



**City of Helen  
Georgia's Alpine  
Village**

25 Alpenrosen Strasse  
PO Box 280  
Helen, Georgia 30545  
706-878-2733  
706-878-1655 -fax  
www.cityofhelen.org



The City of Helen is an equal  
opportunity provider and employer

**CITY OF HELEN  
COMMISSION MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2026  
10:00 A.M.  
AGENDA**

**Commissioners:**

Lee Landress  
Steve Fowler  
Mervin Barbree  
Cliff Hood  
Helen Wilkins

**City Manager:**

Darrell Westmoreland

**City Clerk:**

Marilyn M. Chastain

**Finance Director:**

Mona Wood

**Chief of Police:**

Aletha Barrett

**Clerk of Court:**

Jaclyn Burke

**Building and Zoning  
Administrator:**

Jonah Casper

**Public Works  
Director:**

Jack Morgan

**Fire Department  
Chief:**

Jody Prickett

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR LEE LANDRESS
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 17, 2026
6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
  - A. NANCY ACKERMAN – ARTS CENTER
7. ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY C.V.B. MONTHLY REPORT
8. HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT
9. DISCUSSION FOR APPROVAL OF ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR CHRIS AND LAUREN WILLIAMS OF DAY LATE DOLLAR SHORT LLC, D/B/A PINK PIG SOUTHERN BBQ LOCATED AT 663 BRUCKEN STRASSE TO ADD LIQUOR POURING TO THEIR LICENSE THAT CURRENTLY INCLUDES BEER ON PREMISES, WINE ON PREMISES AND SUNDAY SALES
10. DISCUSSION FOR APPROVAL OF ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR ERIC JAMES MILLER OF YONAH VINEYARDS, LLC D/B/A THE POUR HAUS LOCATED AT 8016 SOUTH MAIN STREET SUITE B-1 FOR A BEER PACKAGE, WINE PACKAGE, SUNDAY SALES AND FARM WINERY LICENSE
11. ADMINISTRATIVE
  - A. CITY MANAGER UPDATE
 

DISCUSSION OF BID OPENING FOR THE BID ON THE MONITORING WELL
  - B. APPROVAL FOR CITY ATTORNEY CARL FREE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH REVISING/UPDATING CITY CHARTER
  - C. APPOINTMENT OF HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

D. DISCUSSION FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH JEFF ASH ON PARKING LOT LOCATED ON HOEN STRASSE

E. DISCUSSION OF PRICE SETTING FOR RESTAURANT – RESTROOM USE

F. DISCUSSION OF CITY PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE ISLAND AREA

G. APPROVAL OF MATRIX SIGNS

H. FINANCIAL REPORT

12. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

13. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

14. PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT

15. BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

16. PURCHASES AND BIDS

17. ORDINANCES

18. RESOLUTIONS

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS FUTURE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE

20. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

21. ADJOURNMENT

**THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED APRIL 16, 2026 @ 11:00 A.M.**

**THE MEETING AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND IS NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE CITY OF HELEN COMMISSION AT THE COMMISSION MEETING STATED HEREIN.**



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**CITY OF HELEN  
COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 17, 2026  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Commissioners:**

Lee Landress  
Steve Fowler  
Mervin Barbree  
Cliff Hood  
Helen Wilkins

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 in the commission chambers at Helen City Hall. Mayor Lee Landress called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. City Clerk Marilyn Chastain called the roll. The following commissioners were present: Commissioner Mervin Barbree, Commissioner Helen Wilkins, Mayor Lee Landress, Commissioner Steve Fowler and Commissioner Cliff Hood.

**City Manager:**

Darrell Westmoreland

Also, in attendance were City Manager Darrell Westmoreland, City Attorney Carl Free, City Clerk Marilyn Chastain, Police Chief Aletha Barrett, Building & Zoning Director Jonah Casper. Fire Chief Jody Prickett. Public Works Director Jack Morgan was absent.

**City Clerk:**

Marilyn M. Chastain

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

**Finance Director:**

Mona Wood

APPROVAL OF AGENDA; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Mervin Barbree. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

**Chief of Police:**

Aletha Barrett

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 17, 2026; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Cliff Hood. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

**Clerk of Court:**

Jaclyn Burke

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC; Members of the Fashing group presented a certificate of appreciation and Medals to the Commission.

