

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2014
3:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR JUDY HOLLOWAY
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 7, 2014
6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
7. ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY CVB MONTHLY REPORT
8. HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT
9. ADMINISTRATIVE
 - A. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - B. FAITH BRYAN WITH GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION TO PRESENT PROPOSAL FOR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF HELEN
10. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
11. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
12. PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT
13. BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
14. PURCHASES AND BIDS
15. ORDINANCES
16. RESOLUTIONS
17. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR POSSIBLE LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL
18. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

19. ADJOURNMENT

THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED OCTOBER 17, 2014 @ 11:00 A.M.

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2014
3:00 P.M.
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday October 21, 2014 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall, with Mayor Judy Holloway calling the meeting to order.

City Clerk Marilyn Chastain called the roll and the following were present; Commissioner Fred Garmon, Mayor Judy Holloway, Commissioner Dona K Burke, Commissioner Jeff Ash. Absent was Commissioner Helen Wilkins.

Also attending the meeting were City Manager Jerry Elkins, City Attorney Carl Free, City Clerk Marilyn Chastain, Police Chief Jim Couch, Fire Captain Lee Poteat, Public Works Director Ross Hewell, Building & Zoning Director Larry Krul.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Approval of Agenda; Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Dona K Burke. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Approval of Minutes from October 7, 2014; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Dona K Burke. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Petitions and Communications from the Public; None

Alpine Helen/White County CVB Monthly report; Monthly report is included as an integral part of the Minutes.

Helen Chamber of Commerce Monthly report; Monthly report is included as an integral part of the Minutes. Linda McCalister was present to answer questions.

Administrative;

A. Financial Report; Report is included as an integral part of the minutes. City Manager Jerry Elkins stated that some figures were up and some down but overall in good shape. Mayor Judy Holloway asked what the 300 fund is and was told it is the SPLOST fund. Motion to approve the Financial report made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Dona K Burke. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

B. Faith Bryan with the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission to present a proposal for Aerial Photography for the City of Helen; Ms. Bryan explained the six inch pixels photography and how it can be utilized and how it can overlay other maps such as topo's, and stated that if approved the photography will be done in January, February, and March of 2015, and delivered to the City in October 2015. Commissioner Jeff Ash asked if the spray field which is leased State owned property could be included , and Ms Bryan indicated that it could but will check into adding it.

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Commissioner Dona K Burke asked if the photographs would include any property beyond the City limits in the event of future annexation. Ms Bryan said the photo's would expand beyond the current City limits for this reason. Motion to approve the City accepting the proposal and price of \$5350.00 from GMRC for the aerial photography with adding the spray field as part of the proposal made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Dona K Burke. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Police Department monthly report; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Police Chief Jim Couch stated the Police Department had responded to over 100 calls and had been very busy with the crowds for Oktoberfest, but had had no major problems. He also stated that it appears that the Restaurants and Bars that serve alcohol were being extra careful not to have any violations, and an officer with the GSP had also been in the area working.

Fire Department monthly report; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Fire Captain Lee Poteat stated that he has spoken to 4 companies that stated they were going to submit bids for the new Fire Truck, that bids are due by Wednesday, that last month the department had 32 calls and done 40 hours of training, and that this week they had already received 22 calls. Fire Captain Poteat also informed the Commission of the rescue over the weekend at Raven Falls that he and Peter Keck had helped with.

Public Works, Water and Waste Water monthly report; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Public Works Director Ross Hewell was present and informed the Commission that his department had been very busy with Oktoberfest, Christmas lights and the new Public Works building. Commissioner Fred Garmon commended the Public Works department for such a good job they had done on the building. Director Ross Hewell also commended and thanked Commissioner Garmon for the time and excellent work he had put into the new building, as did each of the Commissioners present. Commissioner Fred Garmon stated that the estimated cost of the new building should come close to the amount budgeted.

Building and Zoning Department monthly report; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Building and Zoning Director Larry Krul stated that the building permit should be issued this week for the Holiday Inn Express, and that the America's Best motel remodeling is waiting on the State Fire Marshall's approval of the plans. There was discussion of many abandoned signs of business that have closed, signs that are in disrepair, and signs that do not match the current business name that need to come down. Commissioner Jeff Ash made a motion to have the signs that do not comply with the Sign Ordinance to come down, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Executive Session for possible litigation and personnel; Motion to go into Executive Session at 3:38 p.m. made by Commissioner Dona K Burke, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

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Attending the Executive Session were Commissioners; Fred Garmon, Judy Holloway, Dona K Burke, Jeff Ash, City Manager Jerry Elkins, City Attorney Carl Free, City Clerk Marilyn Chastain, Police Chief Jim Couch, Building & Zoning Director Larry Krul.

The regular Commission resumed at 4:15 p.m.

No motions were made as a result of the Executive Session.

City Commission comments; There was discussion of the employee Christmas party being December 5th.

Adjournment; Motion to adjourn at 4:17 made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Dona K Burke. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN