

MEETING MINUTES
City Council, City Of Quitman
Thursday, January 17, 2013 – 7:00 PM
City Council Chambers, City Hall – 401 E. Goode Street, Quitman, TX

COUNCIL PRESENT: J.R. Evans, Mayor Pro-Tem; Toni Cole, Alderman; Larry Crow, Alderman; Sam Lange, Alderman; and Randy Dunn, 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; Jim McLeroy, City Attorney; and Scott Wheeler, Fire Chief.

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

Item 1 – Citizen Comments (COMMENT ONLY)

Evans spoke regarding the passing of Mayor Jerry Edwards and expressed his gratitude for Edwards' dedication and service to the City. Evans also expressed his appreciation to the Edwards family for allowing him to serve all those years.

Evans spoke regarding the Acoustic Jam at the Library.

Evans read and presented a Mayoral proclamation to Jake Jackson for his accomplishments with the Quitman 4H. Jackson is the 4H State Council President for the 2012-2013 year, which is an honor that has not happened for a Quitman youth since 1958.

Chana Gail Willis, Executive Director of the Wood County Industrial Commission, spoke about the local sales allocation and economic progress report of the WCIC.

With no objection Evans took up items 2 & 3 together.

Item 2 – December 20, 2012 City Council Meeting Minutes

Item 3 – January 9, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes

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

Item 4 – December Financial Report

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

Item 5 – December Budget Report

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

Item 6 – December Departmental Reports

Wheeler gave an in-depth presentation regarding the volunteer fire department's equipment and the replacement of various equipment. He noted that a grant for the acquisition of a ladder/aerial unit was still pending approval.

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

Item 7 – Water Well Permitting and Regulation

Evans introduced the ordinance and provided time for the members to read the ordinance in total. There was extensive discussion regarding the specific language and clauses of the ordinance. Amendments were proposed to remove references to annual inspections and fees related thereto, as well as to add a section to apply the provisions of the ordinance to all existing water wells within the city.

Dunn made a motion to approve the Ordinance as amended, Crow seconded the motion. The amended motion passed unanimously.

Item 8 – Water Well Permit – 501 South Main Street, Wood County Electric Cooperative

Evans introduced the resolution and explained that the permit was submitted under the previously existing Ordinance which would require denial if the City was capable of providing water service. He noted passage of the resolution would deny the permit.

Crow made a motion to approve the resolution, Lange seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 9 – Water Well Permit – 109 Meadowbrook Lane, Bob and Brenda Cunningham

Evans introduced the resolution and explained that the permit was submitted under the previously existing Ordinance which would require denial if the City was capable of providing water service. He noted passage of the resolution would deny the permit.

Crow made a motion to approve the resolution, Cole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 10 – Atmos Cities Steering Committee Participation and Atmos Utility Rate Case

Hall explained that the conclusion of the year-long process of the Rate Review Mechanism and Rate Case between the ACSC and ATMOS had concluded with a decision by the Texas Railroad Commission allowing a portion of the requested rate increase. He noted that the increase would become effective as of the January billing and the rate structure was shifting to a larger base rate structure and lesser gas use charge.

No action taken at this time.

Item 11 – Appointment of Quitman Development Corporation Board Member

Evans introduced the resolution explaining that passage would approve his appointment as a member of the Quitman Development Corporation Board to fill the vacancy left by the passing of Mayor Edwards.

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

Item 12 – Appointment of Mayor

Evans introduced the resolution noting that action on the item would be to appoint a Mayor. He explained that if no action was taken to appoint a Mayor that the City would continue to operate with the Mayor Pro Tem fulfilling the duties of the office of Mayor until the election of a Mayor in the regular May election. He entertained a motion for any nomination for the appointment of Mayor.

No motion was made and no action was taken on this item.

By unanimous consent and based on the lack of action on the previous item, items 13-15 were not taken up and no action was taken on these items.

Item 13 – Appointment of Alderman

Item 14 – Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tempore

Item 15 – Bank Account Authorization and Signatories

Item 16 – May 11, 2013 – City General Election

Evans introduced the Order explaining this would provide for the election of a Mayor, two Alderman for full-terms and one Alderman for an unexpired term. He noted Early Voting would be held at the City and day of voting on Election Day would be held at the school as in the past. He also pointed out the two days of extended voting on the last two days of Early Voting.

Crow made a motion to pass the Order, Lange seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 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**