

CITY OF SANTA CLAUS COUNCIL MEETING
September 15, 2026
AGENDA

7:00 – PM – CALL MEETING TO ORDER ROLL CALL

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- READING OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
- COMMENTS/PUBLIC ISSUES
- FINANCIAL REPORT (Hand out)

1. COUNCIL AGENDA /ISSUES/WORK UPDATES:

GARDEN - Marcie - Updates?

PARK - Monte - Updates?

COMMUNITY CENTER - Walter - Updates? Get the soldiers put up?

ROADS AND APPEARANCE - Matt - Update? Spray paint alongside the road for luminary placements?

2. OLD BUSINESS:

- I made copies of the documents that ER Assist submitted on our behalf to FEMA/GEMA. We are required to keep copies of everything for 3 yrs. for FEMA and 5 yrs. for the state. I downloaded the files to a thumb drive and put them in an envelope in our safe. I also wrote on the envelope how long they should be retained for easy remembrance. Still waiting on the Cost Share Adjustments from FEMA/GEMA. The projects relating to Hurricane Helene that they adjusted were Completed Road Work; Road Signage; Community Center & Maintenance Storage; and City Park and City Garden. This is to receive additional funds to cover the items that were not covered at 100%.
- Monday September 14th, I texted Clay Herrin about the status of him running the CCTV camera for the section of December Drive located between Sleigh St and Dancer. Awaiting on response -
- I still need to reach out to the individuals that our GDOT area representative Jeremy Barwark provided me to inquire about any requirements for signs along the highway for Santa Claus. The gentlemen he provided are Joseph Capello (District Traffic Engineer) and assistant Daniel Summers. If you will think about what kind of signs, etc. we might want to have installed I'll reach out to them and see if it's plausible.
- I attended the free webinar on August 20th from 1:30pm - 2:30pm. It was an August Talk It Up Thursday and the topic was Social Media & the Law. It was to explore the responsibilities and risks associated with social media use by elected officials and municipal staff. It was to help you gain practical strategies for engaging with the public, protecting the city's interests, complying with Georgia law, and avoiding costly mistakes. I didn't really see anything that I felt would impact us ... seemed pretty much common sense.
- Matt, were you able to check and see if you could get someone to redo our City Charter?
- August 13th, I submitted our application with GDOT (Georgia Dept of Transportation) for the 2027 LMIG Grant Program. Our allotted amount for this year is \$5,313.27. There was an issue with our compliance but we were allowed an extension and Stacie Avery is currently working on the full audit that is required when you have any transactions of I believe \$500,000 or \$550,000. This occurred when we resurfaced our roads. When we receive the funds do you think we should reopen the Roads account and transfer the past couple deposits to it also? Just in case we need or want to use it on paving Salem?

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3. NEW BUSINESS:

