

**MINUTES**  
**WORK SESSION MEETING**  
**OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL**  
August 16, 2021  
**5:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order: Mayor Randall Walker, Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held August 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
  
2. Roll:  
Elected Officials Present: Mayor Randall Walker; Mayor Pro Tempore Robert Jones, Council Members Phyllis Bynum-Grace, Willie King, Riley Hunt, Darryl Albritton, and \*Joy Peterson.

\* Council Member Peterson left at 6:00 p.m.

Elected Officials Absent: none

Staff: City Manager Lee Gilmour, City Attorney Brooke Newby, Assistant City Manager Robert Smith, and Recording Clerk Annie Warren

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Steve Lynn – Perry Police Department, Chief Lee Parker - Perry Fire and Emergency Services Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mitchell Worthington – Finance Director, Cody Gunn – Chief Building Official, Sedrick Swan – Director of Leisure Services, Ansley Fitzner – Public Works Superintendent, Ashley Hardin – Economic Development Administrator, Danny Hicks – Code Compliance Specialist, Chad McMurrian – Engineering Services Manager, Holly Wharton – Community Planner, and Tabitha Clark – Communications Administrator.

Guest(s)/Speaker(s): Travis Falcione – ESG Operations, Inc.

Media: Lauren Malek – Houston Home Journal

3. PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:01 P.M. Mayor Randall Walker called to order a public hearing at 5:01 p.m. to provide any interested parties with an opportunity to express their views and concerns in accordance with O.C.G.A. Sec. 4-5-32.
  - 3a. Proposed retaining of the operation at 14.050 mills – Mr. L. Gilmour.

Staff Report: Administration reminded Council that property taxes are used for debt services, certified police officers, rescue response units, public safety

dispatch, cost of operating and maintaining public buildings, parks, code enforcement, and residential street lighting. Administration recommended Council retain the current millage rate of 14.050 mills and use the additional revenue for operating and maintenance of the new city hall, addition of four (4) new police officers, an additional code enforcement officer, administrative support, and funding for blight removal.

Public Input: Mayor Walker called for any public input for or opposed to the proposed retaining of the operation at 14.050 mills.

For: none

Opposed: none

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 5:16 P.M. Mayor Walker closed the public hearing at 5:16 p.m.

4. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Randall Walker

4a. Office of the City Manager

1. Welcome Guide. Ms. Clark presented the City's "Welcome Guide" to Mayor and Council and advised ESG Operations, Inc. requested two additional items be added to the guide, natural gas information and safety, and fogs (fats, oils, grease). Council Member Bynum-Grace asked Ms. Clark if she could add the days and times of the pre council meetings.
2. Design change to the proposed South Langston Road extension. Administration reviewed the original proposal and alternates "A" and "B" proposals. Administration recommended Alternate "B" design change, a three-lane road with two through lanes and one continuous turning lane because it would be less costly and sufficient for expected traffic levels. Council concurred with Administration's recommendation of Alternate "B" design change.
3. & 4. Parental leave/Paid Time Off (PTO)proposal. Administration presented for Council's consideration parental leave. Parental leave would be available to full-time employees who has the birth of a child, placement of a minor child for adoption, and the placement of a minor child for foster care. Administration stated employees could have up to 120 hours parent leave in a rolling twelve (12) month period. Administration also recommended shifting the current sick leave/annual leave to paid time off with catastrophic sick leave. Administration stated if Council concurs with the proposal, a series of hearings would be set for future council meetings to allow employees to provide their input relative to PTO. Council concurred with Administration's proposal.
5. Consider amendments to City's comprehensive plan. Administration proposed three changes to the comprehensive plan: 1) establish a service

population of 40,000, 2) amend the City's service area from Firetower Road to Flat Creek, and 3) limit livable/working maximum floor level to four (4) levels. Council concurred with Administration's recommendation to move forward.

6. Utility Report. Mr. Smith reviewed the City's utility report.

7. ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Project Grant. Mr. McMurrin reviewed the city's ARPA project list and discussed funding for the projects. Council concurred to apply for the ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Project Grant and if the grant is approved, the city will provide a 30% local match.

4b. Finance Department

1. Discussion of options for acquiring a Special Events Van.

Mr. Worthington advised Council that Bid No. 2021-21 awarded to Phil Brannen Ford of Perry at Council's February 16, 2021 meeting of Perry in the amount of \$30,992.73 is 12 months out from receiving the vehicle as ordered from Ford. Mr. Worthington stated his office was able to locate a comparable van in stock that is available at Jeff Smith CDJR with a purchase price of \$40,550.00. Staff is recommending the city cancel the order for the Ford Transit Cargo Van and purchase then comparable vehicle from Jeff Smith CDJR. Funding for the difference in the purchase price would come from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Council concurred to bring the proposal forward to Council's August 17, 2021 meeting; Council Member Hunt was against purchasing the van stating the city has enough pick-up trucks and that one could be utilized by the Special Events Manager.

4c. Office of the City Attorney

1. Discussion of a tobacco-free policy. Ms. Newby presented a draft of a tobacco-free policy for all city properties that would require employees who smoke or vape to do so in a designated smoking area. Council concurred to bring the resolution before Council at its August 17, 2021 meeting.

4d. Department of Public Works

1. Stanley Property Improvements. Ms. Fitzner presented to Council an improvement proposal for the former Stanley Property. The proposal included sodding, purchasing flowerpots, and maintaining the large concrete slab. Administration recommended Council approve installation of the sod. Council concurred to move forward with the installation of the sod and installing a picture rendition of the future site.

5. Council Member Items.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jones, Council Members Bynum-Grace, Albritton, and King had

no reports.

Mr. Gilmour reported the demolition contractor on the Stanley site found an old tank full of oil. Administration stated he has a cost \$11,560.00 from the demolition contractor for removal of the tank and recommended Council concur. can be removed for \$11,560.00. Council concurred to move forward with Change Order No.1 with Complete Demolition Services, LLC in the amount of \$11,560.00.

Ms. Newby and Mr. Smith had no reports.

6. Department Head/Staff Items:

Ms. King, Mr. Worthington, Chief Parker, Chief Lynn, Mr. Swan, Ms. Fitzner, Mr. McMurrin, Mr. Gunn, Mr. Hicks, Ms. Clark, Ms. Hardin, and Ms. Warren had no reports.

Mr. Wood

- presented a PowerPoint presentation of the 2020 Census results
- discussed the CDBG and CHIP grant application
- requested Council's concurrence to begin the procurement process to find a grant writer to write the grants. Council concurred with moving forward with applying for the CDBG and CHIP grant application.

Mayor Walker entertained a motion to enter executive session for real estate acquisition.

7. Executive Session entered at 7:00 p.m.: Council Member King moved to adjourn the work session and enter into executive session for the purpose of real estate acquisition. Mayor Pro Tempore Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
8. Executive Session adjourned at 7:17 p.m.; Council work session reconvened. Council adjourned the executive session held August 16, 2021 and reconvened into the council work session.
9. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-32 stating the purpose of the executive session held on August 16, 2021, was to discuss real estate acquisition. Council Member Hunt moved to adopt a resolution stating the purpose of the executive session held on August 16, 2021, was to discuss real estate acquisition; Council Member Albritton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. No action was taken. (*Resolution No. 2021-32 has been entered in the City's official book of record*).
10. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before Council in the work session held August 16, 2021, Council Member Bynum-Grace motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Council Member King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.