

MEETING MINUTES
City Council, City Of Quitman
Thursday, December 19, 2013 – 7:00 PM
City Council Chambers, City Hall – 401 E. Goode Street, Quitman, TX

COUNCIL PRESENT: J.R. Evans, Mayor; Toni Cole, Mayor Pro-Tem; Randy Dunn, Alderman; Larry Crow, Alderman; David Dobbs, Alderman; and Arnie Spiers, Alderman

STAFF PRESENT: Delene Allen, Civic Services Director; Kelly Cole, Police Chief; Mike Hall, City Secretary / Administrator; Meri Joy Brightwell, Assistant City Secretary; Dee Gilbreath, Utilities Director; Walter Lutonsky Streets & Maint. Director; Scott Wheeler, Fire Chief; and Jim McLeroy, City Attorney.

Evans called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
Evans lead an invocation and the pledge.

Item 1 – Citizen Comments

Evans welcomed all who were present and asked if anyone would like to comment.

Judith Sanders spoke about the alcohol petitions that were filed with the City. She shared that they were allowed 60 days to gather the signatures but were able to do so in just 2 weeks. Sanders also mentioned that she was offended by the rude comments from the audience who attended the prior regular council meeting.

Evans spoke of upcoming events including a Christmas musical program being held at the library Friday at 7PM; the staff appreciation luncheon to be held Tuesday at 11:00, and Santa scheduled to be at the fire department at noon.

Evans also requested that council packets be prepared early enough to be distributed on Mondays.

Item 2 – October 21, 2013 Special City Council Meeting Minutes

Item 3 – November 21, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Item 4 – December 6, 2013 Special City Council Meeting Minutes

With no objection Evans took items 2, 3, and 4 together.

Crow made a motion to approve the minutes, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 5 – November Financial Report

Crow made a motion to approve the report, Dunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 6 – November Budget Report

Crow made a motion to approve the report, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 7 – November Departmental Reports

Evans asked if any of the department heads wished to add anything to their reports.

Cole reported on the progress of the new police building. He stated that the projected finish date would be the end of January. Cole expressed how much he appreciated the time and effort the officers and reserves were pitching in during their off duty hours to help with the renovation to save on cost of the overall project. Cole invited everyone to stop in to visit and see the work in progress and spoke of the upcoming open house for the community that will be announced when the project is completed.

Cole assured the Council that all work was being permitted according to city ordinance just as it would be for any other building renovations. There was discussion about the different possibilities of who would be utilizing the existing building.

There was discussion about the Fire Marshal position. Hall explained that Terry Bevill was working as Assistant Fire Marshal and was doing the current building inspections. Other possibilities included using a contractor on an as need basis and sending Bevill to training to be certified.

Evans mentioned that the grant writing seminar held at the library was well attended. Also the Planning and Zoning Commission was moving forward with the local contractors discussing the building codes.

Allen spoke of the new roof for the Library. There was discussion about where the materials would be offloaded and how long the streets would be partially blocked. Cole stated that there would be no issues with blocking part of Bermuda Street while this work was underway.

Crow made motion to approve the reports, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 8 – Wood County Industrial Commission Representative Report

Martha Scroggins was present and stated that the Wood County Industrial Commission did not meet in December. She also noted that there were no updates about replacing the Executive Director position.

Item 9 – Planning and Zoning Commission – Update on Building Code Review

Hall shared about the building code review meetings. He stated that they had met with HVAC and general contractors in the last meeting and was planning a meeting with the local plumbers. Hall stated that there should be an amendment packet in February addressing the 2009 energy efficiency state requirements.

Item 10 – Planning and Zoning Commission Appointments

Evans introduced the resolution noting passage would reappoint David Mann to a 3 year term as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission to expire January 1, 2017. Evans also mentioned that Kevin Cameron requested to be replaced and no replacement had yet been found leaving a vacant seat.

Crow made a motion to approve the Ordinance, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 11 – Library Advisory Board Appointments

Evans introduced the resolution noting passage would reappoint Marie Camp, Teresa Dunn, and Mary Helen Lawrence each to a 3 year term on the Library Advisory Board to expire January 1, 2017.

Crow made a motion to approve the Ordinance, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 12 – Parks and Recreation Board Appointments

Evans introduced the resolution noting passage would appoint Teresa Meeks and Eugene Allen to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board replacing Warren Robicheaux and Becky Hibbard for terms expiring December 31, 2014

Crow made a motion to approve the Ordinance, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 13 – Wood County Airport Board Appointments

Evans introduced the resolution noting passage would reappoint John Wisdom to a 3 year term as a representative to the Wood County Airport Board to expire January 1, 2017.

Crow made a motion to approve the Ordinance, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 14 – Utility Fund Trucks Lease Purchase Financing Authorization

Evans introduced the resolution and stated approval would authorize the City to execute a lease-purchase agreement with City National Bank to replace 2 utility trucks. Evans stated that the bid received from CNB was not the lowest bid, but it was the most preferred bid since it was a local institution and that the city had used for other financing. Lutonsky stated the vehicles to be replaced were the 1990 1 ton pickup and the 1999 ½ ton pickup at the water plant. He also noted that Quitman Ford would be providing the new vehicles and they had negotiated a reasonable trade considering the age and condition of the older trucks.

Crow made a motion to approve the Ordinance, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Prior to adjournment Evans reminded everyone that regular January City Council meeting had been rescheduled to January 23rd, 2014.

Adjournment

Cole made a motion to adjourn, Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE MINUTES ARE A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF THE ITEMS CONSIDERED AND ACTION TAKEN AT THIS MEETING AND THAT THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED AS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT AN EXECUTED COPY IS ON FILE WITH THIS OFFICE.



**MICHAEL E. HALL
CITY SECRETARY-ADMINISTRATOR**