

CITY OF SANTA CLAUS COUNCIL MEETING
August 18, 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:

- Wednesday, August 12th, I sent a text to Brenda (ER Assist) inquiring again about 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. She replied back to me that they are in the Grants Portal. I will look and see if I can locate and get a copy of them to store externally. Friday, July 31st I received emails from FEMA concerning the Cost Share Adjustments. 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. So hopefully we'll receive additional funds to cover the items that were not covered at 100%.
- Tuesday, July 28th I sent our signed Resolution for the 2026 Toombs County Hazard Mitigation Plan to C.J. Worden.
- Akin had sprayed the right ways, cleared and removed the dead tree and the tree limbs hanging over the road on Candy Cane.
- Tuesday, August 11th we received the funds for our Safety Grant. Wednesday, August 12th I contacted Clay Herrin about proceeding with the CCTV camera for the section of December Drive located between Sleigh St and Dancer. He said they usually are about 2 weeks or so out but he'll try to get to it as soon as possible.
- Sunday, August 16th I emailed Ms. Lynn Ashcraft (DCA) to see if she could provide me with any information concerning our CDBG grants status. I expressed that I need to register if we receive the grant but don't have the funds to attend otherwise. Awaiting information ...

3. NEW BUSINESS:

- July 10th, I received an email from Facundo Parra. He would like to know if the City of Santa Claus (Toombs County), GA, issues building permits for residential construction. Also, I wanted to confirm that you enforce the state building codes. On August 8th I tried to call him but wasn't able to reach him. I ended up replying to his email with the information that I had and where he could locate details on our city website.

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- We received notice from Tindall that we're needing to have some repair work done to the well house. They will need to remove and replace faulty piping due to rust. They will use the existing F.D. connection on the new pipe. The estimate is \$3,169.77.
- August 12th, I completed our required 2026 Biennial Survey.
- August 12th, I had a Zoom meeting with [Remarcus Steele](#) with Vigilante. He has a show to talk with officials concerning government topics.
- On July 28th, I had to contact QuickBooks again concerning issues with our Payroll not calculating the taxes properly. I was informed that it was again due to our database having been corrupted. I was told that I would need to remove all the payroll entries from July 29, 2025 to the current time and add them back manually. I was assured this would fix the problem. August 2nd, I removed and readded the entries.
- Wednesday August 12th, I reached out to our GDOT area representative Jeremy Barwirk inquiring about any requirements for signs along the highway for Santa Claus. I received an email from Jeremy Saturday August 15th with the names of a couple people that work with GDOT that can provide information and assist us with installing roadside signs. 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.
- On Monday, August 24th, Marcie and myself are registered to attend an Elected Officials Workshop in Dublin. The training is free and being offered by the Georgia State Ethics Commission Staff. It assists with new Election Reporting Requirements that will be required by each individual next year. I figured we can assist the rest of you getting it set up once it's implemented.
- July 23th, I received an email from Artiffany Stanley (GMA) saying they are considering offering a regional training "BEFORE" the fall district meeting at the same location. The regional meeting training would be 1:30pm - 4:30pm and the district meeting would be 5:30pm - 7:30pm. The meeting date still needs to be determined but they anticipate it to be held in October. Some of the training options: Roles and Responsibilities of Council and Staff; Open Meetings; Effective Practices for Municipal Operations; Public Policy Development & Implementation; and Succession Planning: Preparing for Tomorrow's Workforce. Marcie mentioned that she'd be interested in some of the courses if they are offered. I forwarded her recommendations and I'm guessing if they do offer a class, it will be whichever is the most requested. Are any others interested in classes? I'm not sure if there is a fee associated with it, but I'm thinking it may be due to you getting credit for the hours toward the Harold F. Holtz Municipal Training Institute. But we haven't really spent much money towards classes and education in the past and if someone is interested in attending it might do the city some good to have someone knowledgeable on some of the topics.
- August 1st, I received an email from Abbas Khan (Civic IQ). They collect and analyze public purchasing data nationwide to provide transparency and insights into government spending. Due to open records requirements I had to send our information and I sent it on August 9th.

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- August 13th, I submitted our 2026 Tax Package Information to Harris to prepare our Property Taxes.
- I've registered for a free webinar to be held August 20th from 1:30pm - 2:30pm. It's August Talk It Up Thursday and the topic is Social Media & the Law. It's to explore the responsibilities and risks associated with social media use by elected officials and municipal staff. Attendees will gain practical strategies for engaging with the public, protecting the city's interests, complying with Georgia law, and avoiding costly mistakes. Would anyone else be interested, it noted registration August 20th at 1:00pm?
- 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.
- Some of you might have received a letter of Notice to Toombs County Water Authority Officials Who Are Not Immune From Cases From the Federal Statutes ... it appears to be a response to people not wanting Data Centers in the areas. It mentions the letter serves as a Notice of Intent to Sue. I don't believe this has anything to do with us as we won't be involved with anything relating to their concerns of Air Quality, Water Pollution, etc.
- I brought to your attention last month the issue concerning questions about short-term rentals such as Airbnb's. Josh Beck (City Manager, Vidalia) provided me with a copy of the one they use. I modified it to reflect the City of Santa Claus. I also did an ordinance for prohibiting them within the city. So, I have an ordinance for it and one against it. I've also provided you with information about Airbnb's use for people that host them. You need to vote whether you want to allow or prohibit them. How do you vote?
- Due to modifications and/or additions of our ordinances it's come to my attention that I believe we should address our City Charter as well. I sent an email to [Artiffany Stanley](#) Sunday, August 16th inquiring who we should reach out to that can assist us. I informed her that our Charter appears to have been adopted in 1984 with one revision that related to elected officials in 1999. I expressed that since it is probably outdated due to laws being added or changed and our lack of expertise in that, we should probably have someone else handle it for us. Do you have any objection with pursuing this?
- Do you have a date that works for you to have a workshop on going over the Employee Policy Manual that I had created?