**Building and Zoning  
Administrator:**

Jonah Casper

A. ALPINE OVERLOOK LLC TO PRESENT FERRIS WHEEL PROPOSAL FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT BAVARIAN MINI GOLF; Project Manager Jana Parker presented the proposed Ferris Wheel to the Commission. City Attorney Carl Free stated the property would have to go thru the Conditional Use process with Public hearings at the PDRB, and Commission meetings.

**Public Works  
Director:**

Jack Morgan

**Fire Department  
Chief:**

Jody Prickett

ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY C.V.B. MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Jerry Brown was present and gave a verbal report.

HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT; Chamber Member Judy Holloway was present and gave a verbal report of events at the Festhall.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR TRENT D JACKSON OF DOTTIES KITCHEN LOCATED AT 8265 S. MAIN STREET FOR BEER ON PREMISES, WINE ON PREMISES AND SUNDAY SALES; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mervin Barbree, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Steve Fowler. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

**CITY OF HELEN  
COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 17, 2026  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
PAGE 2**

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR GUY SLABBAERT OF PERFORM HOTEL HELEN LLC D/B/A HOME 2 SUITES HELEN, FOR BEER ON PREMISES, WINE ON PREMISES, LIQUOR POURING, AND SUNDAY SALES; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mervin Barbree, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Cliff Hood. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

**ADMINISTRATIVE;**

A. CITY MANAGER UPDATE; City Manager Darrell Westmoreland informed the Commission that the Chipper he had been looking at is a demo version with a 2 year warranty or for a little more money a new one could be purchased with a 5 year warranty and a set of blades. Motion to approve the purchase of the new chipper made by Commissioner Mervin Barbree, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

B. FINANCIAL REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. City Manager Darrell Westmoreland gave a verbal report. Motion to approve the Financial Report made by Commissioner Cliff Hood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Next an Engineer from EMI went over current City Projects. A written report will be included as an integral part of the Minutes. There was also discussion of the Gypsum Feed Systems Building that will need to be constructed and reminded that it should also have the Alpine look.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Police Chief Aletha Barrett was present for questions on the report. Commissioner Mervin Barbree thanked Chief Barrett for allowing the emergency OD boxes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Fire Chief Jody Prickett was present and gave a verbal report.

PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Jack Morgan was absent.

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Jonah Casper was present and gave a verbal report. JT Gangwall owner of the new hotel being built across the road from City Hall gave an update on the construction with an estimated opening date of June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**CITY OF HELEN  
COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 17, 2026  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
PAGE 3**

PURCHASES AND BIDS; There was discussion of hiring an Audit Firm to conduct Audits on the local Hotels/nightly rentals to verify they are paying correctly on their taxes and this could be done for approximately 18 to 20 thousand dollars for 6 locations. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Mervin Barbree. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

ORDINANCES; None

RESOLUTIONS; RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WHITE COUNTY JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Cliff Hood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS; Commissioner Helen Wilkins stated that the Beer Garden that Bruce Pomey has been working on looks great.

ADJOURNMENT; Motion to adjourn @ 10:54 a.m. made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Mervin Barbree. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

**RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CASTAIN**



# Alpine Helen/White County Convention & Visitors Bureau

P.O. Box 730 • Helen, Georgia 30545 • 706-878-2181 • FAX 706-878-4032

## CVB Report March, 2026

### ADVERTISEMENTS:

- Southern Living Magazine.
- South Carolina Magazine
- Carolina Country – EMC Magazine.
- North Georgia Living Magazine.
- Southbound Magazine.
- Blue Ridge Country Magazine.
- Atlanta Magazine.
- Georgia EMC Magazine.
- Georgia Design Magazine.
- Georgia's Great Places Magazine.
- LRC Inc. Blogs, etc. and Social Media Campaigns.
- Regional Newspaper Ad's for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Songwriters Festival and the Annual United Way Celebrity Golf Tournament.
- AAA Explorer (Alabama) Magazine.
- AJC.com – Outdoor Family Fun is waiting just 90 minutes away from Atlanta – 1.2 million impressions, with an estimated value of \$29,000.
- MSN.com – 2 Georgia Destinations among the most beautiful mountain towns in America – Helen. 91,000 Impressions, with an estimated value of \$8,900.
- Style Blueprint – 9 Hidden Gems to visit in the South – Helen. 158,000. Impressions, with an estimated value of \$2,553.
- Taking the kids.com – This mountain coaster in Georgia is a must try in 2026 – Helen's Mountain Coaster. 8,600. Impressions, with an estimated value of \$2,342.
- World Atlas.com – 6 Coziest Mountain Towns in the Southern U.S. – Helen. 7.2 million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$67,000.
- 365 Atlanta Traveler.com – Best Mountain Day trips from Atlanta – Helen. 193,900 impressions, with an estimated value of \$ 2,800.
- World Atlas.com – 9 most neighborly towns in Georgia – Helen. 7.2 million impressions, with an estimated value of \$67,000.
- Only in Our State, AOL.com, Yahoo News.com – Baby Land General Hospital just outside of Helen is one of the best road trip stops, you've never considered. 9.1 million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$3.3 million.
- Mental Floss.com – 7 tiny American towns with fewer than 700 residents you can visit today – Helen. 2.2 million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$23,888.
- World Atlas.com – 12 Perfect destinations for a long weekend in Georgia – Helen. 7.2 million impressions, with an estimated value of \$67,000.



# Alpine Helen/White County Convention & Visitors Bureau

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## **WELCOME CENTER:**

- 2,570. (170 more) Visitors stopped by the Welcome Center in March.
- Helen Travel Guides delivered over 230 cases of the new guides. Mailed out an additional 400 Travel Guides by request in March. We had 124 Travel Guide downloads.
- Website visits for the month of March 108,000. (6,000 more) with 101,000. unique/new visitors 3.45 page visits with over 454,000. (103,466. more) page views with duration of 2:58 minutes per view. Bounce rate 49.50%.

## **TRAVEL SHOWS/MEETINGS:**

- March 2nd – Director Brown met with Adam Zappia with Zartico to discuss a new “Benchmarking” platform.
- March 3rd – Director Brown attended a IPW regroup meeting with Explore Georgia.
- March 4th – Director Brown, Doris Skelton and Tanya Stanley attended a workshop on our new AI buddy platform with ITI Digital.
- March 5th – Director Brown attended Tourism Day at the Capital.
- March 8th and 9th – Director Brown attended the Annual Winter Chatauqua Conference at the McLamore Resort in Rising Fawn Georgia.
- March 10th – Director Brown met with the GDEcD Staff to go over details for the U.S. Travel International Trade Show in Chicago.
- March 12th – Director Brown gave the CVB report during the monthly CVB Board meeting.
- March 12th – Director Brown met with Advance Travel & Tourism for the monthly digital campaign report.
- March 17th – Director Brown attended a called City Commission meeting and gave the monthly CVB report.
- March 18th – Director Brown, along with John Sell and Travis Turner welcomed 25 International Council members from 23 countries to White County and gave a speech on the importance of Tourism and toured them through Helen.
- March 20th – Director Brown gave the monthly CVB report at the CVB Board meeting.
- March 20th – Director Brown met with Our State Magazine to discuss the quarterly newsletters.
- March 26th – Director Brown met with Ruth Sykes of LRC P.R. Company to discuss Travel Writers trips this spring and summer.
- March 29th – April 1st – Director Brown attended and spoke at the Annual GACVB Conference at the Atlanta Airport District.

### Water/Wastewater - Infrastructure Projects Update - City of Helen

#### **Groundwater Development:**

The hydrogeologist retained by the City has identified four potential sites for groundwater exploration. The City has elected to proceed with development at the Lenzen Property site. Additional locations will be evaluated and recommended following initial development activities. It appears there is an additional site near the Lenzen well property. Concurrently, EMI is preparing an ARC grant application to support future groundwater well projects.

