

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 04, 2011  
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Curtis L. Pickels called the meeting to order with Council members Nikki L. Bradley, Annie D. Bower, Wendell E. Chisholm and Virgil Walker Jr. in attendance.

Mayor Pickels led those in attendance in prayer.

Item No. 1: Approval of September 2011 Minutes

Mr. Walker moved that the September 06, 2011 Regular meeting minutes be approved as submitted to the Council. Ms. Bower seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

Item No. 2: City Clerk's Report

Council was informed that the July, August and September 2011 expenditures/revenue reports would be presented to Council as soon as FY 2010-2011 closing entries are received from Mauldin & Jenkins.

September 2011 accounts payable reports were presented to Council for review.

September 2011 manual check and journal entry reports were presented to council for review.

No depository accounts were opened or closed during the month of September 2011.

John Spearman, Brooks County Election Superintendent, has ordered ballots for the November 08, 2011 General Election. Notices have been placed in the Quitman Free Press to run in the September 26<sup>th</sup> and the October 10<sup>th</sup> issues. Last date to register to vote in this election is October 11, 2011.

The 2011 ad valorem tax bills are scheduled to be mailed on or before October 20, 2011. We are currently working with the Brooks County Tax offices to provide the needed tax digest files to the Regional Commission in order for the bills to be printed. The City of Quitman's millage rate remains at 5.48 mills for 2011.

Item No. 3: City Attorney's Report

The City Attorney stated that he appreciated the opportunity to attend the City-Council Attorney's Conference in Athens during the month of September.

General assistance was provided to City staff.

A "Contract for Professional Services" was reviewed by the City Attorney. Mr. Spencer stated, in his opinion, the contract is acceptable.

An "Agreement for Professional Planning & Zoning Services" between the City of Quitman and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission was reviewed by the City Attorney. Mr. Spencer stated, in his opinion, the agreement was acceptable.

An "Agreement for the Collection and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste" was reviewed by the City Attorney. Mr. Spencer stated, in his opinion, the agreement was acceptable.

Item No. 4: City Manager's Report

1] Destination Brooks

Council member Nikki L. Bradley gave an update on the activities of Destination Brooks which included:

100 Mile Peanut Pickin' Yard Sale	October 08 <sup>th</sup>
4 <sup>th</sup> Annual New Leaf Market Farm Tour	October 15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup>
5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Festival & Haunted House (Pavo)	October 29 <sup>th</sup>
Best Dressed Halloween House Contest	
Historic Preservation Ordinance	

Council member Bradley invited the Council to the Certified Literate Community luncheon at the Wiregrass Technical College on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

A meeting for planning of the Christmas parade is being held at the Seasons Flower Shop on Wednesday, October 05<sup>th</sup>.

DFACS is soliciting participation in "Heaven's Sleigh" which provides assistance to families during times of hardship. Council member Bradley suggested that the Council participate by joining together to provide assistance to one or more families.

2] Notice of Award

A notice of award has been issued to Standard Contractors, Inc. for CDBG Project 09b-x014-2-5174.

3] Brooks County Library Board Report

Ms. Laura Harrison presented the September 2011 Library Board Report.

4] Local Option Sales Tax Training

City Manager Danny Herring attended a LOST renegotiation training session in Douglas, Ga on Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. A brief review of changes in the renegotiation methods was presented.

5] City of Quitman Zoning Ordinance

The Southern Regional Commission recommends that the City's Zoning Ordinance be updated. This action may require a moratorium on re-zoning requests. Mayor Pickels voiced concern over the recommended six-month moratorium being placed on zoning until an update could be accomplished. He asked that staff research the length of time needed for the code update.

Council member Nikki Bradley moved that the "Contract for Professional Services" and the "Agreement for Professional Planning & Zoning Services" between the City of Quitman and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission be approved with the stipulation that the zoning ordinance upgrade process be performed during the shortest period of time possible. Mr. Chisholm seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

6] Water Tower Antenna Lease

Windstream Communications has requested permission to place an antenna on the City's elevated water tank located directly behind Quitman City Hall. This antenna will be used to provide a point to point wireless bridge to Valdosta. Mr. Chisholm moved that the City Manager moved forward with steps necessary to formulate an acceptable agreement to lease space on this elevated water tank to Windstream Communications. Ms. Bower seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

7] Citizen Concern

Ms. Judy Henderson failed to attend this meeting. Item cancelled.

8] Internet Count

The internet count for the month of September 2011 was 101.

9] Cable Counts

Basic:	76
Advanced:	535
Premium:	301
Advanced/Cinemax:	30
Premium/Cinemax:	74
Total Count:	1,016

10] Employee of the Month

Captain Calvin Troy of the Quitman Police Department is the October 2011 Employee of the Month.

NON-AGENDA ITEM(S):

1] Parking at Quitman Post Office

City Manager Danny Herring stated that he had received a call from a resident of the Presbyterian Home requesting that the parking in front of the post office be changed from angle to parallel. Council member Bradley stated that she would like to see the addition of a public parking lot in the area to serve the post office as well as surrounding businesses. Council member Bower agreed, adding that she would also like to make the section of Jefferson beside the post office designated as "one-way". Council members stated that they had received numerous complaints about the parking at the post office which included delays in backing out onto Highway 84. Council member Bradley stated that she was against changing the angle parking to parallel which would reduce the number of available parking spaces. Staff was asked to check into the ownership of the property located behind the post office.

2] Residential Garbage Cans

City Manager Danny Herring stated that he had received a citizen request asking that the Council adopt an ordinance which would require residents to remove garbage cans from curb by noon of the day following pickup. Mayor Pickels asked staff to run an ad in the Quitman Free Press asking residents to

remove cans from the curb in a timely manner. It was determined that the adoption of such an ordinance would be extremely difficult to police.

3] Allgreen Services

Council member Chisholm moved to approve the "Agreement for the Collection and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste" between the City of Quitman and Allgreen Services. Council member Bradley seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

There being no further business, Council member Chisholm moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:07 P.M. Council member Walker seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

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Janice M. Jarvis, City Clerk

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Curtis L. Pickels, Chairman