

QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 4, 2024
6:30PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zinda McDaniel at 6:32PM. Council Members Don Morgan, Mattie Neloms, Lula Smart, and Kechia Harrison were present. Interim City Manager Nancy Dennard, City Clerk Karla Baena and City Attorney Karla Walker were also in attendance. The meeting was accessible to the public via [Zoom](#).

II. INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Rev Arnold.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by: Mayor Zinda McDaniel

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Mattie Neloms and seconded by Don Morgan to adopt agenda as presented. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, Harrison).

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- i. Regular Meeting Minute -- May 7, 2024
- ii. Called Meeting Minutes- Budget Workshop -- May 21, 2024

Upon motion by Mattie Neloms and second by Lula Smart to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from May7, 2024 and Called Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2024. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Harrison, Morgan).

VI. APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

- i. The Cove Nutrition Bar (Smoothie/Nutrition Shop) 206 East Screven Street

Upon motion by Mattie Neloms and second by Lula Smart to approve the business license for The Cove Nutrition Bar. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Harrison, Morgan).

VII. DISCUSSION FOR BUDGET TO RENOVATE OLD CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Council Don Morgan proposed to the council to renovate the City's old Christmas decorations. Morgan suggested a budget of approximately \$1500 to be used to renovating the Christmas decorations.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Gary Christian expressed his concern of the overpass on South Court, trash and water rushes into Bethel AME Church property.
- B. A residence of Hilldale Heights (705 Norman Drive.) brought the attention to the council of a sewer that is covered in trash, as well as a tree leaning towards her home.
- C. Residence of Quitman also talked about potholes that need to be fixed on:
1414 Reddick Rd
701 Norman Dr
704 Savannah Avenue.
- D. Andrew Wade was concerned about the City increasing utility rates. Wade suggested the city find other alternatives to increase revenue. Wade also questioned the FEMA aid the city is receiving. Interim City Manager Dennard explained the money from FEMA has to be returned to the accounts where money was used during Hurricane Idalia.

IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Informational Items

- I. Interim City Manager Nancy Dennard requested a definite decision from the Council to anticipate the City's 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget such as wages, and combination of departments. Dennard also informed the council of various ways the City can increase revenue such as utility rates, mileage rate, and charges for other services. Council Morgan suggested the City collects money owed. Don Morgan informed the Public the City of Quitman is losing officers to surrounding police departments due to higher salaries.
- II. Interim City Manager Nancy Dennard informed the council of a breach in emails, a new security authorization will be enforced for all City personnel starting June 5, 2024.
- III. The DFACS contract has been extended.
- IV. MEAG's rebate for telecommunications has increased to \$6562 compared to last year's rebate of \$98.
- V. The Public and Council were informed of the quality water report, that is required by EPA. Information about the water report can be accessed on the City website, City Hall Administrative Office and will be published in the Quitman Free Press. David Frost (ESG) confirmed the water quality is up to standards with the required certifications.
- VI. Interim City Manager Dennard informed the council about reaching out to the Water Exchange Team to find financial help for the city. ESG will be aiding the City to qualify for financial assistance. ESG suggested for the City to purchase a generator for the City

wells at an approximate expense of \$130,000. Interim City Manager Dennard Suggested to use SPLOST funds for the generator in advance to the hurricane season.

B. Action Items

- I. David Frost explained a recurring sewage blockage on North Culpepper and Bartow. David presented a quote of \$8,400 through JWA to repair the disconnection of the sewer main. Interim City Manager Dennard and Don Morgan suggested using SPLOST Funds for this project.

Upon motion to approve by Don Morgan and seconded by Mattie Neloms. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Harrison, Morgan).

X. Executive Session

Pursuant to (OCGA 50-14-(6))

Time in 7:50PM motion by Lula Smart and seconded by Mattie Neloms was approved.

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

Time out 7:59PM motioned by Don Morgan and seconded by Lula Smart.

Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Harrison, 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; (OCGA50-4-(6))

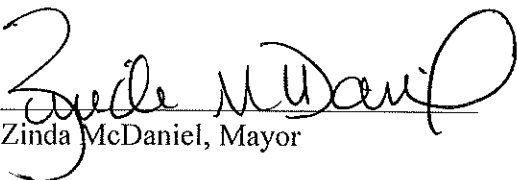
Upon motion by Don Morgan to hire Christopher Davis as City Manager.

Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Morgan). Voting No (Harrison).

XI. ADJOURN

Upon motion by Lula Smart and seconded by Mattie Neloms to adjourn at 8:00PM.

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


Zinda McDaniel, Mayor


Karla Baena, City Clerk

Date Minutes Approved: 7-2-24

City of Quitman, Georgia

Brooks County

EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT

AFFIDAVIT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

Zinda McDaniel, Mayor of the City of Quitman Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief: The City of Quitman Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on June 4, 2024. During such meeting, the Council voted to go into executive session. The executive session was called to order at 7:50 am/~~pm~~ and the executive session ended at 7:59 a.m./~~p.m.~~. The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meeting law:

1. ___ Consultation with the City's Attorney to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceeding, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the City of Quitman, any City employee or in which the City of Quitman, or any Commissioner/City employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A § 50-14-2(1); Voting on settlement of pending or potential litigation O.C.G.A § 50-14-1(b)(1)(A);
2. Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a City employee but not when receiving evidence or hearing argument on charges filed to determine disciplinary action of a public officer as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2) & O.C.G.A § 50-17-72(a)(11). Interviewing candidates for City Manager as provided in O.C.G.A § 50-14-3(b)(2);
3. ___ Discussion or voting authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(B);

This 4 day of June, 2024.

Zinda McDaniel, Mayor

Sworn and subscribed
Before me this 4 day of June, 2024.
My Commission Expires: June 10, 2028

Karla B. Baena

