

CITY OF SANTA CLAUS COUNCIL MEETING  
May 20, 2025  
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** - Brenda Sells - Updates? ... check fan in gazebo

**PARK** - Monte Powell - Updates?

**COMMUNITY CENTER** - Update? Battery... Window replaced

**ROADS AND APPEARANCE** - Update?

**2. OLD BUSINESS:**

- I contacted Wade Mosley (electrician) and asked him to install an outlet to the area at our flag poles. He said he'll try to get it done this week. Darel's guys have installed the No Motorized signs for the Park area and also straightened and repaired the Novelty Directional signs. Probably a good idea to send notice/reminder in the water bill about the fine and not driving on the walking trail. There are security cameras in place ....
- I tried contacting Cliff Duerfeldt via text Sunday May 18th, and he texted me back later that evening. He said that he's actually moving to Santa Claus and has two people coming this week to see the stuff at the house. He mentioned that a couple friends at church have convinced him to downsize. Then he asked about if we have natural gas, internet and who supplies the electricity (Georgia Power or Altamaha EMC).
- We've received Matt's certificate for the 2025 Newly Elected Officials Institute training. I just need to hang it along with the others.
- I've contacted Zac Moore (Parlor) concerning the texting/email notification system. Everything has been accepted (FCC) ... we just need to meet to get everything set up, Sue will need to put notification in with the upcoming water bill informing residents and requesting their recommended contact method (text or email or both). Then we can proceed about getting our residents' information entered.
- I received the 10-digit PIN code from the IRS that they assigned to our account allowing us to be able to send their quarterly report information electronically. I've got new instructions on how to electronically file the Department of Labor and Department of Revenue quarterly reports and have submitted them the past 2 times and they work. I will do the one for the IRS this next quarter and get instructions for it also. I'll go over the instructions with Shea on how to process the returns and I'll also put the instructions in our Training Manual (located on top of the filing cabinets). This should keep us from having to endure penalty payments for late filings caused by the mail delivery problems.
- I had to complete another course (Safety Advisor) this year for us to be able to obtain the funds to complete the installation of the security system at the community center. I received notification that we received approval to proceed. I've contacted Michael Carrol with Triton Fire & Safety (via text May 14th) that we've gotten the okay for him to complete the installation. Once he does the installation I'll complete and close this year's grant.

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- We've received and deposited the reimbursements from our insurance for Hurricane Helene. All of the items covered have been reimbursed. I'm still working with FEMA/GEMA concerning the items damaged from the hurricane. I've sent confirmation of all the items being 100% completed. 3 of the areas will be covered 75% by FEMA, 10% by GEMA and the remaining 15% will have to be covered by us. Which we've already paid. #1002 (signs) amt is \$10,160; #1003 (community center/storage) amt is \$6,767.03; # 1004 (park & garden) amt is \$15,396.95 and #1795 (push/pull-trees) is \$11,275 but it will be 100% reimbursed by FEMA. They're still working on resolving the culvert ... Larry Sikes is needing to provide further information. I've contacted him, asking him to give them a call to answer whatever remaining questions they might have. Monday, he informed me that he had talked to Nolen (FEMA) and Larry said that they were satisfied but they might want to send a local inspector. Larry told him (Nolen) to just let him know what the next step is that we need to do.
- We received the letter from FEMA confirming our participation/availability for residents that need to apply for the NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program).

### 3. NEW BUSINESS:

- I received information that we didn't meet the deadline for the homestead opt out (HB 581) in time. Therefore, we'll have to wait until next year to submit the opt out again. I don't know that this is really going to affect us but we can compare once we get this year's tax digest and information.
- Larry (Sikes Civil) widened the creek area located at the corner of Reindeer & Salem in hopes of helping with the erosion of Salem from all the rain. He still needs to add rip rap (rocks) along the sides. However, he hadn't completed it before we got the flood waters last week ... resulting in some more erosion to Salem.
- I received an email from GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation) that they have a LRA (Local Road Assistance) Grant that is also available this year. We qualify for \$5428.74 and there isn't any match required. I've talked with Larry about providing us an estimate on getting Salem repaired (graded and crush and run laid). I'll then submit our application for the grant ... and he can also hopefully use some of the funds for patches, etc. I've also got to remind him that he still needs to paint the lines for the Park's parking lot.
- Larry (Sikes Civil) has put the topsoil & grass seeds at the park and redone the walkway over at the gift shop. He's waiting until some of the rain subsides before putting the dirt along the edges.
- I closed out our ARPA and LMIG grants last month.
- Universal Concepts has received our CGI digital artwork and is in the process of getting our banners made. They were able to do 5 of the 'City that Love Children' and 5 of the 'Believe' .... allowing us to either put 5 on one side and the other 5 on the other side. Or we can crisscross them. Sue is also using one of the designs to have another t-shirt done and available at the gift shop.
- I thought since we still have most of the bench that was damaged in the garden area ... I can maybe reach out to someone that does Connie's (Prime-cut) metal work and see if maybe they can fix the bench. That way we can still use our City of Santa Claus portion. Are you okay with me doing that or would you rather purchase something different?

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- I'd like to thank Matt and his son Kelton for helping me get the items within our new fenced area organized. We've straightened it up and I've gotten it sprayed to hopefully help with the weeds. Later we probably need to see about getting Clarence Pittman to see if he's available to paint it and repaint the railing over at the gift shop. I've noticed that the paint has begun flaking and coming off. Hopefully to keep the wood from rotting. I contacted Luis Monday about getting the old post, and debris. removed and hauled off at the storage area. I also asked him to go ahead and remove the limb piles while he was at it.
- We probably should have the right of way areas on Salem cut and sprayed. Try to schedule keeping in mind the rain. We should also get the buildings (including storage) sprayed for bugs, spiders, etc.
- Saturday, I got keys made for the lock box (City Hall) for the various areas that workers, etc. might need access. I still need to get the side gate for the water tank copied (apparently missed it) and I will need to get a lock and keys for the lift station once we get it redone. I've sent an email to Greg Goff asking when he might be able to replace the fence ... but I haven't heard back from him yet. If I don't get a response I'll reach out to Darel Corley (he's the one that asked him to assist us) and see if he has a contact number for him or if he'll reach out to him for us. Monday, I talked with Darel concerning Greg Goff and he mentioned that he hasn't been able to get in touch with him concerning doing their work either. He mentioned that he was going to try contacting the Security Fence Company and ask them to come check on our fence first.
- I've also asked Darel to see if he can find out how much a small lift station would cost for Kathy Joyner's residence. She can't purchase a septic tank until she's proven that all efforts have been made. If it's not extremely expensive it might be worth going ahead and attempting to get this done ... as I believe all the trips, etc. to clean her line is probably nickel and diming us. Monday, he mentioned that he'll see if he can find some information maybe Tuesday.
- Sue if you will reach out to TJ Sager and get on his schedule for servicing the air conditioners and ice machine? Probably a good idea to remind him when he submits the invoice to break them down according to the areas.
- I received an email from Juliet Axon (Jones & Juliet Casting) about casting a documentary. It's supposed to be a paid one-day shoot in June. Apparently, the pay is \$5,000 for 1-day shoot and usage. I contacted Sue to see if she might be interested. She mentioned that she is interested, so Monday I emailed them back and nominated her and mentioned that they can contact her concerning their project.
- Lastly, how do y'all feel about getting items made to sell at the gift shop that are unique for us... ex. calendars, cook books ... Any other suggestions?