

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

City of Quitman, Mississippi

December 7, 2021

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF CLARKE

CITY OF QUITMAN

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Quitman, Mississippi met in regular session on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at 5:00 P.M. at the City Hall in Quitman, Mississippi with the following present: Mayor Steve Watkins, Alderman At Large Harry Wheat, Alderwoman Ward #2 Bridgett Peters, Alderman Ward #3 Ronald Holloway, Alderman Ward #4 Steve Neely, Attorney Edward N. Kramer, III, Police Chief Mike McCarra, Water/Sewer Superintendent Jonathan Tanner, Street Superintendent/Parks Director Andy Reese, Building Inspector Carlton Green and City Clerk Cindy Kirkman. Alderman Ward #1 Joe Eddie Brooks was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The hour of 5:00 P. M. having arrived Mayor Steve Watkins called the meeting to order.

2. INVOCATION

Ward #4 Alderman Steve Neely opened the meeting with the invocation. Everyone stood and recited in unison the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Mayor Watkins determined that a quorum was present.

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

The following visitor(s) were present at the meeting: Rebecca Watkins, Judy Roberts Glenda Hardee, Danny Hardee.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

Alderman Steve Neely ordered and moved the confirmation of the agenda with the following addition(s) or deletion(s):

G. Mississippi State Local Opioid Litigation

H. 2022 MML Mid-Winter Conference

I. Spread to minutes the hiring of Joy Green and Patrice Perkins in November

J. Maintenance/Repairs to Depot

K. Strategic Plan for Development for City of Quitman

Alderman Bridgett Peters seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES

101 Brown Avenue – Olivia Owens Estate c/o Minnie Thomas. No action taken

7. REPORTS OF STANDING AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Municipal Building Project No. 7305

Mayor Steve Watkins discussed the stage area for the building project and provided diagrams of the proposed stage. Mayor Watkins asked for Board input on the stage.

Alderman Steve Neely made a motion to hold this item and not take action during this meeting. Alderman Ron Holloway seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Alderman Bridgette Peters	Voted	No
Alderman Harry Wheat	Voted	Yes
Alderman Steve Neely	Voted	Yes
Alderman Ron Holloway	Voted	Yes

Mayor Watkins declared the Motion passed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes from Special Called Board Meeting November 8, 2021; Special Called Board Meeting November 10, 2021; and Regular Board Meeting November 23, 2021

b. Online user Access and Check Signature Privileges for Cindy Kirkman at First State Bank.

Alderman Harry Wheat offered a motion for the approval. Alderman Bridgette Peters seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative

c. City Clerk Cindy Kirkman to attend the Certified Municipal Clerk's Program Session March 30 – April 1

Alderman Harry Wheat made a motion to approve the seminar. Alderman Ron Holloway seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

d. Jonathan Tanner to attend two seminars in Enterprise – 12/8/21 and 12/13/21

Alderman Steve Neely made a motion to approve the seminars. Alderman Ron Holloway seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

e. Loan Bid Opening for Municipal Building Project No. 7305

Sealed bids were opened with the following bids received:

BankPlus	4.96%	120 mo.
Citizens Bank	3.99%	120 mo.
Great Southern	3.24%	120 mo.
First State Bank	3.61%	120 mo.

Alderman Steve Neely made a motion to table until Attorney Edward N. Kramer can look over bids and receive clarification on bids. Alderman Harry Wheat seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative

f. Personnel

Police Chief Mike McCarra requested the hiring of Ricky Robinson as a Narcotics Officer at a pay rate of \$17.51 per hour.

Alderman Harry Wheat made a motion to approve the hiring of Robinson. Alderman Steve Neely seconded the motion all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

g. Mississippi State Local Opioid Litigation

Alderman Harry Wheat made a motion to enter into Closed Session. Alderman Ron Holloway seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

Alderman Bridgett Peters made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Alderman Ron Holloway seconded the motion and all Alderman voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Watkins stated the closed session is to discuss the opioid litigation and personnel/training issues.

