

MINUTES  
PRE-COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL  
June 1, 2021  
5:00 P.M.

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

2. Roll:

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

Elected Official Absent: none

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

Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mitchell Worthington – Finance Director, Sedrick Swan – Director of Leisure Services, Ansley Fitzner – Public Works Superintendent, Tabitha Clark – Communications Administrator, Annie Warren – City Clerk, Holly Wharton – Community Planner, Cody Gunn - Chief Building Officer, Ashley Hardin – Economic Development Administrator, and Rachana Patel – Intern.

Media: Brianna Sheffield – Houston Home Journal

Guest(s): None.

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Randall Walker

3a. Discussion of June 1, 2021 council meeting agenda.

4a. Discussion relative to hair salons. Mr. Wood stated that the owner of Tre Bella hair salon will be here to discuss the paving of the parking lot.

4b. Freedom Fireworks application. Mr. Gilmour stated the Chamber is requesting assistance from Fire and Police for the Freedom Fireworks event on July 4, 2021, at the Fairgrounds.

7a. RZNE 0091-2021. Applicant, Juanita Blanford, request rezoning of the property from C-2, General Commercial to R-3, Multi-Family residential district. The property is located at 701 Joe Louis Drive: Tax Map No. 0P0150

025000. Ms. Wharton reviewed the request and was approved by the Planning Commission and Staff with the following condition: Prior to the development of the subject property, the lots owned by the applicant on Joe Louis Drive (707, 709, and 711) shall be combined to develop in conformance with Article 5 – Measurements and Dimensional Standards of the Land Management Ordinance.

7b. Public Hearing for the FY 2022 Operating Budget for the City of Perry. Mr. Gilmour stated this is the public hearing for the FY 2022 Operating Budget. Mr. Gilmour stated that the budget will keep the milage rate at the current rate and does not include any new positions.

9a (1). Second reading of an ordinance for the annexation of the property to the City of Perry for the property located at 111 Hill Road. Ms. Wharton reviewed the annexation request for the property located at 111 Hill Road. Ms. Wharton stated the recommendation from Planning and Zoning and Staff is to approve the request for annexation.

9a (2). Second reading of an ordinance for the rezoning of the property to the City of Perry for the property located at 111 Hill Road. Ms. Wharton reviewed the rezoning request for the property located at 111 Hill Road. Ms. Wharton reviewed the rezoning request for the property. The Houston County Commission concurs with the request for R-2A zoning. The Planning Commission and staff recommend approval of the request for annexation with the zoning classification of R-2A, Single-family Residential District.

9a (3). Second reading of an ordinance for rezoning the property from R-1, Single family residential district to R-2A (City), Single family residential district for the property located at 125 Hill Road. Ms. Wharton reviewed the rezoning request for the property located at 125 Hill Road. Mr. Wharton stated this is a request to rezone 25.52 acres to R-2A. Staff recommends approval of the R-2A zoning classification.

Mayor Walker reminded Council the ordinance(s) will be a voice vote.

9b (1). Resolution to amend the fee schedule relative to the James E Worrall Community Center rental rates. Mr. Gilmour stated this is follow up from Council's May 18, 2021, regular meeting. This resolution is to increase the rental rates and recommends approval of the resolution.

11b (3). First reading of an ordinance to implement a Hotel-Motel Tax of 8%. Ms. Newby stated that per House Bill 613 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Georgia General Assembly authorizes imposition of an excise tax of up to eight percent (8%).

11c (1). Resolution to amend the Education Assistance Policy. Ms. Newby stated that this is to amend the City's education assistance policy that has been updated and recommends approval.

3b. Office of the City Manager.

1. Discuss Hampton Court sidewalk project. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the cost options for the Hampton Court sidewalk project with the recommendation to install the sidewalk on the west side of Hampton Court. The funding for this project will come from the 18 SPLOST. Council concurred unanimously to proceed with the project with the recommendation to install the sidewalk on the west side of Hampton Court.

3c. Community Development Department.

1. Consider accepting Garden Drive for maintenance. Mr. Wood reviewed with Council the request to consider accepting Garden Drive street and maintaining the roadway. Mr. Wood stated the road is currently dirt and would need to be either graveled or paved.

Mayor and Council voiced concerns about setting precedent if it accepts the street, the cost to pave the road, acquiring right of way, running water lines to the customer, and possibly installing a fire hydrant for fire protection. Mr. Gilmour stated the recommendation of the Administration is to deny the request due to it not being economically feasible. Council concurred unanimously to deny the request.

2. Discuss options relative to Home Occupation and Residential Business. Mr. Wood gave Council the follow-up information and comments from the May 17, 2021, work session relative to the home occupation and residential business. Mr. Wood reviewed the difference between the two different businesses, home occupation businesses are for individuals that sell goods from their home i.e., online sales – Etsy.com and Poshmark.com. Residential businesses are ones in which the clients or customers visit the home.

Mr. Wood reviewed his staff's process of issuing permits, review any complaints that are received, and enforcement of the permits issued. Mr. Wood stated that based on the number of permits issued, staff believes the current process of review, approval, and enforcement is working. Council Member Peterson thanked Mr. Wood for the follow-up information, very informative and asked if Council can receive the information about the permits issued on a yearly basis. Mr. Wood stated he would.

4. Council Member Items:

Council Member Bynum-Grace had no reports.  
Mayor Pro Tempore Jones had no reports.

Council Member Albritton wanted to know the latest on the Stanley property. Ms. Newby stated that the notice to proceed with the demolition of the property should be issued by the end of this week.

Council Member Hunt stated that some of the homeowners on Tucker Road had knee-high grass. Mr. Wood stated he would notify Code Enforcement.

Council Member Peterson asked if the speed reader could be installed on Inverness Drive due to more traffic coming from Legacy Park Drive. Chief Lynn stated he would get the reader to Inverness Drive.

Council Member King asked about the flashing light at Jernigan Street and Main Street. Council Member King also asked about the stripping for Marshallville Road. Ms. Fitzner stated that the lights on Jernigan/Main/Carroll Street will be taken down this week and the stripping should start soon.

Mr. Gilmour, Ms. Newby, and Mr. Smith had no reports.

5. Department Head/Staff Items:

Mr. Worthington, Mr. Wood, Chief Lynn, Chief Parker, Ms. Clark, Mr. Swan, Ms. Fitzner, Ms. Warren, Ms. Hardin, Ms. Wharton, and Mr. Gunn had no reports.

Ms. King presented to Mayor and Council for their review of the terms and conditions for the ARP Grant for 6.6 million. Ms. King stated the application deadline for these documents is June 21, 2021. Mr. Gilmour stated this item will be on Council's next agenda for approval.

6. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the pre council meeting held June 1, 2021, Mayor Pro Tempore Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m. Council Member King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.