

CITY OF SANTA CLAUS COUNCIL MEETING  
January 17, 2023  
AGENDA

7:00 – P.M. – CALL MEETING TO ORDER ROLL CALL

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- READING OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
- COMMENTS/PUBLIC ISSUES
- FINANCIAL REPORT (Hand out)

**1. COUNCIL AGENDA /ISSUES/WORK UPDATES:**

**GARDEN-** Brenda Sells - Have the lights been replaced/repaired? The company we purchased the nativity set from contacted the vendor & they sent us a replacement section replacement. for the right side. However, where it did have the broken piece attached, it still didn't fix lights.

**PARK-** Monte Powell - Update?

**COMMUNITY CENTER** - Renee Wright - Status update?

**ROADS AND APPEARANCE** - David Evans - Update?

**2. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Still waiting on the Mainstreet Committee in Lyons to install the "book box" for us. Informed them to just let us know when they're ready to install.
- Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, Decorating Contest & the Residents Holiday Dinner were a success. Hopefully we can get some items done earlier this year and attend the Wholesale Market in the summer to buy some commercial grade items such as lights for the trees and star or angel to go on top of the big tree instead of using a bow.
- Brenda is checking on the cost for getting eyeglass cleaning clothes with our city logo on them. We can see if we would like to purchase some to place in the gift shop to sell.
- Still need to review the amount paid every year to Lyons due to Lyons Sewer prices increasing. Is what we are collecting covering all the cost increases? Or do we need to charge more for sewage? Currently LOST funds do help us pay for emergencies but is this going to be sufficient for future usage? Finally try to determine what is causing the drastic increase and see what needs to be done to fix.
- We were able to get the fences (including Dollar General's) cleaned in time for the Tree lighting. Luis trimmed bushes @ Park. Clarence made necessary repairs at City Hall due to railing not secure and porch roof showing damage due to leak. Clarence also made several repairs that were needed at the park.
- We had our GMA Liability Insurance Inspection in December. Items that we need to address are installing handrails in both bathrooms located in the Gift Shop & Park Pavilion. The items lying in front of the breaker box in the storage room located at Park Pavilion need to be moved. Not supposed to have anything in front of it. Also we need an Employee Policy Book. I'll check with Lyons/Vidalia to see what they have.
- We got our photo boards, and decorative signs installed. They are to remain year round. Have noticed several people taking pictures. I still have to try and get the face cut outs attached. We also had the remaining poles installed for the speed limits, etc.

**3. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Due to the extremely cold weather Christmas Eve morning, we realized the city water had frozen. Eddie has asked Luis to install insulation on the exposed pipes of the water tank. It is believed that this will alleviate the problem if it ever gets that cold again.
- It was brought to my attention that for some reason the luminary bags hadn't been placed in front of the house on 15 Rudolph Way. I was informed that they haven't ever been placed there. Is there some reason those houses aren't included? They contribute taxes, etc. as everyone else. We also need to determine whether it's wise to place the

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luminaries out in extreme weather conditions. Several weren't even lit and seems to have been a waste of people's time and city money since they weren't all done.

- We've also received from GMA a notice that Newly Elected Officials have Mandated Training that needs to be completed. The training event will be held March 1-3 (Wednesday - Friday) at the University of Georgia's Center for Continuing Education. The Georgia General Assembly passed legislation (O.C.G.A. 36-45-1) requiring all persons elected as members of a municipal governing authority who were not serving as members on July 1, 1990 to attend and satisfactorily complete a training program specifically designed for newly elected officials. GMA's Newly Elected Officials Training fulfills this requirement. Registration is now open and the fee is \$440. I have to make reservations by January 25th. Can't cancel without losing money. Need to also make room reservations. Since registration begins at 9:30 am Wednesday morning, I suggest maybe getting rooms the night before since it takes about 3 hrs. to get to Athens. We will need 3 rooms.
- Did we find out how much Luis would charge us to maintain the retention ditches at Dollar General? We probably should go ahead and keep a folder with his & the invoices from cleaning the fences. This will make it easier to go after the LIEN money.
- I reached out to Maggie Brice about having cars park behind the apartments instead of along the road. She stated she's going to get back in touch with me. I'll try to follow up with her again Monday, January 16th.
- I reached out again to the Sheriff's department and informed them (Deputy Farmer) that we wanted to press charges. I haven't heard back from & don't believe any money has been received. Deputy Farmer was going to try and reach out again. I informed him that was fine but if he didn't get any response to proceed with charges as the council has passed the motion.
- I was informed that we need to sign the contract with The City of Lyons to renew the Fire Contract with them. It appears that the last time it was signed was 2020 and needs to be renewed every year. Darel Corley was going to get with Jason Hall and have him send it to us. I haven't received it yet so I contacted Darel on 01/14/23 on the status. He said he'll talk with Jason on Tuesday (01/17/23) about it.
- Once we complete and pass our budget for 2023. I will need to renew our GIRMA insurance. I have to have our budget included.
- Need to get items removed from City Hall attic and submit Invitation Bid for getting insulation installed in the attic/crawl space again. Eddie, will you see about contacting those that perform these tasks for their bids along with our posting in The Advance and the website?
- I've received several emails concerning our submitting the LMIG (Local Maintenance Improvement Grant). The deadline is February 1st. Our formula amount for the Fiscal Year 2023 is \$3,813.69 and our local match is 10% which will be \$381.37. I hope to start working on submitting the grant this Wednesday (January 18th).
- Budget for 2023.