

City of Santa Claus, Georgia

Regular Monthly Council Meeting September 20, 2022

The regular meeting of the Santa Claus City Council was held September 20, 2022. Present were Mayor Donita Bowen, Councilmembers Monte Powell, David Evans, Brenda Sells and Renee Wright, Eddie and Elaine Wright, Vince Meadows, and Sue Grisham. The meeting began with the group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Sue read the minutes for the July 19, 2022 meeting as there was not a quorum at the meeting. Minutes of August 16, 2022, were read. No corrections were advised for the minutes. Council voted unanimously to accept them as read.

OLD BUSINESS: City Financial report was reviewed by the council for all accounts.

The Gardens: Eddie Wright stated he will repair the double gates as the new gate installed at the front entrance was \$1,000.00.

The Park: Monte reported woodwork at the Pavilion needs to be repainted and the handicap ramp needs repair. Sue agreed to contact Clarence Pittman to do the work as he has done numerous jobs for the city in the past.

Community Center: Renee is turning the ice machine off and on when there is a party scheduled. Donita stated that 3 toilets need new seals and anchor bolts. Murray Plumbing is meeting her there on Wednesday to address this issue.

Roads: The STOP sign at Reindeer and Salem needs to be put back up as soon as possible.

The estimates from Danny Florez for the parking spaces at City Hall & Gift Shop were reviewed. Eddie presented an estimate from Billy Ray Tanner also. This was \$5,250.00 for the south side and \$3,000.00 to add the north side. Bid from Johnny Smith Paving was \$3,500.00 but his work done for the City in the past was not satisfactory. Also, Eddie suggested that Mr. Tanner give a price for resurfacing the Walking Trail at the Park as it would be less if it was all done at the same time he was here. David made a motion second by Brenda for Billy Ray Tanner to do the resurfacing at the parking lot and give us a price for the Walking Trail. Council voted in favor unanimously.

No word yet from Lyons Main Street on the library box for free books they requested to install for us. Donita informed Council that she has talked with John Jones and the LOST account from the county will stay at the present terms for now. The new flag pole has been erected and the new city flag is flying, thanks to Eddie. Darrel Corley has installed the new regulated size STOP signs and the KEEP RIGHT signs for the one-way section at City Hall. Donita talked with Darrel Corley concerning the sewer issues at the Kathy Joyner residence as this has been an ongoing problem. He suggested maybe capping off old sewer lines at the top of the hill on Noel ST hopefully eliminating the issue. This was discussed. Bid from Curb Appeal to clean the Gardens fence is \$325.00. Council agreed the 3 entrance gates also need to be cleaned. Monte made a motion second by Brenda for Curb Appeal to clean the fences with all agreeing unanimously.

Meeting, September 20, 2022 – page 2 As in the past, the issue of the overgrown areas at the Dollar General Store including the retention pond was discussed. Eddie suggested the City ask permission and then pay Luis Nino to clear the weeds up as it is an eye sore on the City. Brenda made a motion second by Monte with all in favor for the City to pay to clean retention pond weeds at the Dollar General Store.

Donita informed Council that Zac Moore is updating the web site and will add upcoming event dates and the Council members.

Bids for the Christmas decorating city wide were opened. Ellis Florist, \$2,900.00; Beverly Youmans, \$2,200.00; Melissa Vinson, \$1,800.00; Shawn Gillian, \$575.00. Each added special stipulations for the bid. These were discussed. David and Monte voted for Ellis Florist as he helped the city in 2021 when we were in a desperate situation and did an excellent job. Renee and Brenda voted for Beverly Youmans. Due to the tie vote, Donita voted for Beverly Youmans as it was less than Ellis.

NEW BUSINESS: Ordinances the mayor presented to the Council were discussed at length. Her main concern is the City being liable if there is ever an issue. All signed to adopt the Health and Sanitation and State of Emergency arising due to Covid-19.

To support residents' participation, Donita suggested a contest for Christmas with discussion. Donita suggested to adopt a STOP sign for decorating. Council agreed to decorate house doors and not STOP signs. Renee made a motion second by Brenda with all in favor. Winners will be announced at the Christmas Supper on December 8 with prizes being awarded.

Donita presented Council with a list of residents and a city map she has drawn. Council agreed to have Trick or Treat whenever Lyons has it as in the past. Sue will contact Lyons for the date. Radar Kennedy is working on the photo board for visitors to snap shots while visiting the city. Candy stripes will be added to the plain sign posts to match the new posts. Donna has almost completed the directional signs for Christmas. Council discussed upgrading the Park to be included in the 2023 budget.

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

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Grisham

Donita Bowen, Mayor 