Mayor Watkins presented a Resolution to the Board to join the Mississippi State Local Opioid Litigation. Alderman Harry Wheat made the motion to sign the resolution. Alderman Bridgett Peters seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

h. Alderman Bridgett Peters made a motion to hire Peggy Mason to train Water Billing Clerk Patrice Perkins. Mason is to start training Wednesday, December 8, 2021 and work three 8 – hour days for an entire billing cycle at a rate of \$40 per hour. Alderman Harry Wheat seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken with the following votes:

Alderman Ron Holloway	Voted	No
Alderman Harry Wheat	Voted	Yes
Alderman Steve Neely	Voted	Yes
Alderman Bridgett Peters	Voted	Yes

Mayor Watkins stated the motion passed.

- h. 2022 MML Mid – Winter Conference for Mayor and Board of Aldermen January 11 – 13 in Jackson, MS.

Alderman Harry Wheat made a motion to approve the conference. Aldermen Steve Neely seconded the motion and all Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

- i. Personnel – Hiring of Joy Green and Patrice Perkins

Mayor Watkins informed the board that the hiring of Joy Green and Patrice Perkins on a 90 day probation period in November needed to be spread to the minutes. Hiring of Joy Green as City Clerk during the November 2nd board meeting. Alderman Harry Wheat made the motion to approve the hiring at a pay rate of \$16.00 per hour. Alderman Bridgett Peters seconded the motion.

Alderman Harry Wheat	Voted	Yes
Alderman Bridgett Peters	Voted	Yes
Alderman Steve Neely	Voted	Yes
Alderman Ron Holloway	Voted	Yes
Alderman Joe Brooks	No Vote	

Hiring of Patrice Perkins as Water Billing Clerk during the November 2nd board meeting.

Alderman Bridgett Peters made the motion to approve the hiring at a pay rate of \$13 per hour. Alderman Harry Wheat seconded the motion.

Alderman Bridgett Peters	Voted	Yes
Alderman Harry Wheat	Voted	Yes
Alderman Steve Neely	Voted	Yes
Alderman Ron Holloway	Voted	No
Alderman Joe Brooks	Voted	Yes

j. Maintenance/Repairs to the Depot

Alderman Steve Neely discussed the need for repairs to the Depot building. Mayor Watkins informed the Board the paperwork has been sent to the Historic Preservation Commission for requirements that the City is required to meet for grant funds thru the Archives and History.

k. Strategic Plan for Development of City of Quitman.

Alderman Steve Neely requested if the City has a Strategic Plan as a Board and/or City for new businesses/economic development.

Mayor Watkins stated he would look at files/documents that he has access to and bring those up at the next board meeting in December.

10. CLAIMS DOCKET OR PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

Alderman Steve Neely offered a motion to pay the following monthly claims & expenses. Alderman Bridgette Peters seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

Regular Monthly Claims & Expenses-----\$98,241.53

Regular Monthly Claims & Expenses-----Ray Mosley Dozier Service---- \$770.40

Mayor Watkins presented the claim of Suncoast Infrastructure in the amount of \$46,550.50 to be paid out of the CDBG Grant funds. Alderman Harry Wheat made the motion for approval of payment. Alderman Bridgett Peters seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Watkins presented the claim of Red Oak Construction for the repair of a separation lid at the lagoon in the amount of \$1,125.33. Alderman Steve Neely made a motion for the approval of payment. Alderman Ron Holloway seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Watkins presented the claim of Scott Evans and Associates for routine work for work at the Quitman Fire Volunteer Department in the amount of \$358.51. Alderman Ron Holloway made the motion for the approval of payment. Alderman Bridgett Peters seconded the motion and all the Aldermen voted in the affirmative.

11. MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SUMMARY COMMENTS

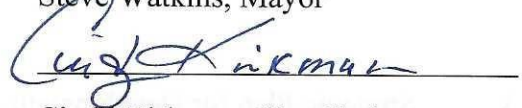
12. ADJOURNMENT

AN ORDER ADJOURNING THE MEETING UNTIL 5:00 P.M.
ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2021

Upon the motion of Alderman Ronald Holloway and duly seconded by Alderman Harry Wheat, the Board of Aldermen unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until the hour of 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 21, 2021.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steve Watkins", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Watkins, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cindy Kirkman", written over a horizontal line.

Cindy Kirkman, City Clerk