#### **Well No. 11 (Lenzen Property):**

Well and water line design is underway; well design is approximately 80%. Water line design is dependent upon development behind the Lenzen well property. EMI has completed our review of the submitted plans for water and sewer infrastructure and have provided correspondence to the City.

#### **Land Application System (LAS) Improvements:**

Solids removal from the large pond has begun. Design work for Spray Fields 4 and 5 is completed with plans and bid documents submitted to the City and contractor. Contractor is providing cost to the City for fields 4 and 5.

#### **LAS Vegetation Plan**

Project is on hold and scheduled to be rebid at a later date.

#### **Telescopic Valve/Gypsum Feed System:**

Preliminary engineering has been finalized, the survey has been completed, and the design is nearing 85% completion.

#### **Zone Meters:**

Preliminary engineering of water system zoning has been completed; design is currently underway.

#### **LAS Monitoring Well:**

The plans and engineering letter report for the LAS groundwater monitoring well have been approved by the EPD. See attached bid tabulation and letter of recommendation.

April 20, 2026

The Honorable Mayor and City Officials  
City of Helen  
25 Alpenrosen Strasse  
Helen, GA 30545

**RE: Post Bid Analysis and Award Recommendation  
2025 Monitoring Well Replacement**

Dear City Officials:

Following completion of plans and permitting for the subject project, the City duly advertised for construction bids for the required four weeks. The project was advertised in the Georgia Procurement Registry. In addition, invitations to bid were sent out to several licensed Georgia Utility Contractors.

Bids were duly opened at City Hall on April 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM. The City received two (2) valid bids all from qualified contracting firms. The base bids ranged from \$6,661.00 to \$20,930.00 as indicated on the attached certified bid tabulation.

We have reviewed the bids as prepared by the Contractors. EMI feels that they are all qualified and were responsive.

The lowest responsive responsible bidder is Sailors Engineering Associates, Inc. of Lawrenceville, Georgia.

The City of Helen and EMI have worked with Sailors Engineering Associates, Inc. on projects in the past and they have provided quality and professional work. We have also reviewed their qualifications and references numerous times through the years, and all have been favorable. Therefore, we see no reason not to award the contract to Sailors Engineering Associates, Inc. in the amount of the base bid of \$6,611.00.

If this award recommendation is acceptable to the City, please issue a purchase order to Sailors Engineering Associates, Inc. as appropriate. Following that action, the Contractor will be notified, and a preconstruction conference will be scheduled before the work commences.

Please feel free to contact us at any time should you have any questions. We sincerely appreciate our continued association with the City of Helen.

The Honorable Mayor and City Officials  
April 20, 2024  
Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,

ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, INC.

*Wiley S Helm*

Wiley Helm, P.E.  
whelm@eminc.biz

Enclosures

Cc: Mr. Darrell Westmoreland, City Manager  
Mr. Fletcher Holliday, EMI

Z:\PROJECTS\24\24022 Helen Las Vegetation Plan\Bid Phase\Monitoring Well\24022 - 2025 Monitoring  
Well Replacement\_Letter of Recommendation.docx

2025 Monitoring Well Replacement  
For the  
City of Helen, Georgia

Sailors Engineering Associates, Inc. 1675 Spectrum Dr. Lawrenceville, GA 30043 770-962-5922		Nutter and Associates, Inc. 360 Hawthorne Lane Athens, GA 30606 706-354-7925					
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	Est. No. of Units	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL FOR ITEM	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL FOR ITEM
1	4" dia. PVC well installation up to 35' depth, complete, including casing, well apron, sign, etc.	EA	1	\$4,441.00	<i>\$4,441.00</i>	\$10,570.00	\$10,570.00
2	Additional well depth over 35'	V.F.	15	\$78.00	\$1,170.00	\$160.00	\$2,400.00
3	Existing Well D1 Abandonment	L.S.	1	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$7,960.00	\$7,960.00
<b>TOTAL BASE BID:</b>					<i>\$6,611.00</i>		<b>\$20,930.00</b>

\*INCORRECT TOTALS ARE IN BOLD AND ITALICS AND CORRECTED  
I hereby certify this to be a true and accurate tabulation  
of bids received by the City of Helen, Georgia  
on April 16, 2026.

