

QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 2, 2023
6:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zinda McDaniel at 6:33 PM. Council members Morgan, Neloms, DeVane and Smart were in attendance. City Manager Raphel D. Maddox, City Attorney Karla Walker and City Clerk Lola Slydell were also in attendance.

II. INVOCATION

Led By: Pastor Jim Pitts

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Zinda McDaniel

IV. A DOPTION OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Lula Smart and second by Donald Morgan to adopt the agenda as presented. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, DeVane).

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Mark DeVane and second by Mattie Neloms to approve meeting minutes from April 4, 2023. Voting Yes (Neloms, Morgan, Smart, DeVane).

VI. APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

Upon motion by Lula Smart and second by Donald Morgan to approve business license requests:

A. X-Town Vapes, Inc.-406 E. Screven St. -retail vape shop

B. China Hot HZF Inc.- 1204 W. Screven St.-new ownership/name change-restaurant

Voting Yes (Neloms, Morgan, Smart, DeVane).

VII. ECG APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE 2023

Upon motion by Donald Morgan and second by Lula Smart to appoint Raphel D. Maddox (City Manager) as ECG voting delegate. Voting Yes (Neloms, Morgan, Smart, DeVane).

VIII. DEPT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENTAL DISIBILITIES- JERRY FOLSOM & PAM CARTWRIGHT

Pamela Cartwright informed council on some of the services offered by Legacy Behavioral Health Services. With this month being recognized as mental health awareness month the organization wanted to updated the community about its programs. Legacy Behavioral Health offers a wide variety of assistance to many counties in South Georgia, with Brooks County being one of them. Some of the services they offer residential and housing services, peer support services, Case management Service as well as Medicated Assisted Treatment. Legacy place has several locations throughout the state of Georgia, one being located in Valdosta, Ga.

IX. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & IMPROVEMENT OUTREACH CENTER

Dr. Felicia Ratliff informed council on the mission, vision and purpose of the outreach center. She discussed some of the services they offer and how members of the community can reach out for assistance. The vision of the corporation is to improve the quality of living for families and the communities by providing resources, support and education as needed or during a crisis. Their target audience is underserved veterans, disabled, the elderly and at risk youth and families. Women Empowerment & Improvement Outreach Center is located at Quitman Housing Authority Community Center 706 Meadow Rd. Quitman, Ga. And can also be contacted at 850-851-6175 or empowerment.improvement@gmail.com

X. TEMPORARY USE PERMIT-EMMANUEL NEW BEGINNINGSMINISTRIES

City Clerk Lola Slydell advised council of a temporary use permit request from Emmanuel- New Beginnings Ministries. The event is to be held on May 20, 2023 from 12:00pm-4:00pm at the Court House Square. The Request is for use of a microphone with Bluetooth speaker. This is a one- day event expected not to exceed 100 people. Upon motion by Mattie Neloms and second by Lula Smart to approve the temporary use permit. Voting Yes (Neloms, Morgan, Smart, DeVane).

XI. DISCUSSION OF AUDIT- UPDATE

City Manager Raphel D. Maddox advised council on some of the scheduling changes and hours of operation for City Hall to accommodate for accelerated work on past years audit. City Clerk Lola Slydell updated council on the current progress that has been made and upcoming dates for continued work with Brenda Norton. She also discussed recent findings and expected timeframe on completion. No action taken.

XII. BROOKS COUNTY COLLECTION OF CITY PROPERTY TAX AGREEMENT-CONTRACT

Council reviewed the contract for Brooks County to continue to collect taxes for the City of Quitman. Council discussed distribution of funds according to contract and approved to disburse one check to the county for compensation of services. Upon motion by Mark DeVane and second by Donald Morgan to accept contract for the county to continue to collect taxes for the city. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, DeVane).

XIII. DISCUSSION OF PARKING VARIANCE FOR DOLLAR GENERAL

Sherry Davidson addressed council concerning Parking Variance petition presented by Tyler Graybin agent of Teremore Development for the new construction of a Dollar General in City Limits. The required parking spaces in section 4-14.6 in the Quitman Land Development Ordinance from 54 spaces to 32 spaces. The property is located on the southwest corner of East Screven St. and Second St. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, DeVane). Sherry stated that the City's Planning Commission met on April 19, 2023 and voted unanimously to approve the parking variance and a public hearing was held on May 2, 2023 @ 5:00 pm. Upon motion by Donald Morgan and second by Lula Smart to approve the parking variance request from Teremore Development. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart) Voting No Mark DeVane. Motion passes.

XIV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

who contributed to Georgia Cities Week to make it a success, he stated we had a great turnout and look forward to next year's to be even better. He updated council on ESG's progress the last 3 months and stated that he was pleased with how much things have improved since bringing ESG aboard. Mr. Maddox gave recent updates on the improved condition of the city wells, lift stations and water tower. He also stated how the city is beginning to look better because of quicker responses to water leaks and pothole repairs. Mr. Maddox is looking forward to presenting council with a slideshow to show some of the improvements made by the city.

XV. OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC

Cheryl Holmes 400 W. Green St.-addressed council concerning recent videos she submitted for review and states she has not received an update. City Attorney Karla Walker stated she would review the recordings and follow-up with the City Manager.

Lula Smart expressed her concern about the limbs and leaves pick up in certain areas of the city. City Manager Raphael D. Maddox explained the work order process and advised that residence know that trees that have been cut down are not apart of the regular limb and leaves service the city provides. Residence can contact Deep South if they desire this service and they will be billed by Deep South directly.

Donald Morgan expressed his concern around yard clippings being dumped in other areas and **how to** address this issue.

Gary Christian 404 S. Walker St.- asked council if they noticed the crime rate going up in light of the two new liquor stores that has opened in the city limits. No update on this matter.

Mattie Neloms wanted to know if we had an update on the fair/carnival. City Manager Raphael D. Maddox stated that fall is still projected time from promoters.

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

Time in 7:20 P.M motion by Lula Smart second by Mattie Neloms was approved.

Voting Yes- (Neloms, Smart, DeVane, Morgan).

Time out 7:50 P.M. motion by Mark DeVane second by Lula Smart was approved.

Voting Yes- (Neloms, Smart, DeVane, Morgan).

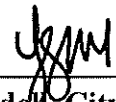
To discuss/ deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA50-14-(6)).

XVII. ADJOURN

Motion by Donald Morgan second by Lula Smart to adjourn at 7:52P.M. was approved.

Voting Yes (Smart, Morgan, Neloms, DeVane.)


Zinda McDaniel, Mayor


Lola Slyden, City Clerk

6.13.23
Date minutes was approved