

**CITY COUNCIL:**  
**MAYOR ZINDA McDANIEL**  
**MAYOR PRO TEM LULA SMART**  
**COUNCIL MEMBER KECHIA HARRISON**  
**COUNCIL MEMBER DONALD MORGAN**  
**COUNCIL MEMBER MATTIE NELOMS**



**CITY OFFICIALS:**  
**CITY MANAGER WILLIE BURNS**  
**INTERIM CITY CLERK HEIDI GARDNER**  
**ATTORNEY KARLA WALKER**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE LAWRENCE MCGEE**  
**FIRE CHIEF ANTHONY GUARINO**

**QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday December 3, 2025**  
**6:30 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Zinda McDaniel called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Those present Mayor Pro Tem Lula Smart, Councilmen Keicha Harrison, Donald Morgan, and Mattie Neloms. Also present were City Manager Willie Burns and City Attorney Karla Walker.

**II. INVOCATION**

Mayor called on Robbie Christian to give the invocation.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor McDaniel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**—Due to computer issues the previous minutes were not approved.

**V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mayor McDaniel called for adoption of agenda. Councilmen Neloms made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Smart seconded, all in favor. Motion passed.

**VI. MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor McDaniel gave a reminder of the Downtown Holiday Event December 4<sup>th</sup> at Courthouse Square and vendors that will be present. McDaniel made a reminder announcement of Third Thursday Event Downtown. McDaniel extended her report and called upon Chief of Police Law McGee for a report on upcoming events for the Police Department. Chief McGee announced that the department has several events coming up. Hugs N Mugs Movie Night being held at the BC3 Fairgrounds on December 6 5pm-8pm, December 13 Crime Hall Meeting in the Annex Building from 11am-12pm, December 22 Coffee with a Cop at Camillas Creamery from 9am-12pm. Chief McGee announced Training and Certifications for the police department are up to date with annual training and certifications. One cadet will be graduating December 19<sup>th</sup>. After this academy the department has 3 or 4 cadets going to the January academy and the department will have well over certified officers. Crime suppression areas, Bartow, Barnes, Jefferson, and Madison and there

will be a heavy police presence in those areas. Due to complaints and suspicious activity. Teddy bears and Blanket drive is still ongoing. Mayor McDaniel extends her report and calls upon Fire Chief Anthony Guarino with important reports for the Fire department. Chief Guarino announces it is the first time in City of Quitman Fire Department that everyone of its personnel is certified, with the completion of basic recruit training of Etan Bell and Jashaun Baker they just graduated basic recruit class last week. All 17 of personnel are completely certified (Firefighter 1). 13 out of the 17 have completed their Firefighter 2 which is more of a command presence on the scene. A total of 6 EMRs. A total of 7 EMTs and 5 EMRs and 6 have earned certification of instructor. All which has occurred within 5 months. During so they managed to complete these certifications with a total of 557 calls for the year, and Assistant Chief Monchez Thomas was able to service all 208 of the fire hydrants in a week. 162 fire plans as well.

#### **VII. CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Mr. Burns reports the audit is moving along. They're in 2020. Moving forward audit updates will be posted via Facebook. He says the audit process is very important as the city has not had an Audit in 5 years, the journey doesn't end there. Once the auditing is complete and put together an auditing firm will audit the current auditing firms work and then forward to the State of Georgia. City Manager Mr. Burns states that once that is complete that we should be able to successfully apply for Grants, which will go to roads, infrastructure. There's a large amount of funds lost each day taxes are collected to fix your city. But you can't apply for it because audits are not done. Robbie Christian asked can funds be released since the 2018-2019 have been completed. Mr. Burns states nothing will be able to be applied for or released until all years are complete.

#### **VIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor McDaniel calls upon the public for any questions or concerns. James Lawrence presents with a 2-part question. Lawrence asks if the records that have been reconciled have been completed up until 2020 with 2020 being worked on now? Mr. Burns stated yes. His second question was about his open request. He stated that he has submitted them and only reported to the Georgia claims because he felt like he was getting incomplete records. City attorney Ms. Walker explained to Mr. Lawrence that we cannot provide him with records that we do not have. That we will diligently try to continue to provide him with complete records as they are available.

Mr. George Boston Rimes from Geto Free Press was called upon and stated he covers city council meetings in the surrounding area. He complimented the city annex building. He also states that citizens would not feel this comfortable addressing the Mayor and Council as he witnessed tonight. He spoke to James Lawrence and stated that he applauds him for following city government. But from his experience he would not be able to address the Mayor and City Council and get an answer. He complimented the Mayor and Council on their professional approach.

Mr. Robbie Christian Jr was called upon with a question concerning the audit and has a question on why there has been a fleet of vehicles bought by the city. Mr. Burns stated when ESG left they took all the vehicles they owned. He stated that the workers need to get around and the reduction of cost for ESG made those purchases applicable. Mayor McDaniel gives an open invitation to Mr. Robby Christian Jr to come get information and updates from Mr. Burns as Mr. Christian will soon be entering office.

Mr. Christian was called upon and stated he is puzzled because he feels the laws have change about the vehicles concerning the atv, golf carts, side by sides. The mayor explains that this is a golf cart approved city. Chief McGee states that the ordinance would need to be reviewed. He also states that he is interested in purchasing a tiny house. City Attorney states that they must check with zoning.

Citizen 512 Bartow Street did not state her name but stated that this was her 3<sup>rd</sup> month coming with the complaint of the wires hanging from her poles. Mr. Burns stated that Issac, the electrician supervisor, went to her property and observed that they are indeed not city wires they are a telephone company wires and the city cannot touch it. He stated that we will get in contact with Issac to double check and will get back to her.

Tom Wheeler was called upon and commended the city council on the work that had been done with the wires on Base Street. He stated we need grant money and thanked the city council for their service on getting the audits in progress. Also states the stop signs on Drylake and Webster Road have been replaced.

**IX. ADJOURN**

Being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

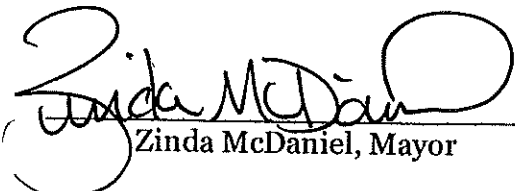
**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**


Begin 7:20pm

Mr. Burns motions -Interim Clerk for Heidi Gardener and Amber Moore  
Assistant City Clerk vote yes Don 1<sup>st</sup>, Lula 2<sup>nd</sup> all four in favor.

6 months finish with audit. Audits possibly completed by March

Mr. Burns spoke on budgeting for Department Heads.  
Executive Session Adjourn at 7:38pm yes Mattie 1<sup>st</sup> Don 2<sup>nd</sup> end session

  
Zinda McDaniel, Mayor

  
Heidi Gardner, City Clerk

Date Minutes Approved: 12/23/2025