Wiley Helm, Project Manager  
Engineering Management, Inc.





**CITY OF HELEN  
FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY  
PRELIMINARY NINE MONTHS ENDED MARCH, 2026  
TAX REVENUES SUMMARY COMPARISON**

**TAX REVENUES**

**HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUND**

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
133,016	151,426	18,410	13.84%
	125,776		
	277,202		

<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Nine Months Ended 3/31/26</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
2,291,496	2,466,168	174,672	7.62%
	256,864 * Prior Periods Adjs		
	2,723,032		

**SALES TAX**

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
114,431	121,142	6,711	5.86%

<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Nine Months Ended 3/31/26</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
1,248,123	1,299,013	50,890	4.08%

**BEER/WINE/LIQUOR EXCISE TAX**

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
12,294	5,957	-6,337	-51.55%

<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Nine Months Ended 3/31/26</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
129,514	118,617	-10,897	-8.41%

**MIXED DRINK TAX**

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
5,405	6,392	987	18.26%

<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Nine Months Ended 3/31/26</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
88,307	90,676	2,369	2.68%

**2020 SPLOST**

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
113,287	119,945	6,658	5.88%

<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Nine Months Ended 3/31/26</u>			
Mar-25	Mar-26	Difference	% Inc(Dec)
1,235,664	1,286,087	50,423	4.08%

**Fiscal YTD Comparison - Nine Months Ended 3/31/26**

Budget	Actual	% Inc(Dec)
1,700,000	1,286,087	75.65%

Cumulative #64	Estimated 2020	Difference	% of Estimate
8,149,617	5,600,000	-2,549,617	145.53%



Unaudited Draft

**2021 Construction Fund**

**Account Summary**

**Date Range: 08/01/2021 - 3/31/26**

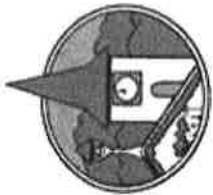
	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>To Date 3/31/26</b>	<b>Available @ 3/31/26 After Budget Reallocation</b>
HEX STRASSE WELL (Complete)	250,000	80,471	0
LENZEN PROPERTY WELL #11	495,000	194,852	311,177
MAIN LIFT STATION (Complete)	1,450,000	1,295,230	0
SSES IMPROVEMENTS	1,500,000	1,084,717	137,848
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER SEWER LINE (Complete)	375,000	239,360	0
GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT	25,000	37,569	106,052
METER REPLACEMENT (Complete)	595,000	409,286	0
WWTF SOLIDS REMOVAL (Complete)	425,000	558,379	0
LAS IMPROVEMENTS	875,000	1,336,433	220,611
	<u>5,990,000</u>	<u>5,236,297</u>	<u>775,688</u>



Unaudited Draft

**CITY OF HELEN AVAILABLE 2020 SPLOST FUNDS  
AS OF MARCH 31, 2026**

<u>2020 SPLOST (20%)</u>	<u>ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, SIDEWALKS (23.21%)</u>	<u>WATER/WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS (33.93%)</u>	<u>PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (37.5%)</u>	<u>ADMIN EQUIP, FACILITIES &amp; VEHICLES (5.36%)</u>	<u>2020 SPLOST REVENUE</u>
<b>TOTALS FOR</b>					
<b>6 YEAR PERIOD</b>	1,300,000.00	1,900,000.00	2,100,000.00	300,000.00	5,600,000.00
<b>CURRENT ESTIMATE</b>					
<b>REVENUE</b>					
ACTUAL RECEIVED	1,891,549.78	2,765,199.66	3,056,144.63	436,824.94	8,149,719.00
INTEREST EARNED	122,555.48	179,160.16	198,010.79	28,302.34	528,028.77
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
PRIOR YEARS TOTALS	1,282,147.58	618,508.97	1,149,203.87	132,307.52	3,182,167.94
CURRENT YEAR TOTALS	103,445.00	60,015.00	1,288,845.08	0.00	1,452,305.08
BANK FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>2020 SPLOST AVAILABLE</b>	<b>628,512.68</b>	<b>2,265,835.85</b>	<b>816,106.46</b>	<b>332,819.76</b>	<b>4,043,274.75</b>



