

**QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

**6:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Pastor Leory Hunter

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by: Mayor Zinda McDaniel

**IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

A. Regular Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2024

B. Called Meeting Minutes- April 16, 2024

Upon motion by Lula Smart and second by Mattie Neloms to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from April 2 ,2024 and Called Meeting Minutes from April 16. 2024, were approved. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Harrison, Morgan)

**VI. APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES**

a. Meraki Designz (315 E Screven Street) Braiding/Hair Studio

b. Community Veterinary Clinics, LLC dba VIP Petcare (1203 W Screven Street) – temporary vet clinic set up inside Tractor Supply Store twice monthly for 1.5 hours.

Upon motion by Lula Smart and second by Mattie Neloms to approve the business license request, were approved. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Harrison, Morgan)

**VII. POLICE DEPARTMENT PROPOSED BUDGET- Chief Hart**

- a. \$7.00 increase in starting pay for new officers
- b. \$7.00 increase in pay for current officers
- c. Need six new computers for patrol cars
- d. Add a bathroom, evidence room and conference room onto the police building
- e. Improve the police department so that it qualifies for State Certification
- f. Request Flocka camera system- will present information on May 21, 2024

#### **VIII. FIRE DEPARTMENT PROPOSED BUDGET – Chief Demps**

- a. Increase pay for all firefighters
- b. New set of battery-operated extrication tools (jaws of life)
- c. New roof for fire station
- d. Need five sets of new turn out gear

#### **IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

##### **A. Informational Items**

1. Paint the Town Mural Competition was successful
  - Myra Hurst “Quitman Court House Brooks County”
  - BCHS Art Department “Let’s Quit Man”
  - Enrique Molina “God Bless Quitman”
  - Rio Artist “Honky Tonk Blues Man” – 1st Place Winner
2. 2024 Budget Meeting Calendar has been developed, next mtg. May 21st @ 6:00
3. GMA Conference June 20th – June 25th Savannah GA
4. ESG Dinner Invitation- June 21st Vic’s on River, Savannah
5. FEMA category E (building damage) and category F (utility damage) is ongoing
6. GDOT Notice of Failure to Submit Information for Utility Coordination May,1 2024 - The initial request was sent on August 22, 2023, reminder was sent October 16, 2023, with no response from the City. When Dr. Dennard became aware of the request, she contacted Tom Sloope of Carter & Sloope, and they consented to complete the job. Through miss

communications with GDOT the plans were submitted to the wrong department. David Frost, project manager for ESG confirmed this matter has been resolved.

#### **B. Action Items**

1. Upon motion by Don Morgan and second by Kechia Harrison to allow Clifton Underground Utilities to use a temporary billable water meter on a fire hydrant to obtain water for use installing AT&T fiber optics from Quitman – Boston, GA was approved. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, Harrison).
2. Upon motion by Donald Morgan and second by Kechia Harrison to approve new ESG contract in the amount of \$1,333,196.00. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, Harrison).

#### **X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- a. Don Morgan stated that the old Quitman jail is to be visited by Ghost Buster of Pavo, GA on 5-9-24, with a Saturday overnight stay.
- b. Possible new group life insurance policy for City employees- Don Morgan will follow up with citizen by 5-9-24
- c. Inquiry about animal control services
- d. Concerns with planning board meeting timeliness, City's inability to acquire State grants and City Council's appointments.

#### **XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Time in **8:14PM** motion by Mattie Neloms and seconded by Lula Smart was approved. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Morgan, Harrison).

Time out **9:40PM** motion by Mattie Neloms and seconded by Don Morgan. Voting Yes (Neloms, Smart, Morgan, Harrison).

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))

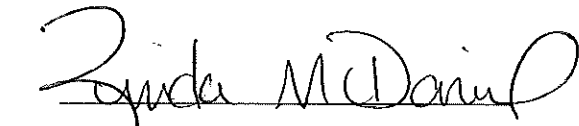
Upon motion by Lula Smart and second by Kechia Harrison to approve CKH Consulting,


LLC's proposal to provide staff augmentation services in accounting to the City of Quitman was approved. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, Harrison).

Upon motion by Lula Smart and second by Mattie Neloms to approve Karla Baena as City Clerk was approved. Voting Yes (Morgan, Neloms, Smart, Harrison).

**XII. ADJOURN**

Upon motion by Don Morgan and seconded by Lula Smart to adjourn at 9:50 PM. Voting Yes, (Morgan, Smart, Neloms, Harrison).

  
Zinda McDaniel, Mayor

  
Karla Baena, City Clerk

Approved Date: 6/10/24

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 May 7, 2024. During such meeting, the Council voted to go into executive session. The executive session was called to order at 8:14 am/pm and the executive session ended at 9:40 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024  
Zinda McDaniel, Mayor



Sworn and subscribed

Before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024.

[Signature] My Commission expires: 2-4-2025