

MEETING MINUTES
City Council, City Of Quitman
Thursday, February 21, 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.
At Evans request, Dunn lead an invocation. Evans lead the pledge.

Item 1 – Citizen Comments (COMMENT ONLY)

Evans presented Laura Edwards with a plaque from the Pilot Club honoring recently deceased Mayor Jerry Edwards as Grand Marshal of the Chili Cookoff. Evans also presented Laura a plaque of appreciation for the many years that Jerry served as an Alderman and Mayor. Laura expressed her appreciation and shared how very much Jerry loved working with the City.

At 7:07 PM, without objection Evans convened a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on the request for zoning change, special use permit at 404 S. Main Street.

Item 2 - Zoning Change Request, Special Use Permit; additional use to current B-2 Zoning to include 'charitable bingo on an ongoing basis'; 404 S. Main Street, Lots 1B & 2B, Block 40, Quitman Townsites

Dary Steinberg, with the Forever Young Activities Center (FYAC), read their mission statement. Steinberg spoke about the group's space and funding needs related to building a facility appropriate to this mission. He expressed his belief that allowing charitable bingo will bring people to Quitman to spend money in addition to earning revenue for FYAC.

Paul Shaw, the owner of 408 S. Main Street, stated was present at the meeting to learn more about what was intended with the property to the North of his residential house.

Bobby Phipps, with the FYAC, suggested that this was a good way to bring sales tax revenue into the city from non residents coming into town to play bingo and shopping in town while they were here.

At 7:14 PM, without objection Evans closed the public hearing.

Item 3 – January 17, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes

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

Item 4 – January Financial Report

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

Item 5 – January Budget Report

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

Item 6 – January Departmental Reports

Evans asked if any of the department heads wished to add anything to their reports. The presentation from the Police department has been postponed to a later date. Chana Gail Willis with the Industrial Commission presented her report to the council and spoke of tourism season and community activities.

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

Item 7 – Zoning Change Request, Special Use Permit additional use to current B-2 Zoning to include 'charitable bingo on an ongoing basis' 404 S. Main Street, Lots 1B & 2B, Block 40, Quitman Townsites

Evans read the ordinance caption and explained this been recommended for passage by the Planning and Zoning Commission. There was discussion concerning the parking plan, the hours of operation and the effect it would have on neighbors and traffic control. These issues were all addressed as a part of the Ordinance.

Dunn made a motion to pass the ordinance, Crow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 8 – Designation of Handicap Parking Space (North Main Street)

Evans introduced the ordinance stating that this ordinance would designate a handicap parking space in front of the business at 101 North Main Street. Hall explained Reflections Hospice will be moving into this location and is required by state regulations to have a handicap parking space within a certain distance of the door. He noted TxDOT will be resurfacing sometime this summer and striping this space, but the city may do temporary striping if needed for the business.

Cole made a motion to pass the ordinance, Crow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 9 – City Council / Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting Calendar

Evans introduced the ordinance explaining that several months in the year, the first falls on a Thursday and moving the Council meetings to the following week gives personnel time to prepare the financial information for the meetings. He also noted that moving the Council meeting required moving the P&Z Meeting.

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

Item 10 – Hotel / Motel Tax Allocation [Chamber of Commerce]

Evans introduced the resolution noting it would approve the Hotel Occupancy budget as presented by the Chamber.

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

Item 11 – Investment Policy

Evans introduced the resolution. Hall noted the City must review the investment policy on an annual basis and passage of the resolution would approve the existing policy as having been reviewed.

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

Item 12 – Animal Services Agreement with Wood County

Evans introduced the resolution noting passage would authorize Wood County Sheriff's office to use our holding facilities and euthanization services for a fee. There was general discussion about how the revenue from the county could be used to improve the City's animal holding facility.

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

Item 13 – Utility Maintenance Reserve Allocation (Wastewater Lift Station Pump)

Evans introduced the resolution noting that two pumps involved in the wastewater utility operation had to be replaced this fiscal year and the expenditure from the Utility Maintenance Reserve Fund would exceed \$10,000 therefore needing Council approval according to the Ordinance establishing the Utility Maintenance Reserve. The first expenditure was \$7,532.14 for a pump at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the expenditure that this resolution would approve was \$5,736.00 for a pump at the Main Wastewater Lift Station.

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

Item 14 – Utility Capital Improvement Allocation (SWTP Clarifiers Rehab)

Evans introduced the resolution explaining that the two clarifiers at the surface water treatment plant needed rehabilitation that was necessary due to potential failure of the units. There was general discussion about the available fund balance of \$176,246.97 for Utility Capital Improvements and that the rehabilitation would be \$108,900 for both of the clarifiers. Gilbreath stated that the clarifiers would be out of commission one at a time for two – four weeks each and that the west clarifier was in worse condition than the east. Evans explained that these were being treated as separate projects since the likelihood was that one would have to be completed prior to the summer water season and the other after, he noted the resolution would approve the allocation of \$108,900 in equal parts to each project from the Utility Capital Improvements Fund.

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

Item 15 – Chartered Organization for Public Safety Exploring Post

Evans introduced the resolution explaining approval of the resolution would allow the City to serve as the Chartered Organization for a Public Safety Exploring Post. Hall explained this was a Scouting related co-ed program for youth 14-22 to explore career options in the public safety field, including: Police, Fire, EMS, Medical, and Law. He explained that several different agencies would be cooperating to provide programs for the group, but the one entity had to act as the coordinating / Charter Organization. He noted the resolution also gave Evans authority to appoint the Charter Organization Representative and Post Committee Chairman.

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

Item 16 – Business Prospects Information Review and Financial Incentives Offer.

At 7:55 PM, Without objection Evans recessed the regular meeting for the purpose of entering into Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.087 – Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.

A Certified Agenda of this Executive Session is on file with the City Secretary's Office.

At 8:50 PM The regular meeting was reconvened.

No action was taken on this item

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 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