City of Helen Debt Service as of March 31, 2026

Lender	Collateral	Loan Amount	Rate	Pmt. Amount	Due	Balance	Matures
BB&T	HME Ahrens Fire Truck	406,802	3.060	47,721	January*	46,304	Jan-27
GEFA CWSRF 14-018	Willow Pond Sewer Rehab	281,000	0.500	2,401	Monthly	16,781	Oct-26
GEFA DWSRG 13-012	Hamby St Bridge Crossing	309,041	0.660	2,662	Monthly	31,830	Mar-27
				<u>52,784</u>		<u>94,915</u>	
Debt Service 2021 Construction Bond (Principal + Interest)		\$ 7,325,248		changes	Semi-Annual	5,401,900	Aug-36
February 2026 Interest Only		\$ 73,200					
August 2026 Principal + Interest		\$ 418,200					



# Helen Police Department

## Monthly Report

### March 2026

<u>Mar. 2026</u> <u>Arrests - 13</u> Felony - 0 Misdemeanor - 11 FVA - 0 VGCSA - 2	<u>Mar. 2025</u> <u>Arrests - 23</u> Felony - 1 Misdemeanor - 14 FVA - 1 VGCSA - 7	<u>Mar. 2026</u> <u>Citations</u> <b>211</b>	<u>Mar. 2025</u> <u>Citations</u> <b>312</b>
<u>Mar. 2026</u> <u>Security Checks</u> <b>177</b>	<u>Mar. 2025</u> <u>Security Checks</u> <b>1,665</b> *Downtown businesses 71 (6,177)	<u>Mar. 2026</u> <u>Calls for Service</u> <b>695</b>	<u>Mar. 2025</u> <u>Calls for Service</u> <b>662</b>
<u>Mar. 2026</u> <u>Criminal Trespass</u> <b>2</b>	<u>Mar. 2025</u> <u>Criminal Trespass</u> <b>2</b>	<u>Mar. 2026</u> <u>Accident Reports</u> <b>9</b>	<u>Mar. 2025</u> <u>Accident Reports</u> <b>8</b>
<u>2026 Totals</u> Arrests – <b>39</b> Security Checks – <b>1,159</b> Criminal Trespass – <b>5</b> Citations – <b>525</b> Calls for Service – <b>2,439</b> Accidents – <b>18</b>		<u>2025 Totals</u> Arrests – <b>133</b> Security Checks – <b>11,184</b> Criminal Trespass – <b>33</b> Citations – <b>3,451</b> Calls for Service – <b>10,048</b> Accidents – <b>77</b>	

911 Accidental / Open Line / Hang	18	Fight	2	Road Block	
Abandoned Vehicle	2	Fire Calls	2	Road Rage	
Active Shooter		Flag Down	6	Security / Business Check	177
Alarm Calls	5	Follow up Report	7	Sexual Assault Reported	
Amber / Levi / Matties Call / Alert		Foot Patrol	58	Shots Fired	
Animal Call	2	For Your Information		Special Detail	7
Apparent Death		Forgery		Speeding Vehicle	
Armed Robbery		Fraud		Stalking	
Assault		Harassment		Subject Screaming	
Assist Fire / LEO	2	Hit & Run		Suicide (attempt or threat)	2
Assist Motorist	7	Hostage Situation		Suspicious Person or Vehicle	26
Assistance Needed		Improperly Parked Vehicle	9	Taking Report	4
Attempting to Stop		In the Area		Temporary Protection Order	1
BOLO		Intoxicated Driver / Ped.	8	Test Call	
Bomb Threat		Indecent Exposure	2	Theft Report	1
Bond	10	Juvenile Problem	3	Threats	1
Burglary		Kidnapping		Traffic Accident	9
Call by Phone	4	Lines Down	1	Traffic Hazard	
Car Jacking		Loitering		Traffic Stop	223
Chase in Progress		Lost / Found Item or Person	7	Tree Down / Across Roadway	
Child Abuse / DFCS		Mechanical Breakdown	1	Trespassing	
City / County Ordinance Violation	3	Medical Calls	30	Vandalism	
Court Detail		Meet in Person	4	Vehicle Lock Out	
Criminal Trespass	3	Mental Subject		Vehicle Registration Info.	1
Damage to Property	3	Misc		Vehicle Taken without Permission	
Debris in Roadway		Missing Person		Vin Verification	1
Deliver Message		Noise Complaint	7	Walk Thru	4
Direct Traffic		Not Otherwise Specified	3	Wanted Person / Warrant	2
Dispute	2	Open Door	1	Wanted / Stolen Indicated	
Disturbance	4	Overdue Motorist	1	Weather	
Domestic	2	Pandering		Welfare Check	3
Driver / Criminal History Requested		Pick up Prisoner / Subject	1	School Crossing / Traffic	
Driver's License Information		Possible Dam Failure		Subject in Custody	
Drug Suspect	1	Prowler		Wrecker needed	
Emergency Road Repair		Public Assist	2	Civil Process	
Entering Auto		Reckless Driving	3	Illegal Dumping	
Escort	3	Refusing to Leave	1	Unknown Problem	1
Extra Patrol		River Patrol		Calls for Water Dept Problems	
				Walk In Report	2

