

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 02, 2011
AT 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Curtis L. Pickels called the meeting to order with council members Nikki L. Bradley, Annie D. Bower, and Virgil A. Walker Jr. in attendance. Council member Wendell E. Chisholm was unable to attend this meeting due to illness.

Mayor Pickels led those in attendance in prayer.

ITEM NO. 1: APPROVAL OF JULY 2011 MINUTES

Ms. Bower moved that the July 12, 2011 minutes be approved as submitted to the council. Ms. Bradley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ITEM NO. 2: CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Summaries of revenues/expenditures were provided for council's review.

July 2011 accounts payable, manual check and journal entry reports will be available to council members at the August 09, 2011 meeting.

Staff is continuing closing 2010-2011 books in preparation for the annual audit scheduled to begin on August 08, 2011.

Proposed ad valorem tax millage rate and five-year history was advertised in the July 20th issue of the Quitman Free Press. A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, August 09, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. with a called meeting to follow at 6:15 p.m. for adoption of the millage rate. This will precede a workshop with the City Council and Destination Brooks at 6:30 p.m. on the same night.

The upcoming 2011 General Election was advertised in the July 27, 2011 issue of the Quitman Free Press. The ad is scheduled to run again in the August 10th issue.

Met with John Spearman, Brooks County Elections Superintendent, to discuss the upcoming City of Quitman General election.

Met with Councilmember Nikki L. Bradley, City Manager Dan Herring, Fire Chief Clay Phillips, Chief of Police Wesley Ross and staff to discuss plans for the upcoming City of Quitman Safety Day for Children and parents. This event is planned for Saturday, September 10, 2011.

Met with representatives from Nexcheck to discuss on-line utility bill payment options.

Attended Destination Brooks planning meeting (Skillet Festival) held on July 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Continue to work with USDA on Community Facilities Grant/Loan for the City of Quitman.

Second quarter reports (arra, pmt, progress & financial) have been for the following grants: BJA Rural Crime 2009-SD-B9-0088, COPS 2009RKWX0261 and the JAG 2009-SB-B9-1789.

No new depository accounts were opened during the month of July 2011.

No certificates of deposit were purchased during the month of July 2011.

ITEM NO. 3: CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney C. Gerald Spencer gave an update on his city-related activities performed during the month of July 2011.

Attorney Spencer presented an ordinance to council which would place a 120-day moratorium on the issuance of business licenses to internet cafes. Attorney Spencer recommended that the Council adopt the ordinance until matters such as zoning and proposed State legislation could be studied. He further stated that the ordinance provides for a special exception (hardship) to be approved by council.

Mr. Walker moved that Ordinance No. 562 be approved and read one time at this meeting. Ms. Bower seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The City Attorney read Ordinance No. 562 aloud one (1) time at this meeting.

ITEM NO. 4: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1] Destination Brooks Update

Council member Nikki L. Bradley provided an update on the activities of the Destination Brooks Team during the month of July 2011. Activities included finalizing plans for the upcoming first annual Skillet Festival and presentation of recommendations to the City of Quitman Historic Preservation Ordinance.

2] GDOT Paving Project

The Georgia Department of Transportation will be repaving US 84 (Screven Street) during the next few weeks. The work on the street will take place during the hours between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. City crews will need to be present during this time to assist with line beaks and damage to any city utilities. The City Manager is currently working on a plan to facilitate this need.

3] Brooks County Library Report

Ms. Laura Harrison gave an update on the activities of the Brooks County Library during the month of July 2011.

4] Utility Assistance

Ms. Alana L. Miller, Salvation Army case manager, notified the City of funds available for utility bill assistance. Staff will post contact information for Ms. Miller at City Hall and issue a press release to the Quitman Free Press.

5] Historic Preservation Ordinance

Council members were provided with copies of recommendations for changes to the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance and recommendations for appointments to the Historic Preservation Board. A workshop will be held on Tuesday, August 09, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. with Destination Brooks to review the recommendations.

6] Irrigation Off-Peak Service

Ms. Bradley moved to adopt an irrigation off-peak service electric rate that will be available to non-residential, agricultural customers with loads larger than 10HP and delivered or compensated to one standard voltage as presented and recommended by the City Manager. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7] Internet Count

The wireless internet sub count for the month of July 2011 was 115.

8] Cable Counts

Basic:	78
Advanced:	539
Premium:	303
Adv/Cinemax:	33
Prem/Cinemax:	70

Total	1,023
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9] Employee of the Month

The August 2011 Employee of the Month is Malekia Dunbar-Jackson of the Quitman Fire Department.

NON-AGENDA ITEM(S):

A discussion was held on placing Sunday package alcohol sales on the ballot for a referendum in November. Council member Bradley moved that Sunday packaged alcohol sales be placed on the ballot in November in order for the voter's to be given the option to choose. Mayor Pickels called for a second. Motion died for lack of a second.

The City Manager informed the Council that construction bids on the 09 CDBG are due in on August 04, 2011 at 11:00 A.M.

Bids for Solid Waste pickup is due in on Monday, August 08, 2011.

There being no further business, Mr. Walker moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 P.M.
Ms. Bower seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Curtis L. Pickels, Mayor

Janice M. Jarvis, City Clerk