

MINUTES
WORK SESSION
OF THE PERRY CITY COUNCIL
October 4, 2021
5:00 pm.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Randall Walker, Presiding Officer, called to order the work session meeting held on October 4, 2021, at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll:

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Randall Walker and Council Members Willie King, Joy Peterson, and Phyllis Bynum-Grace.

Elected Officials Absent: Mayor Pro-Tempore Robert Jones, Council Members Riley Hunt, and Darryl Albritton.

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

City Departmental Staffing: Chief Lee Parker – Fire and Emergency Services Department, Brenda King – Director of Administration, Mitchell Worthington - Finance Director, Bryan Wood – Director of Community Development, Tabitha Clark – Communications Administrator, Sedrick Swan – Director of Leisure Services, Ansley Fitzner – Public Works Superintendent, Annie Warren – City Clerk, Chad McMurrian – Engineering Services Manager, and Jazmin Thomas - Downtown Manager.

Press: Thomas Brooks – WGXA * left at 5:10 pm.

Guest (s): Vickie Graham and Mr. Eric Barlow.

3. Items of Review/Discussion: Mayor Randall Walker.

3a. Department of Community Development.

1. Discuss prohibiting Transient Merchants. Mr. Wood stated that the only location per City Ordinance where merchants are permitted to set up is in a one-block area on Sam Nunn Boulevard with the property owner's permission. Mr. Wood stated that due to the lengthy process of the transient merchant license, the vendor would need to submit a request 5-6 days before the event. Mr. Gilmour stated that he would look at options and bring back the information for Council to review.

3b. Appearance:

Relative to Self-Service Vending Machines in the City of Perry. Mr. Barlow made his case for his request for a self-service vending ice machine set up in front of the Plant Fitness business in the parking space. Mr. Barlow asked Council to consider instead of banning self-service vending machines to restrict the size and permitting. Mayor Walker stated that the moratorium would be going to the Planning Commission to review and give its recommendations.

3c. Employee Hearing:

1. Input from city employees relative to proposed paid time off policy. Mr. Gilmour reviewed some updates since the last hearing. The following are some of the options. Use catastrophic leave for FMLA, COVID leave, if you are injured on the job, and payout for employees who have been employed for over 20 years.

Mayor Walker asked if any employees were present who wanted to address Mayor and Council relative to the PTO proposal.

Ms. Vickie Graham stated that she was a long-time employee and did not think it was fair to take away employee-earned benefits. Ms. Graham stated she is a dedicated employee and should not be deprived of her already earned benefits. The catastrophic plan is not something she hopes ever to have to use, and therefore she would lose her already earned benefits.

3d. Office of City Clerk.

1. Establish Council's 2022 meeting calendar. Ms. Warren reviewed the 2022 Council's meeting calendar, and the only correction is the June 20th being a City Holiday. Council concurred to proceed with the dates, with the correction to June 20th being a City holiday.

3e. Office of City Manager.

1. Proposed job classifications:
 - a. Administrative Adjustments. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the recommended administrative job classification updates. The proposed realignment of skill sets is based on each organization's needs. Each department head was interviewed to determine the requirements. Council concurred to proceed with updates.
 - b. City Attorney Office. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the recommended job classifications for a legal assistant I, II, and Senior in the City Attorney's office. Council concurred to proceed.
 - c. New Positions. Mr. Gilmour reviewed the two new job positions since the adoption of the property tax income increase. The two

positions are Permit Technician I and Special Events Coordinator I. Council concurred to proceed.

2. Recommended allocation of Façade Grant. Mr. Gilmour stated that following up on Council's September 20, 2021, meeting, the Administration recommends Council allocate an additional \$10,000.00 to the Downtown Development Authority of the City of Perry's FY 2022 budget for façade grants. It is also recommended in the façade grant guidelines/eligibility requirements to exclude landscaping and signage. Council concurred to proceed as outlined.

4. Council Member Items:

Council Member Bynum-Grace asked for clarification regarding which retirement plan the catastrophic leave would be placed in when an employee retires after 20 years. Mr. Gilmour stated that the balance of catastrophic leave would be added to the employee contributed retirement plan.

Council Member Peterson asked for clarification on how the shifts for firefighters and police officers work. Chief Lynn stated that police work is they work two days on, two days off. Three days on, they accumulate 86 hours every pay week. They have every other weekend off. Chief Parker said firefighters work 24 hours on, 48 hours off; they earn 96 hours or 120 hours every pay week.

Council Member King stated the totter at Faith Bible Fellowship Church keeps getting stolen.

5. Department Head/Staff Items:

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

Ms. King, Mr. Worthington, Chief Lynn, Mr. Swan, Ms. Fitzner, Ms. Clark, Ms. Thomas, and Mr. McMurrin had no reports.

Mr. Wood reported that Carl Vinson Institute will be on-site to host the Planning and Zoning 101 meeting on Tuesday, October 12th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Event Center. Mr. Wood proposed a date of November 30th for the joint Planning and Zoning and Council meeting. Mr. Wood stated he would email the proposed date to everyone for confirmation. Mr. Wood reported that his department is holding interviews for the Code Enforcement and Building Inspector positions.

Ms. Warren reported that a homeless gentleman has been seen sleeping in Rotary Centennial Park.

6. Adjourn. There being no further business to come before Council in the work session held on October 4, 2021, Council Member King motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 pm, and Council Member Peterson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.