**Total calls for service: 695**

# City of Helen Fire & Rescue

## Monthly Report for March 2026

Total "911 Responses" = 69 / Year to Date = 171

### Major Incident Type(s) Breakdown

Major Incident Type	# Of Incidents Current Month	% Of Total Current Month
Fire (Structure, Wildland, Outside, Transportation, Special)	0	0%
Medical (Injury, Illness, Other)	39	56.52%
Hazardous Situation (Non-Chemical, HazMat, Overpressure, Investigation)	2	2.90%
Rescue (Outside, Structure, Transportation, Water)	0	0%
Public Service (Assistance, Non-Medical Alarms, Weather, Other)	14	20.29%
No Emergency (Cancelled, False Alarm, Good Intent)	14	20.29%
Assisting Law Enforcement	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69</b>	

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TTL
2025	65	50	47	52	79	87	102	77	67	77	66	75	844
2026	55	47	69										171
Difference	-10	-3	+22										

Count of Aid Given and Received for Incidents for Date Range			# Of Incidents by Day of the Week for Date Range						
AID TYPE	TOTAL	% Of TOTAL	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Aid Given	21	30.43%	11	8	9	5	9	17	10
Aid Received	4	5.80%	Busiest Hours for Date Range						
None	44	63.77%	1200-1759 / 40.58%						

Average Response Time for Non-Aid Incidents for Date Range		
AGENCY	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME (Dispatched to Arrival)	NUMBER OF INCIDENTS
City of Helen Fire & Rescue	4:55	27

**Apparatus Responses: This chart identifies our busiest apparatus for the Month**

Apparatus Call Sign	Type of Vehicle	Number of Responses for Apparatus
Engine 31	2017 HME "Ahrens Fox"	45
Engine 32	1997 Ferrara "Spartan"	5
Truck 31	2002 Ferrara "Igniter Series"	3
Rescue 31	2000 Ford "F-650"	7
Utility 31	2016 Ford "F-150"	13
301	2025 Ford "F-150"	7
ATV 31	2016 Polaris "Ranger"	1

### Training

Fire Department completed a total of **35 hours** of classroom and practical training.



### Incident Types by Month Breakdown

Incident Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	%
Fire-Structure	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.17
Fire-Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
Fire-Special outside fire, other	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
Medical-Rescue, EMS Incident, other	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
Medical-Emergency medical service incident, other	13	16	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	33.92
Medical-EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	9	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	12.87
Medical-Motor vehicle accident with injuries	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.34
Medical-Extrication, rescue, other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
Hazardous-Gas Leak (natural gas or LPG)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1.75
Hazardous-Power line down	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.17
Hazardous-Accident, potential accident, other	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.92
Hazardous-Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
Public Service-Service Call, other	10	8	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	17.54
Public Service – Cover assignment, general cleanup	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
Public Service-Severe weather or natural disaster, other	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3.92
No Emergency-Dispatched & Cancelled enroute	5	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	8.77
No Emergency-No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.34
No Emergency-Authorized controlled burning	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.17
No Emergency-Vicinity alarm (incident in other location)	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	5.26
No Emergency-HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.58
No Emergency-System malfunction, other	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.17
No Emergency-Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.17
<b>*Total Runs by Month*</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>100</b>

