



**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



Commissioners:

Cliff Hood
Helen Wilkins
Lee Landress
Mervin Barbree
Steve Fowler

City Manager:

Darrell Westmoreland

City Clerk

Marilyn M. Chastain

Clerk of Court

Jaclyn Burke

Chief of Police:

Aletha Barrett

Fire Chief:

Jody Prickett

Building and Zoning

Administrator:

Jonah Casper

Finance Director/

Deputy Clerk:

Mona Wood

Public Works

Director:

Jack Morgan

**CITY OF HELEN
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JUNE 25, 2026
9:00 A.M.
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL BY FINANCE DIRECTOR MONA WOOD
3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. ADOPTION OF 2026/2027 BUDGET
6. READING OF ORDINANCE 26-06-01: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR
7. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS
8. ADJOURNMENT

THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED JUNE 22, 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
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JUNE 25, 2026
MINUTES OF MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER by Mayor Pro Temp Mervin Barbree at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL BY DEPUTY CLERK MIRINDA DISPAIN: Commissioners in attendance were Commissioner Helen Wilkins, Commissioner Steve Fowler, Commissioner Mervin Barbree, and Commissioner Cliff Hood. Aso in attendance City Manager Darrell Westmoreland, Finance Director Mona Wood, and Deputy Clerk Mirinda Dispain.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Second was made by Commissioner Cliff Hood. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the commissioners present.

ADOPTION OF 2026/2027 BUDGET

READING OF ORDINANCE 26-06-01: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR: Mayor Pro Temp Mervin Barbree read Ordinance 26-06-01. Motion to approve Ordinance 26-06-01 was made by Commissioner Cliff Hood. Second was made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the commissioners present.

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Steve Fowler at 9:03 a.m. Second was made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the commissioners present.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY DEPUTY CLERK MIRINDA DISPAIN

**CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA
ORDINANCE 26-06-01**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN GEORGIA, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR

Whereas, the City Manager has proposed a budget for the municipal fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, and

Whereas, the City Commission has reviewed and revised the proposed budget after soliciting citizen comment in conformity with State of Georgia statutes; and

Whereas, the City Commission further announced the following objectives for the fiscal year aforesaid,

- (1) To make certain capital improvements to the municipal infrastructure including roads, streets, bridges and sidewalks, parks, water and wastewater, public buildings and grounds, acquisition of equipment and vehicles, acquisition and/or improvement of computer and communications information equipment, and system infrastructure and upgrades subject to the availability of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.
- (2) To contract with the Alpine Helen/White County Convention and Visitors Bureau for operation and maintenance of the Alpine Helen/White County Convention and Visitor's Bureau and for advertising and promotion of the City of Helen.

Now, therefore be it ordained, by the Helen City Commission, the governing authority for the City of Helen, Georgia that the following appropriations are made for fiscal year 2026/2027:

Now, therefore be it further ordained that the City of Helen is appropriating a portion of the budgeted Hotel/Motel Excise Tax revenue to the advertisement and promotion of the City of Helen by remitting to the Alpine Helen/White County Convention and Visitors Bureau forty percent (40%) of five eighths (5/8) and fifty percent (50%) of three eighths (3/8) of the total Hotel/Motel Tax revenue collected, pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 48-13-51(b) and local ordinances.

It is hereby further ordained, by the City of Helen Commission, that any ordinance or resolution previously existing or inconsistent with or in conflict with this ordinance are repealed in their entirety, or repealed partially to the extent of the conflict or inconsistency of the previous ordinance.

It is hereby further ordained, by the City of Helen Commission, that this ordinance shall become effective upon the official approval by a majority of the Helen City Commission.

This ordinance duly approved by the Helen City Commission this 25th day of June 2026.

