

QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 06, 2011
7:00 PM

Mayor Curtis L. Pickels called the meeting to order with Council members Annie D. Bower, Nikki L. Bradley and Virgil Walker Jr. in attendance. Councilperson Wendell E. Chisholm was not in attendance at this meeting.

Fire Chief Clay Lee Phillips led those in attendance in prayer.

Item No. 1: March 2011 Minutes

Mr. Walker moved that the March 01, 2011 Regular minutes be approved as presented to the Council. Ms. Bower seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Item No. 2: Zoning Issues

1] Request for Special Exception for Manufactured Home / Jim McGhee Sr.

Mr. Jim McGhee has requested a special exception for the placement of a manufactured home on his property located at the southeast corner of West Hill and South Laurel Streets (Q13 0233). This property is not located within the City of Quitman's historic district.

The Board of Zoning Appeals met on Tuesday, April 05, 2011 at 10:00 am concerning this application. The BZA has forwarded a recommendation of approval to the City Council. Due to the fact that no public was in attendance, the public hearing was postponed and scheduled for this City Council meeting.

Mayor Pickels declared the public hearing opened concerning this application. There was no one in attendance that wished to comment. Mayor Pickels declared the public hearing closed.

Ms. Bower moved to approve the application for a special exception submitted by Mr. Jim McGhee Sr. Ms. Bradley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Zoning Administrator's Report

Janice M. Jarvis, City Clerk/Zoning Administrator gave an update on the activities of the Zoning Department during the month of March 2011. The activities included:

- Staff and City Attorney met with members of the Destination Brooks team to discuss recommended changes to the Historic Preservation Ordinance.
- Reviewed and studied zoning ordinances for other comparable cities.

- Met with numerous citizens concerning zoning issues.
- Continued working with members of the Southern Georgia Regional Commission on training options for Planning Commission and BZA Board members.
- Articles concerning the development of walkable communities and creating a community with a strong sense of place was provided to each council member.

Item No. 3: City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Janice M. Jarvis gave an update on the following items:

- Provided summaries of revenues/expenditures for the month of February 2011
- Provided accounts payable reports for the months of February and March 2011
- Provided manual check and journal entry reports for the months of February and March 2011
- No deposit accounts were opened or closed during the month of March 2011.
- No certificates were purchased during the month of March 2011.
- Mailed delinquent notices on all unpaid advalorem tax accounts on March 25, 2011
- Mailed delinquent notices on all unpaid occupation tax accounts
- Presented copies of June 30, 2011 financial statements and audit report
- Gave an update on tax accounts over three years past due that are currently in the levy process
- Gave an update on the GMA convention registration for council members
- Encouraged council members to present budget requests for the 2011/2012 annual operating budget as soon as possible
- Gave an update on ARRA grant reporting
- Gave an update on Ethics Resolution and Ordinance

The Council will meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 03,2011 in order to review the 2009-2010 financial statements and audit reports with Mauldin & Jenkins.

Item No. 4: City Attorney's Report

City Attorney C. Gerald Spencer gave an update of activities during the month of March as follows:

- Worked with staff on issues involving tax levies, zoning issues, etc.
- Met with staff and Destination Brooks members to review recommended changes to the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance. Recommended changes include giving the Historic Preservation Commission "approving authority" in enforcing the Historic Preservation Ordinance. The Quitman City Council would serve as an appellant body. The second change to the existing ordinance would provide that all members of the Historic Preservation Commission must reside within the city limits of Quitman. It was brought out that these items must be changed in order for the City of Quitman to receive a designation as a "Certified Local Government".

A lengthy discussion was held concerning the recommended changes to the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Council member Nikki Bradley asked the City Attorney to check with surrounding communities on any issues or complaints received concerning their Historic Preservations ordinances and report back to the council.

Item No. 5: City Manager's Report

1] Destination Brooks Update

Councilperson Nikki L. Bradley gave an update on the activities of the Destination Brooks team during the month of March 2011. Items reported on were:

- Skillet Festival
- Marketing and branding
- New artwork was presented to council.
- Fundraisers
- Solicitation for donation from Brooks County.
- Solicitation of corporate sponsors and vendors
- Solicitation for musical groups for festival

2] Brooks County Library Report

The Council was presented with a copy of the Brooks County Library Board report for the month of March 2011.

3] Transportation Investment Act

Staff has submitted projects to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission for consideration in the upcoming Transportation Investment Act. The projects will be reviewed by the Georgia Department of Transportation and SGRC representative. The City of Quitman will begin receiving approximately \$76,000 annually for road maintenance projects. The City of Quitman will piggyback with Brooks County on all state requested repairs and maintenance projects.

4] Victims Assistance Program

The Department of Family and Children Services and the Brooks County Victims Assistance Program will share the current state of Brooks County's social services system at a meeting to be held at the Brooks County Library on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. Breakfast will be served. All councilmembers were encouraged to attend.

5] Post-Census Reapportionment

The recent release of the 2010 census figures trigger reapportionment of Congressional seats, House and Senate districts and local government districts. Due to the City of Quitman hold municipal elections in the fall of 2011, it is important that any corrective action be taken immediately. The City Attorney is currently determining if any changes are needed to the City's elective districts.

6] Internet Count

The internet sub count for the month of March 2011 was 133.

7] Cable TV Counts

Basic:	77
Advanced:	535
Premium:	301
Advanced/Cinemax:	36
<u>Premium/Cinemax:</u>	<u>70</u>
Total Count	1,020

8] Employee of the Month

The April 2011 Employee of the Month is Mr. Terrance Vinson of the Electric Department.

NON-AGENDA ITEM(S):

Mr. Walker moved that the City guarantee a bank loan for the Brooks County Airport Authority for the construction of a gas fueling facility and four (4) hangers, contingent on Brook's County's equal participation in the project. The loan is to be paid back by hanger lease revenues. Ms. Bower seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Ms. Bradley moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Janice M. Jarvis, City Clerk

Curtis L. Pickels, Mayor