- September 3rd, we received email confirmation that we have been selected to receive the CDBG grant award to assist with replacing some of our current water lines. I have reserved a place for me at the Summit to be held in Valdosta September 28th thru October 1st. Due to the time, I'll go and stay Sept 27th - Sept 29th. I plan to come back on Sept. 29th as we're only required to attend the first two days.
- Due to the issue, I mentioned concerning our compliance with Stacie Avery should we look at possibly getting someone else to manage our audits and reporting? I mention this due to her stating that she had cut back or stopped doing full audits a couple years ago. If she doesn't still do or is willing to do those, it will impact us as we're about to have the CDBG grant that will fall into that also.
- We received the additional quote that we requested from Tindall to replace the existing Gate Valve at the bottom of the tank with a half turn 4" Ball Valve. This will also include replacing two 4" nipples and adapters to the existing pipe. The estimate of the repair is \$3,243.99. This will be in addition to removing and replacing faulty piping due to rust. That estimate is \$3,169.77. Doing this will require draining the tank. Therefore, we'll need to ensure that we have the line cleaned out to Lyons beforehand so when we switch over to them it'll be clear water. We'll also need to schedule a time and ensure that we notify the residents when this will happen. Hopefully they won't see much delay. We can notify them as they come in the office, our messaging system and through water bills, if there is time to send out before it's due to be repaired.
- September 23rd, Toombs County Disaster Recovery & Redevelopment Plan has a Kickoff Stakeholder Engagement Workshop. The workshop is on a Wednesday and is from 10:00am - 1:00pm and lunch will be provided. It's going to be held at the PAL Theatre (122 Church St. Vidalia, GA) It's to provide an overview of pre-disaster recovery planning, etc. Communicate elements of process for, and timeline for developing the county's Disaster Recovery & Development Plan. Also provide an opportunity for stakeholders to set community goals and priorities, etc. If you'd like to attend -
- I received a phone call from Craig Opperman (Vyve) September 3rd. It was to offer us an Upgrade for our Broadband service to 1Gpbs. at an additional cost of \$10 per month. I went ahead and increased the service but there is no contract associated with it therefore we can cancel it at any time if we'd like.
- On September 10th, I had to reach back out to QuickBooks again as the taxes are still not coming out properly. I was informed that it is a known problem. I informed the service tech that we were told that purchasing the database protection was going to resolve the problem. Then I was informed that I had to remove the corrupted files and reenter them and then everything should be fine. Which I informed them that had been done also. So why are we still having the problem? He didn't know but said that there are a few other customers experiencing the same issue. I informed him that it is not acceptable that we should have to contact them every month for them to log in and correct. He showed me the area where I can go to Report a Bug and lodge a complaint. Which I will do -
- On Monday, August 24th, Marcie and myself attended the Elected Officials Workshop in Dublin. It assists with new Election Reporting Requirements that will be required by each individual next year. We were able to go ahead and register ourselves and I will see about making some instructions for you. I'll also place a copy in our training book. Marcie and I will assist in walking you through getting set up initially. Thereafter everyone will be required to submit the information themselves.

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- I'm wondering when and how much time we need to allot for the Airbnb's at the moment. I haven't heard or gotten any 'concrete' information, only rumors. We may be doing something that may not even come to fruition.
- August 24th, I received an email from Eric Markovic with CBIZ Valuation Group, LLC, on behalf of GIRMA. They're needing to do our property appraisal for them. I've scheduled Tuesday, September 22nd in the afternoon approx. 2:00pm with CBIZ appraiser, Shannon Royes. She may arrive before then to get started on conducting the city for areas that she can access.
- I received an email from [Neil Singleton](#) with The Georgia Independent on September 8th, concerning Open Records information for our water and sewage system. On September 10th, I emailed him back stating that I would be happy to meet with him to discuss our current water/sewer issues. I stated that I felt it needed discussion rather than just providing records as it has been a lengthy process that I personally have looked into for over the past couple of years. I asked him to let me know when he is available. and I would try to find a time to meet with him. I also provided him with my cell phone number in case he wanted to contact me via phone. I haven't gotten a response back from him yet. However, I have gotten the information together to go over with him. This also brings up whether you think we need to send a notice to the residents that we're open to have a special meeting to provide information and answer any questions they may have about our current situation. Since I have the information on hand now. We can put a notice in the newspaper, put it on our website, send it through our text message system and put in the water bills. That way we'll be able to say that we've made every effort to contact and inform them. We shouldn't have to keep addressing the issue. After that if something comes up that they should be informed about we can address it then.
- NLC (National League of Cities) is offering a free virtual complimentary five-part NLCU course that is to walk you through the full lifecycle of managing a federal award, from implementation and compliance to reporting, oversight and preparing for new federal requirements. This is due to the Federal grant rules changing. It runs from September 15th through October 13th 1:00pm - 2:00pm. The classes are on Tuesdays if anyone would like to take the courses let me know and I can send you the information. However, the first one was scheduled for today from 1:00pm to 2:00pm.
- I received information from [Artiffany Stanley](#) (GMA) concerning the GMA District Fall Meeting. The meeting will be held Tuesday, October 20, 2026 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm at the Emory Thomas Auditorium, 300 Riverview Drive, Dublin, GA 31021. I replied back to Artiffany that we will not be able to attend as it is on the same night as our monthly council meeting.
- We still need to set a date for a workshop meeting to go over the Employee Policy Manual that I had created. We should probably need to also set up a time to go over other issues that need to be addressed ... such as maybe doing a new contract with Luis, and any other items that need us to address. So be on the lookout.