

City of Santa Claus, Georgia

Regular Monthly Council Meeting, November 17, 2020

Mayor Amy Lawler is in California with her ill mother but present on speaker phone. Mayor Pro-tem Tad Bryant called the meeting to order. Present were Council members Donita Bowen, Monte Powell and David Evans and Sue Grisham. Tad led the group in the Pledge Allegiance to the flag to open the meeting. Sue read the minutes for the October 20, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Tad second by Monte 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 review by council. These were discussed.

OLD BUSINESS: The replacement speakers for the Gardens have arrived. Jim Jones has agreed to install them as he had installed speakers at time of the construction of the Garden. Monte stated he has repaired the swing beside the Pavilion. Luis Nino has replaced the bench boards around the Walking Trail as they were decayed.

T.J. Sager has serviced the air condition units at all city facilities and checked the ice maker at the Community Center. Donita said the ice maker continues to trip off with no apparent reason but the "clean machine" indicator is on. She is inquiring on how it should be cleaned using a de-scaler solution as Amy cleaned it earlier in the year. Amy suggested Donita check with other users of ice makers for a solution to this. May be that Mr. Thaco at T-Birds may help with this.

Donita stated that the garbage cans at the Community Center are being filled almost every week by a resident or residents. This was discussed with Amy suggesting the cans be placed inside the city maintenance fence and only be brought out to the building when a function is scheduled.

David said he would check with Jeff Robbins on getting dirt to fill in the wash at the end of Reindeer ST at Rudolph Way. Jeff installed a pool in the Spring and has dirt in his yard.

Amy said that she has sent an email inquiring of the street signs the city ordered but has not had a response. David stated that the complaint of the basketball goal on Noel ST was alleviated when the party moved from the house on Noel. Amy added that she is trying to locate the proper management at Dollar General on getting the tall weeds cut down around the retention pond and asked Sue to send a letter to the store owner requesting the weeds be cut. Linda Bishop, CPA, is reconciling the city bank accounts to ready all accounts for an audit.

Tad agreed to bring tables for the upcoming Christmas tree lighting party on November 19, 2020. This was discussed with Sue assuring that everything was on schedule for the upcoming event.

The new playground equipment Amy ordered was then discussed. The equipment is being delivered and the concrete will be poured on Thursday, November 19, 2020. It will take about a week to install all the new equipment. Jerry Hodges agreed to move the older small swing out of the playground before the new pieces arrive.

Sue stated that Chatters is on schedule to cater for the upcoming Christmas Family Supper for residents on December 10, 2020. As agreed, Santa Claus will be set up outside on the front porch at the Community Center to greet each family, 1 at the time. Also, the council will serve a "to go" supper to all residents. When the family has visited with Santa Claus, they will enter the Community Center and receive a to go plate for each family member and exit out the rear door.

NEW BUSINESS: The City of Lyons is using the sleigh & other float items stored in the city storage building for the Christmas parade on December 4. Tad and Amy suggested that the sleigh be placed on the front of the Community Center for Santa Claus to use when he is visiting with the kids at our supper. This was discussed.

Sue informed Council that candles, bags and sand will be ready for the traditional Christmas Eve street lighting at sundown. She added that the city representatives ride in the parades in Lyons and Vidalia. Tad was the only one agreeing to represent the city in the parades. Sue said she has picked up the new city flag and it will need to be erected on the City Hall. Jerry Hodges has paid the \$1,000.00 for the land he purchased from the city on Rudolph Way.

Darrel Corley had informed Sue that he had no more used water meters for the city to use. Amy asked that Council check in the storage shed for any new meters that may be stored there.

Clay Cumbee is installing the Christmas decorations on city properties and has stated that the garland is old and needs to be replaced. A motion was made by Tad second by David to allocate \$2,500.00 from the SPLOST account for new decorations. Council agreed unanimously.

Property tax notices for 2020 are mailed out with due date of 12/31/20. The Toombs County Hazard Plan for 2020-2025 was reviewed by Council. A motion was made by Tad second by David to adopt the plan with council agreeing unanimously.

Sue informed the Council that there has been an inquiry on building a new house on the corner of Noel ST and Candy Cane ST. Council discussed agreeing to issue a permit after specifications for the dwelling is presented to the Council for review. The structure must be at least 1,200 sq. ft. Tad made a motion second by David to issue a permit if the specifications are met. Council agreed unanimously.

Council discussed the Curb Appeal pressure washing of city properties in progress. Tad called owner, Jimmy Warren, and he agreed to complete the fence in front for \$100.00 and to have the walkways cleaned before the Christmas Tree lighting on November 19 as it is a safety issue. Tad made a motion second by David to pay for the additional pressure washing with Council agreeing unanimously.

Council agreed that, due to a busy schedule, there will be no meeting for December, 2020.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. ~~Respectfully Submitted~~, Sue Grisham

Charles (Tad) Bryant, Mayor Pro-tem

