

QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
6:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zinda McDaniel at 6:31 PM. Council members Morgan, Neloms, DeVane were in attendance. Lula Smart was unable to attend. City Manager Raphael D. Maddox, City Attorney Karla Walker and City Clerk Lola Slydell was also in attendance.

II. INVOCATION

Led By: Pastor Nick Hampton

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Zinda McDaniel

IV. A DOPTION OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Mayor Zinda McDaniel to add Kimberly Hobbs from SGRC (South Georgia Regional Commission) to the agenda as item number VIII, and to add Stephanie Williams from Brooks County Development Authority as item number IX. Motion was seconded by Donald Morgan to approve changes made to agenda and to adopt. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, DeVane).

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Mark DeVane and second by Mattie Neloms to approve meeting minutes from January 3, 2023 and called meeting minutes from January 24, 2023. Voting Yes (Neloms, Morgan, DeVane).

VI. APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

Upon motion by Donald Morgan and second by Mattie Neloms to approve business license requests from TazzMania Creations & More -1131 Barwick Rd. (Face and canvas painting) home office.
Branches of Blessings Inc.-401 Laurel St. (Non -profit) home office
Rochester IA LLC dba Pledger Insurance-1308 W. Screven St.- Insurance Agency
Ken's Country Kitchen LLC-304 S. Court St.- Restaurant

VII. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Employee of the month was awarded to Rachel Herzog, Customer Service Clerk- she was recognized for her hard work and dedication this month.

VIII. SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION-KIMBERLY HOBBS

Kimberly Hobbs from SGRC addressed council concerning the support that SGRC offers to the city, she encouraged council to utilize all the services provided. She also mentioned grant opportunities that are now available to the city and offered assistance when needed to the city.

IX. BROOKS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY-STEPHANIE WILLIAMS

Stephanie Williams addressed council concerning support of the Community Heart & Soul Initiative. She expressed her involvement in the program and how she would love to have the support from the city council. *Community Heart & Soul is a resident-driven process that engages the entire community/ population of a town in identifying what they love most about their community, what future they want for it and how to achieve it.* Councilman Donald Morgan questioned of any additional benefits that the city would have by committing to support this process. Mayor Zinda McDaniel moved to table the item for further research and discussion. Upon motion by Mayor McDaniel and second by Donald Morgan to table item. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, DeVane).

X. MID-YEAR BUDGET EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

City Clerk Lola Slydell provided council with a mi-year budget analysis report which shows a snap-shot of how budgeted funds have been allocated year-to-date and how each department is. She explained the benefits of this report and how it can assist them greatly in the next budget year.

XI. DISCUSSION OF FLOOD PREVENTION INSURANCE PROGRAM/ORDINANCE

City Manager Raphel D. Maddox addressed council on the benefits of the flood prevention ordinance and impressed upon council to consider adopting the flood damage prevention ordinance. Documents that explained the ordinance in more detail was provided to council for further review. No Action Taken

XII. DISCUSSION OF (POAB) PEACE OFFICER'S ANNUITY BENEFITS FUND

City Manager Raphel D. Maddox discussed having/offering this additional coverage/ benefit to our officers. He briefly explained the benefits of the officers having this additional coverage. Upon motion by Mark DeVane and second by Donald Morgan to implement the POAB for the city officers. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, DeVane).

XIII. DISCUSSION OF MORATORIUM -AMEND

City Attorney Karla Walker proposed to extend the current moratorium for another 90 days. She expressed the concern of the re-zoning project being a fairly large one and some delays in the current map updates to proceed. Upon motion by Mark DeVane and second by Donald Morgan to approve the date extension of the moratorium of 90 days (May 2023). Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, DeVane).

XIV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Raphel D. Maddox updated Council on current status of ESG onboarding. He stated that he has conversed with some of the employees about how they are adjusting to the transition and says that he has some both negative and positive feed -back. He mentioned about some of the current projects that ESG has worked on and raved on the great work that has been done. Police Chief Hart also mentioned about the great work that ESG has been doing. Mr. Maddox also updated council on the permit application to fix water leak by Cass Burch

XV. DISCUSSION OF SPRING FAIR/CARNIVAL

Council was updated on the possibility of bringing the fair to Quitman this year and are in the process of locking in some dates for the month of April 2023. City Attorney Karla Walker advised them to forward the mock contract now so that city will be ready. No Action Taken

XVI. OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC

Charlie Baesko 1202 N. Court St. expressed his concern around speeding cars on that street. He explained the peak times of the speeding activity is usually around 7:00am -7:45am and then around 3:30 pm. He expressed possibly putting speedbumps in the area to help with this issue.

Cheryl Holmes 400 W. Green St.-expressed her concern about her neighbor being able to repair pallets in his back yard. She states that this has become an issue with the noise and the smoke that comes across from his property. She is wanting the city to assist in stopping the activity. She feels his property is too small and too close to other homes and is creating an issue. Ms. Holmes also provided council with a signed petition from the other neighbors wanting the noise to stop.

Joyce Walker- 840 E Lafayette St- expressed her frustration with rising costs of utility bills and says that she is concerned about the rates and others who are on a fixed income, residents like her will struggle greatly because of this. She requested to meet with the City Manager to discuss her concerns further.

Andrew Wade- 1006 S. Walker St.- expressed his interest in a right of way (alley) Inverted-City Manager Raphel D. Maddox briefly explained to him some of the steps that could be taken to assist him with this. He expressed to him to next steps would be to speak with the neighbors about his interest in the alley. City Attorney Karla Walker will look further into this matter.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to (OCGA 50-14-(6))

Upon motion by Mark DeVane and second by Mattie Neloms to enter into executive session at 7:47pm. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, DeVane).

To discuss/ deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA50-14-(6)). Council also discussed current Waste Management contract. Upon Motion by Mark DeVane and second by Mattie Neloms to exit out of Executive Session at 8:15 pm unanimously approved. Voting Yes. (Morgan, Neloms, DeVane).

XVIII. ADJOURN

Motion by Lula Smart second by Mark DeVane to adjourn at 7:40P.M. was approved. Voting Yes (Smart, Morgan, Neloms, DeVane.)



Zinda McDaniel, Mayor



Lola Slydell, City Clerk

3.7.23
Date minutes was approved