

City of Santa Claus, Georgia

Regular Monthly Council Meeting, August 18, 2020

Mayor Amy Lawler was in California with her ill mother but was present on speaker phone. Mayor Pro-tem Tad Bryant called the meeting to order. Present were Council members Donita Bowen and Monte Powell and Sue Grisham. Councilman David Evans was out of town. Tad led the Pledge Allegiance to the flag to open the meeting. Sue read the minutes for the June 16, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Monte second by Donita to accept minutes as read with a showing of hands that it was unanimous.

The mayor e-mailed the meeting agenda with a copy of balances for all bank accounts for the City of Santa Claus for their review by council. These were discussed.

Tad said there have not been any donations in the red box in the Gardens for some time. Monte said the timer for the light on the pole at the fence in the Park has been off schedule. The timer is located in the storage room at the Pavilion. All agreed the new fence surrounding the A T & T exchange boxes looks good. Luis will paint it after the wood has cured & dried if council instructs.

Donita stated she checks the Community Center each weekend and has found the ice machine switch tripped off several times. She asked if a surge protector may need to be installed to stop the power surges during storms. This was discussed and Tad agreed to pick up a surge protector for this purpose.

Limbs hanging over the streets were discussed. David had already trimmed off several at the Thigpen residence on Candy Cane ST as reported by Toombs County Deputy on patrol. Council discussed that there are several more streets with trees hanging over them. Amy stated that, if the limbs are over the city street, it is the responsibility of the city to remove the hazard. David who is responsible for street problems will be alerted of this problem.

Monte stated he is still working with J.B. Dykes to get the lights at the Pavilion replaced. Sue informed council that the bid for the city Chevy S-10 was defaulted due to non payment of the \$300.00 bid 3 months after bidding was closed. Another inquiry offered \$400.00 cash with council agreeing to accept. Sue stated she would contact Triple C Used Cars that their bid of \$400.00 was accepted for the truck and they may pick it up.

NEW BUSINESS: Amy sent a flyer with pictures of new street signs for review. This has been an ongoing search to get new street signs and poles for over a year. She suggested 12" X 12" **STOP** signs with a reindeer peering over the top, **CAUTION** signs at the fountain in the Gardens. Council discussed agreeing the street name signs without holly would allow the names to be larger. Although there was no quota present, Donita voted in favor and Monte voted against the signs as described with a reindeer on top of the STOP signs but both agreed along with Tad that other suggestions are acceptable. The STOP signs entering U.S. Hwy. # 1 will remain the larger size as they are regulated by GDOT.

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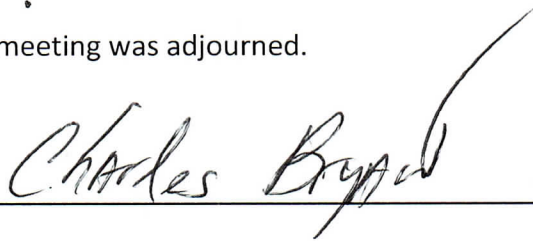
Council discussed limbs on some shoulders in front of residences with all agreeing to contact our neighbors to remove any debris off the shoulders and inform them the city does not have a pickup service for this. Amy stated she tried to contact Reliable Services rep and learned he is longer with the company. She is waiting for bids from the companies offering garbage pickup services for a price on serving the city. It may be possible for one to offer the yard pick up also.

Amy informed the council that, due to covid-19, Gov. Brian Kemp has signed a resolution stating he recommends that masks be worn when entering the government facilities throughout Georgia which includes City Hall. Council agreed this should be posted and also at the Gift Shop for the safety of all. This is under the Cares Act.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Grisham

Charles (Tad) Bryant, Mayor Pro-tem

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles Bryant", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name "Charles (Tad) Bryant, Mayor Pro-tem".