the work session held on August 17, 2020 Council Member Albritton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Council Member Peterson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.