

City of Santa Claus, Georgia

Regular Monthly Council Meeting June 21, 2022

The regular meeting of the Santa Claus City Council was held June 21, 2022. Present were Mayor Donita Bowen, Councilmembers Monte Powell, and Brenda Sells, also Sue Grisham, Vince Meadows, Eddie and Elaine Wright. Councilman David Evans was out of town. It was noted that Donita Bowen was sworn in as mayor on June 1, 2022, due to the resignation of Amy Lawler effective 5/31/2022. The meeting began with the group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag to open the meeting. Sue read the minutes for the May 19, 2022 meeting. A motion was made by Brenda, second by Monte to accept the minutes. All council voted to approve the minutes as read.

OLD BUSINESS: City Financial report was reviewed by the council for all accounts. Donita is now the administrator of the city accounts at Peoples Bank. She stated the new building to be installed at the well pump will be paid out of the ARPA account.

The Gardens: Brenda stated that T Lake is running behind of schedule. Eddie stated when it rains, water runs across the walkway at the fountain making it slippery. There are 2 “Slippery When Wet” signs on the wall beside the fountain. However, there was a report of someone falling there recently. Council agreed there needs to be a drainage pipe installed under the sidewalk so the water can flow under it and not over it. Sue said a large tree was blown down in the Gardens at the SW corner and that Luis Nino came and removed it from the park.

The Park: Monte reported everything is O.K. at the park.

Community Center: Donita said she has tightened the small tabletops at the Community Center that were unusable. She added T.J. Sager’s service man came out and serviced all air conditioners at the Community Center, at the City Hall and Gift Shop. Also, T. J. suggested the ice machine be turned off when it is not in use and turn it back on 2-3 days before the facility is scheduled for an event. He stated that it is unnecessary to dump the ice weekly as was the practice.

Roads: Danny Florez came out and repaired the hole in the middle of December ST at Dancer ST using concrete which will not wash away. Danny also presented a bid to repair the parking spots at Gift Shop/City Hall on the south and one to replace the entire parking area at the Gift Shop/City Hall. Due to David’s absence , no vote could be taken, but council discussed the matter.

As stated in the past, EPD has approved the replacement of the building at the well, Donita stated. Adam Moore of Lark Builders came out on June 17 and stated he would be delivering the building on Thursday but later called back to say the building will be delivered on Friday, June 24. Mobley Well Drilling is on schedule to do all electrical and Tindall will be moving and reinstalling the chlorine tanks. Everyone involved with the project is on schedule for June 24.

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Monte informed the Council that All Green of Statesboro is not interested at this time in servicing the city with garbage pickup as they do not have other customers in our area. The proposed increase in garbage pickup fee for the city residents was tabled due to no quorum present.

NEW BUSINESS: Donita presented the Council pictures of safety cones, etc., suggesting the city purchase cones and safety bars to be used if there is a need for warnings in the street due holes. Vince told council that, when he left office as mayor, there were emergency drums for this purpose in the city fence at the storage shed on Noel Street. Council discussed this. Also, Donita stated that the city needs new STOP signs to replace the old ones. Sizes and prices were discussed. She has located signs needing to be purchased with a map to show where they are located throughout the city. They are 36 @ \$31.10 each if over 10 are purchased. The city does not erect the 4 large signs going out to US Hwy # 1 as that is state property. Vince suggested she check with Darrel Corley of the city of Lyons for his input on ordering STOP signs and Donita has already talked with Darrel. Darrel offered the city to purchase along with Lyons to save us shipping costs. Other signs needed are the 4 "Keep Right" signs at the City Hall as drivers are frequently going the wrong way around City Hall.

After years of service, Tammy Horton has decided to resign her position of reading the water meters monthly and her husband , Tim, gave up his duties of cutting meters on and off, flushing the water line to Lyons and switching the water system to Lyons if an emergency warrants it. Donita stated that Rustin Wright has agreed to fill the position to perform all water related duties. Tammy received \$150.00 monthly for reading the meters. Council agreed that, due to him taking all responsibilities over concerning water, Rustin should be paid \$200.00 per month. David had verbally agreed to this amount.

There has never been reimbursement for city employees for gas milage when performing duties for the city. Donita stated that her research states that IRS approves \$0.625 per mile for reimbursement which was discussed.

The credit card account with VYVE for the Gift Shop is \$72.49 per month but usually does not work. VYVE 4 -year contract has 20 months left at \$1,441.80. Contract may be broken by paying ½ or \$720.90. This was discussed. Vince said he will present us with a system he is using for credit card use which is a one time fee.

Donita added she has checked with Downtown Craft House for vinal covers for the small STOP signs purchased earlier so they may be placed in the Gift Shop for sale. She is trying to recuperate some of the city's costs on the purchase of the small signs that are not legal for city streets. Sue agreed to contact Neal Anderson to come and erect the STOP sign at Reindeer ST and Salem on the SW corner as it is a dangerous situation.

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

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Grisham

Donita Bowen, Mayor _____

