

MINUTES
PRE-COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
April 20, 2021
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Randall Walker, Presiding Officer, called to order the pre-council meeting held April 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll:

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

Elected Officials Absent: none

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

Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Chief Lee Parker-Fire Department and Emergency Services, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mitchell Worthington – Finance Director, Ashley Hardin – Economic Development Administrator, Ansley Fitzner – Public Works Superintendent, Anya Turpin – Special Event Administrator, Jazmin Thomas - Downtown Manager, Annie Warren - City Clerk.

Media: Brianna Sheffield and Amira Bevill – Houston Home Journal

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Randall Walker

3a. Discussion of April 20, 2021 Council meeting agenda.

4. Moment of Remembrance of Mr. Alando Bray. Mayor Walker asked everyone to take a moment of silence to remember Mr. Bray, a City of Perry employee, who recently passed away from complications relative to COVID-19.

5a. Recognition of Squad 4. Mr. Gilmour will recognize a group of police officers from Squad 4 for outstanding job performance.

5b. Introduction of Assistant Fire Chief Kirk Crumpton, Fire Training Chief Charles Mundy, and Fire Prevention Chief Ephraim Wheeler. Chief Parker will introduce to Mayor and Council the new members of the Perry Fire and Emergency Services executive staff.

9a (1). Second Reading of a text amendment to clarify Secs. 5-1.5-2, 6-6.3, and 6-10.1; revise Table 5-1-2; add setbacks for accessory structures in Table 5-1-3;

and rename as Table 5-2-1; revise and add building heights in Sec. 5-5; and exempt industrial development from certain landscape and tree preservation requirements in Secs. 6-3.1 and 6-4.1. Mr. Wood stated this amendment is for the purpose of modification and clarification.

9a (2). Ordinance establishing the Court Technology. Ms. Newby stated that this ordinance will allow the court to charge a technology fee not to exceed \$25.00. The fee shall be used exclusively to provide for technology needs of the court and police department and the judge will set the fee and use.

11b (1). Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute a supplemental lease and project fund agreement to provide financing for purchase of various vehicles. Ms. King stated the resolution is part of a leasing program from GMA which will allow the City of Perry to purchase various vehicles in the amount of \$756,782.92, at 1.59% interest rate for 3 years.

11.b. (2) Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute a supplemental lease and project fund agreement to provide financing for purchase of a knuckleboom truck. Ms. King advised Mayor and Council that this resolution is to purchase a knuckleboom truck in the amount of \$149,920.00 at 2.35% interest rate for 7 years.

4. Council Member Items:

Council Member Bynum-Grace stated she received a call from a citizen asking if the City could spray for mosquitos. Ms. Fitzner responded the City does not hold a license to spray for mosquitos. License and training is too expensive for the times the City would use it.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jones asked for an update on the Old Stanley property. Mr. Smith responded assessments were completed and working with the engineers to expedite the process relative to demolition. Mr. Smith instructed Mr. Worthington to provide his input as well. Mr. Worthington stated that the Finance Department concluded the bidding process and they received six bids, however, the bids were higher than expected leading to several issues that were being reviewed by staff. Staff anticipates bringing a recommendation of award at the next Council meeting .

Mr. Gilmour presented a map to Mayor and Council regarding the Saddle Creek Road and Arena Road area. Mr. Gilmour stated a potential buyer is interested in donating a piece of land to the City as greenspace. The City Attorney's Office advised to accept the donation the City must have public access to the site. Currently, there is no public access. The potential buyer said they would guarantee access to the site once purchased. Mr. Gilmour stated there are many unknowns about current undeveloped property around the area and how it would develop in the future. Administration recommended not accept the property. Mayor Walker stated that it is hard to see what public purpose the land would be used for. Council concurred with Administration's recommendation.

Mr. Wood informed Mayor and Council the updated countywide comprehensive plan is underway. The Department of Community Development is working with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission. The first public hearing will be held Tuesday, May 11 at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at the Houston County Annex on Carl Vinson Parkway. The Middle Georgia Regional Commission will prepare a survey and will look for citizens interested in participating in the steering committees to shape the plan.

Council Members Peterson, Albritton, Hunt and King had no reports.

Chief Lynn indicated that on his previous discussion regarding people parking in the street in residential areas unless there is a sign indicating "NO PARKING", people will continue to park. Also, in response to Council Member Hunt inquiring about the Byrna weapon, Chief Lynn suggested that after doing research on this weapon he feels that is not a good idea for the police department to use it.

Chief Parker presented to Mayor and Council the new posting sign to be put out when doing hydrant flushing scheduled next week in the neighborhoods.

Ms. Turpin

- Planning Committee for Houston County 200th birthday celebration on May 4 at 11:00 am at the Perry Court House for the official kick off.
- May 14, Food Truck Friday celebrating Happy Birthday Houston County 200th birthday.
- April 24 & 25, Dogwood Festival
- May 1, Art in the Park.

5. Adjourn: There being no further business to come before Council in the pre council meeting held on April 20, 2021, Council Member Peterson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Council Member King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.