

City of Santa Claus, Georgia

Regular Monthly Council Meeting, September 15, 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 Pledge Allegiance to the flag to open the meeting. Sue read the minutes for the August 18, 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.

OLD BUSINESS: Tad stated he had repaired the gate at The Gardens. Monte said the new lights have been installed at the Pavilion. Monte added that electrician J.B. Dykes who installed the lights checked the ice maker at the Community Center and informed him a surge protector is built in on the unit. David stated he inspected the shoulders on corner of Reindeer and Rudolph ST. The street is washing out under Reindeer ST when we have a big rain which will need to be repaired in the near future.

Amy had sent sketches of playground equipment to order for the park which Council reviewed and discussed. Council agreed to purchase a two-bay swing set and a tire swing in red for the park. Amy will complete the order for the new equipment to be shipped to the city.

The replacement street signs and posts were then discussed again with sketches to review. Council agreed to purchase STOP signs with a reindeer perched on top of the sign, no holly, red letters and green trim on the outside. Street name signs will be in the same design. Donita made a motion second by David with three voting in favor and one opposed of the reindeer and other designs as described. Monte voted against a reindeer on the top of the STOP signs. Amy agreed to proceed with ordering these signs.

When reviewing the city bank account balances, Amy pointed out that the Special Account was not being accessed but, due to the small cash balance of less than \$1,000.00 in the account, the bank is charging \$10.00 per month service charges. She recommended that the account be closed and the balance be moved to the Mayor's Account as this account is routinely accessed when needed. Monte made a motion second by David to close the Special Account and move the balance to the Mayor Account. Council voted unanimously to this action.

NEW BUSINESS: Holiday schedules were then discussed. Council agreed that, due to a late Thanksgiving, the Christmas Tree Lighting will be on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. Notices will be posted for the CDC guidelines of social distancing and hand sanitizers will be readily available for all to use. A motion was made by Monte second by David and Council voted unanimously for the November 19 date.

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The Christmas Family Supper was then discussed. Amy suggested that Santa Claus sit on the front porch of the Community Center and allow one family at a time come up to him for the visit with kids and Santa. Santa Will then present the kid(s) with a gift and the family move on into the Community Building where the Council will serve each individual in a "to-go" plate and the family will exit the building out the back door. This would be on the annual date of the second Thursday of December Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. as in the past. David made a motion second by Donita to have the Christmas Supper December 10, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. with Santa Claus greeting kids on the front porch and Council serving individual families in "to-go" plates in the Community Center. A unanimous Council vote favored this event.

The Halloween Trick or Treat was then discussed with Council deciding to make a final decision next month using CDC recommendations. In the past, the City of Santa Claus has followed along with Lyons on the date and time for Trick or Treating. Council agreed that each resident should practice whatever they feel safe with on this matter. Sue agreed to send a letter out to all residents of the dates for the upcoming city activities and the guidelines the Council have agreed on for the events.

Donita stated the door to the cleaning closet at the Community Center was not unlocked for the recent function and the renters did not have access to the broom and/or mop for cleaning the facility. It was agreed that the door should be left unlocked when the facility is being rented so the renters may follow the rules for cleaning. Zac Moore is installing a bar in the storage closet to hang the linen tablecloths on so they will be easily available for rent if desired.

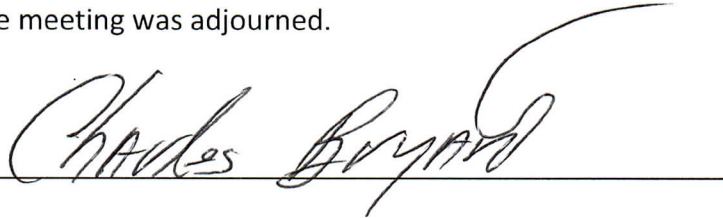
Monte asked for clarification, will all new STOP signs have a reindeer on the top of the sign and was told that, yes, all STOP signs will have a reindeer on top as agreed by the majority of Council.

Amy informed Council that she has contacted Linda Bishop of Bishop Associates will be reviewing the city financial records so to bring them up to state requirement possibly doing audits for the city. Sue added that Linda has been in contact with her, also.

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 fluid and stylized, with a large loop at the end.



City of Santa Claus
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Santa Claus, Georgia 30436

Ph:(912) 526-6949 website: cityofsantaclaus.org

Amy Lawler, Mayor

Charles (Tad) Bryant PRO-tem

Council Members:

Monte Powell, Donita Bowen, & David Evans

September 30, 2020

TO: The Residents of the City of Santa Claus and whom it May Concern

On September 25, 2020, My Mother, Evelyn Moran was placed in Hospice Care. I have decided to enact The Family and Medical Leave Act, and return home to care for my mother in California during the last few months of her life. Form WH-380-F attached. Though it pains me to leave you and return to California, I feel it is what I need to do. I have been in contact with the Toombs County board of Elections and Register's office for the steps I need to take.

1. As of September 30, 2020, I am requesting to take leave for approximately 6 months and place our Mayor Pro-Tem Charles Bryant, (Tad) in as our Mayor during this time. He will receive the salary of Mayor during my absence and will fulfil any obligation in my absence.
2. I will continue to be involved in helping the CPA at Bishop Associates to file the Past due Taxes and Audit reporting as required by the State. Allowing Ms. Sue Grisham and Ms. Shea Hullender assistance in providing the information they need to accomplish this task.
3. I will continue to be available for the City Council meetings Via phone if the situation permits.
4. I will follow up on the Sign and Playground equipment purchases I began at the beginning of my Term. I will keep you informed on what needs to take place and who needs to ensure that it happens during this transition time.
5. I elect that we add Council member Donita Bowen to all of the signature cards for City of Santa Claus accounts at Peoples Bank of Lyons, GA and Altamaha Bank of Vidalia GA. She can act as the second signature on any city checks in the absence of Charles Bryant, Shea Hullender, or myself, as all checks require two signatures at any given time.

Respectfully Yours,

Mayor Amy Lawler

Please accept these terms and conditions by acknowledging with your signatures:

Charles (Tad) Bryant

Monte Powell

Donita Bowen

David Evans

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
SANTA CLAUS CITY COUNCIL
PURSUANT TO THE DISASTER MITIGATION ACT OF 2000
AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE
TOOMBS COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, Toombs County and its municipal governments are required to complete a Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local governments that complete Hazard Mitigation Plans will remain eligible for Federal mitigation funding; and

WHEREAS, Toombs County and its municipal governments have completed an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan that fulfills the Federal requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT THE SANTA CLAUS CITY COUNCIL FORMALLY ADOPTS THIS UPDATED HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

RESOLVED THIS 17 DAY OF November 2020



Signed: Charles Bryant, Santa Claus City Mayor Pro Tempore





Attest: Sue Grisham, Santa Claus City Secretary