

PERRY CITY WORK SESSION  
PERRY CITY OFFICES  
May 25, 2023

6:03 PM

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Kevin Jeppsen (on-line) presided and conducted the meeting. Council Member Blake Ostler, Council Member Nathan Tueller (arrived at 6:30 PM), Council Member Toby Wright, and Council Member Ashley Young

OFFICIALS ABSENT: Council Member Dave Walker

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Robert Barnhill, City Administrator  
Zach Allen, Public Works Director  
Scott Hancey, Chief of Police  
Bill Morris, City Attorney (on-line)  
Shanna Johnson, City Recorder

OTHERS PRESENT: None

**ITEM 1: Welcome to Order and Welcome**

Mayor Jeppsen welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

**ITEM 2: Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Planning**

Ms. Shanna Johnson said that since the last meeting she has made changes in the garbage utility and wastewater insurance. She expounded that the garbage utility rate needed an adjustment due to the city purchasing the garbage cans (from EconoWaste). She explained that she added \$5k for the year to be used for garbage can equipment. Mr. Barnhill stated that a new can cost approximately \$130 and that the used cans the city purchased were still under warranty. Ms. Johnson mentioned that she looked at the trend for both the insurance on the wastewater treatment plant and vehicle expenses then adjusted those two accounts. She said for review she e-mailed a copy of the updated budget to the council members.

A slide show presentation was given by Public Works Director, Zach Allen on the budget plan for his department. He reviewed projects being worked on this year and explained budget changes for the coming year. He started with the city parks and said there will be a renovation of Mountain View Park playground and new bark put in the swing area of Perry and Anderson Park. He highlighted that there will be a decrease in the mowing contract budget but an increase in the fertilizer budget. He and the council discussed the cost for fertilizer and what the future plans might be once the lawn maintenance contract ends.

Mr. Allen explained that the sewer budget increases were mostly in maintenance cost along with the professional and technical fees. Council Member Ostler asked several questions and for better clarification on the operations and capital needs of the sewer system. Mr. Allen responded to his inquiries.

Mayor Jeppsen asked about water infiltration coming into the sewer lines and if the lines need to be repaired or replaced. Mr. Allen explained the condition of the sewer collection lines, noting that the infiltration will need to be researched and addressed. He noted other operational issues that need to be addressed such as low-level manhole covers, and the cleaning of the sewer lines then he continued his presentation.

Mr. Allen reviewed the storm water budget noting that it will be increased because of street sweeping and line repair in front of our city office building.

Mr. Allen reviewed the streets budget pointing out that the Vintage Farms Road, 2250 South, and 600 West streets were replaced this fiscal year. He recommended that in Fiscal Year 2024 the city put projects on hold in order to save funds to redo 1200 West as one big project along with the installation of the Central Trail.

Ms. Johnson explained how the Class C funds (normally used on projects) might be transferred for the 1200 West capital project. Mr. Barnhill said that they were working on the Central Trail plans now and that this fall they will probably be able to put it out to bid. He said this will be a huge project with land acquisitions and moving portions of the road. The council members discussed the central and north end of 1200 West with the trail ways and when construction might begin. Both Council Member Ostler and Wright suggested if the city needed, they should get a loan to complete this project because it is a vital road for Perry City. Mr. Allen explained his plans to maintain the city roads until that project can be done.

Mr. Allen expounded on the road budget noting that streets lights will be converted to LED and other such miscellaneous operational costs. He then completed his presentation with the water budget explaining that increases in the budget are needed to address city water leaks, new lead and copper EPA compliance, water meter replacements, SCADA upgrades for system monitoring, and for the purchase of a backup motor for a city well. He answered questions from the council members regarding the increased costs of the city utilities. (See Public Works Budget Review)

Ms. Johnson informed the council that they had not yet discussed the wastewater treatment budget, utility rate increases for garbage, and amendments needed for Fiscal Year 2023. Council Member Wright said he would like another work session to discuss the utility rate change and thinks the members can just review the other budget issues. Ms. Johnson suggested they do a work session on June 8, so on June 22, they may have a utility rate change and budget available for an action item. She noted that they do not need a public hearing for the garbage rate change but advised it would be good business to have one. Mayor Jeppsen said this would already be covered in a public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and he didn't feel a separate hearing was needed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Jeppsen closed the work session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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Shanna Johnson, City Recorder

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Kevin Jepps, Mayor

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Anita Nicholas, Deputy Recorder