

## City of Santa Claus, Georgia

### Regular Monthly Council Meeting

October 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the Santa Claus City Council was held October 17, 2023. Present were Mayor Donita Bowen, Councilmembers Renee Wright, Monte Powell, and Brenda Sells, Eddie and Elaine Wright, and Sue Grisham. David Evans was not present. The meeting began with the group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Minutes of September 19, 2023, meetings were read. Brenda made a motion second by Monte to accept the minutes as read. All voted in favor of the minutes as read.

**Old Business:** The financial reports were reviewed by the Council. Donita informed the Council of the GMA district meeting to be held at the Durden Cabin at Partin Park in Lyons on 11/01. She will reserve seats for all who want to attend. Gardens: Eddie stated he has seen the T-Lake representative and T-Lake said they will be coming soon to review the Gardens lights and then repair them. Park: Monte said there are no issues with the Park. Community Center: The microware has been replaced and has been installed by Walter Wright. Too, the replacement lights for the chandelier will be installed when they arrive about 10/18. No issues to report on the roads.

House numbers for the residents are completed. Information from CGI concerning the banners for the lamp posts with Council agreeing to postpone this project until after the busy Christmas season. Donita reminded the Council that if there are any new city officials they are required to attend a training session after taking office in 2024 either February 28 thru March 1 in Athens or March 20 thru March 22 in Tifton both to be conducted by GMA.

Trash cans have been located and placed in locations where needed. Donita is delaying the application for the LMIG grant until Fiscal Year 2024 but it must be submitted no later than February 1, 2024. This will be used to resurface a section of Noel ST. Eddie reported that the security light at the Park at the site of the future parking lot has been relocated. Trees have been removed and dirt has been hauled in. Work continues with a few more trees to remove and more dirt to haul in. A drainage ditch will be dug between the area and the land to the north as the road drainage runs off there. Also, Luis has planted grass at the manhole where the repair was done on December DR and yellow lines have been painted as a precaution on the corners of December DR and Candy Cane ST at Dancer ST.

The City of Lyons and City of Santa Claus fire protection agreement has finally been signed and returned to Lyons. Council agreed the owner of vacant apartments needs to be billed monthly for the fire protection fee of \$4.00 as the city is paying this amount for the coverage monthly. Curb Appeal will begin the pressure cleaning of the fences and buildings that are in need of cleaning on October 18 and 19 at a cost of \$1,197.50. Monte made a motion second by Brenda to pay Curb Appeal the fee for the cleaning. Council agreed unanimously.

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**New Business:..** Beverly Youmans and Walter and Renee Wright drove to Cummins, GA, and purchased the new Christmas decorations for the city. The annual Christmas Supper for Residents will be Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 PM. This was discussed. Sue has reserved Chatters to cater the meal and it will be a southern meal with fried chicken, ham and the trimmings. Santa Clause will be present to hand out gifts for the kids. There will be door prizes. Dara of Designs by Dara has picked up the Santa from the city limits signs and is painting them for us. Also, Wayne Ward is cutting out figures for decorating for us. David has purchased a new motor for the old Santa found in the attic so that he will be waving to passersby and will install it when it arrives. The motor costed \$101.16.

The Tree Lighting will be Thursday, 11/16 at 7:00. Everything is getting completed for that date. Council agreed to have a contest again this year for the prettiest yard. Sue will be sending out schedules to all residents so they will know the dates and events coming up for the season. Sue stated she has notified Altamaha EMC of some street lights that are burned out and to install a new light on N. Rudolph Way. Eddie stated he has talked with Edge Tree Cutting Service and Mr. Edge has agreed to assist putting up decorations in any way he may. Someone will need to call him when he is needed. Eddie asked permission to operate his new train for the kids to ride in. He presented a copy of his liability insurance coverage for the activity. Brenda made a motion second by Monte for Eddie to offer free train rides to the kids in Santa Claus with all agreeing. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Grisham

Donita Bowen, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donita Bowen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends across the page.