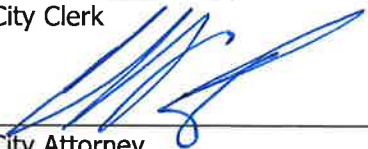
(SEAL)

Attest:


Mirinda Dispain, Deputy City Clerk


Mervin Barbree II, Mayor Pro Tem

Approved as to form:


Carl Free, City Attorney

Approved and adopted:

**CITY OF HELEN
ANNUAL BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THRU JUNE 30, 2027**

**GENERAL FUND
GENERAL FUND REVENUE
FY 2026-2027**

General Fund	\$ 5,208,813.00
Interest Income	\$ 240,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	\$ 5,448,813.00

**GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027**

General Overhead	\$ 646,500.00
Administration	\$ 636,850.00
City Commission	\$ 20,100.00
Judicial Expense	\$ 137,800.00
Community Relations	\$ 50,000.00
Fire Department	\$ 744,921.00
Information Technology	\$ 85,250.00
Housing & Development	\$ 279,370.00
Public Works	\$ 1,018,514.00
Police Department	\$ 1,753,408.00
Solid Waste	\$ 76,100.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 5,448,813.00

**WATER AND WASTEWATER FUND
WATER AND WASTEWATER REVENUES
FY 2026-2027**

Water and Wastewater Revenues	\$ 1,731,250.00
Interest Income	\$ 55,000.00
TOTAL WATER & WASTEWATER REVENUES	\$1,786,250.00

**WATER AND WASTEWATER EXPENSES
FY 2026-2027**

Water & Wastewater Expenses	\$ 1,697,103.00
TOTAL WATER & WASTEWATER EXPENSES	\$ 1,697,103.00

Water and Wastewater Surplus	\$ 89,147.00
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HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUND
HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUND REVENUES
FY 2026-2027

Hotel/Motel Tax Revenue	\$ 3,100,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 25,750.00
TOTAL HOTEL/MOTEL REVENUES	\$ 3,125,750.00

HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUND EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027

Hotel/Motel Expenditures	\$ 173,000.00
Projects	\$ 434,000.00
Transfer to General Fund (60% of 5%)	\$ 1,162,500.00
Contract with C.V.B. (40% of 5%)	\$ 775,000.00
Contract with C.V.B. (50% of 3%)	\$ 581,250.00
TOTAL HOTEL/MOTEL TAX EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,125,750.00

2020 SPLOST FUND
2020 SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX REVENUES
FY 2026-2027

Interest Earned	\$ 145,500.00
2020 SPLOST Revenues	\$ 1,734,000.00
TOTAL 2020 SPLOST REVENUES	\$ 1,879,500.00

2020 SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027

2020 SPLOST Projects	\$ 1,879,500.00
TOTAL 2020 SPLOST EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,879,500.00

CONFISCATED ASSETS FUND
CONFISCATED ASSETS REVENUES
FY 2026-2027

Interest Income	\$ 100.00
TOTAL CONFISCATED ASSETS REVENUES	\$ 100.00

CONFISCATED ASSETS EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027

Confiscated Assets Expenditures	\$ 100.00
TOTAL CONFISCATED ASSETS EXPENDITURES	\$ 100.00

P.D. TECHNOLOGY FUND
P.D. TECHNOLOGY FUND REVENUE
FY 2026-2027

Police Dept Tech Fees	\$ 17,850.00
Interest Income	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL P.D. TECH FUND REVENUE	\$ 18,850.00

P.D. TECHNOLOGY FUND EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027

Police Dept Tech Expenditures	\$ 18,850.00
TOTAL P.D. TECH FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 18,850.00

2021 CONSTRUCTION FUND
2021 CONSTRUCTION FUND REVENUE
FY 2026-2027

2021 Construction Bond Proceeds	\$ 500,000.00
TOTAL 2021 CONSTRUCTION FUND REVENUE	\$ 500,000.00

2021 CONSTRUCTION FUND EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027

2021 Construction Fund Projects	\$ 500,000.00
TOTAL 2021 CONSTRUCTION FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 500,000.00

FLOATING LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND
FLOATING LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND REVENUE
FY 2026-2027

Floating Local Option Sales Tax	\$ 233,733.00
Interest Income	\$ 100.00
TOTAL FLOATING LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND REVENUE	\$ 233,833.00

FLOATING LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND EXPENDITURES
FY 2026-2027

Transfer to General Fund	\$ 233,833.00
TOTAL FLOATING LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 233,833.00