# **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

## **March 2026**

- Worked on river street restrooms fixing toilets .
- Cut two big trees pine on white street and hard wood on Chattahoochee street.
- Clean curbs throughout town.
- Worked in spray field cleaning heads.
- Worked on three main water leaks.
- Normal routine: clean restrooms, trash route, roadside trash, read water meters, put chlorine and salt in wells, and water samples on weekends started cutting grass for the season.
- 811 locates .
- Spray sidewalks curb sides.
- Clean up shops.
- Put up directional signs.
- Remove flower bed in art center parking lot for more parking.
- Paint park restroom and seal the floors.
- Paint handicap ramps in center of town.
- Paint cross walk.



## Group Summary

Group	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
	3	0	0	3
1ST AVAILABLE	69	63	4	1
CHIPPING	2	1	0	0
WATER	4	3	0	1
Grand Totals	78	67	4	5

## Staff Summary

Staff	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
1ST AVAILABLE	5	2	2	1
CHRIS ESTES	3	3	0	0
EDWARD SALWAY	63	57	2	4
JACOB WESTMORELAND	2	2	0	0
PW TEAM	5	3	0	0
Grand Totals	78	67	4	5

## Job Code Summary

Job Code	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
CHECK METER - CHECK METER	6	3	0	3
CHIPPING - CHIPPING	3	1	0	0
CONNECT - CONNECT	3	3	0	0
DELIVER CAN - DELIVER CAN	1	1	0	0
DISCONNECT & READ - DISCONNECT & READ	4	3	1	0
END SUSP - END SUSPEND	3	0	2	1
MISC - MISC	31	31	0	0
PICK UP CAN - PICK UP CAN	2	2	0	0
PICK UP CAN- TERM - PICK UP CAN - TERMINATE SERVI	1	1	0	0
PULL DATA - PULL METER DATA	7	6	1	0
READ - READ	1	1	0	0
READ TO TRANSFER - READ TO TRANSFER	11	11	0	0
RE-READ IN BILLING - RE-READ IN BILLING	2	2	0	0
TURN OFF/ON- REPAIRS - TURN OFF/ON - REPAIRS	2	1	0	1
UNLOCK - UNLOCK	1	1	0	0
Grand Totals	78	67	4	5

## Action Summary

Action	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
Connect	3	3	0	0
Disconnect	4	3	1	0
Re-Read	2	2	0	0
Occupant Change	11	11	0	0
Miscellaneous	53	46	1	4
Service Action	2	2	0	0
End Suspend	3	0	2	1
Grand Totals	78	67	4	5

## Issued by User

User	Issued
Katie	8
Mirinda	3
Susie	67
Grand Totals	78

## Completed by User

User	Completed
esalway	55
ksutton	4
ssanders	8
Grand Totals	67



**City of Helen  
Georgia's Alpine  
Village**

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706-878-2733  
706-878-1655 -fax  
www.cityofhelen.org



The City of Helen is an equal  
opportunity provider and employer

**BUILDING AND ZONING MONTHLY REPORT  
March 2026**

**Commissioners:**

Steve Fowler  
Helen Wilkins  
Cliff Hood  
Mervin Barbree  
Lee Landress

**City Manager:**

Darrell Westmoreland

**City Clerk:**

Marilyn M. Chastain

**Clerk of Court:**

Jaclyn Burke

**City Finance Director:**

Mona Wood

**Chief of Police:**

Aletha Barrett

**Building and Zoning**

**Director:**

Jonah Casper

**Fire Chief:**

Jody Prickett

**Public Works**

**Director:**

Jack Morgan

**PERMITS**

Building: 3  
Electrical: 1  
Mechanical: 1  
Plumbing: 2  
Demo: 0  
Sign: 2  
Special Event: 3

**INSPECTIONS**

Permitted: 10  
Builder and Architect consultations: 7

**CERTIFICATES ISSUED**

Residential: 0  
Commercial: 0