



**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
NOVEMBER 14, 2023
10:00 A.M.
AGENDA**

Commissioners:

Jeff Ash
Steve Fowler
Fred Garmon
Cliff Hood
Cinnamon Sullivan

City Manager:

Darrell Westmoreland

City Clerk/ :

Clerk of Court

Marilyn M. Chastain

Finance Director:

Mona Wood

Chief of Police:

Aletha Barrett

Building and Zoning

Administrator:

Jonah Casper

Public Works

Director:

Jack Morgan

Fire Department

Chief:

Jody Prickett

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR JEFF ASH
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 17, 2023
6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
7. DISCUSSION OF DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY PRESENTED BY JOHN & VICKI AIKEN
8. ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY C.V.B. MONTHLY REPORT
9. HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT
10. ADMINISTRATIVE
 - A. UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER ON CURRENT PROJECTS
 - B. FINANCIAL REPORT
11. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
12. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
13. PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT
14. BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
15. PURCHASES AND BIDS
16. ORDINANCES; FIRST READING ORDINANCE 23-11-01; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY THE ADDITION OF CHAPTER SEVENTY-ONE: MOTORIZED CARTS
17. RESOLUTIONS

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL, LAND ACQUISITION AND PENDING OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION

19. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

20. ADJOURNMENT

**THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED NOVEMBER 10, 2023 @ 11:45 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
OCTOBER 17, 2023
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Commissioners:

Jeff Ash
Steve Fowler
Fred Garmon
Cliff Hood
Cinnamon Sullivan

City Manager:

Darrell Westmoreland

City Clerk/ :

Clerk of Court

Marilyn M. Chastain

Finance Director:

Mona Wood

Chief of Police:

Aletha Barrett

**Building and Zoning
Administrator:**

Jonah Casper

**Public Works
Director:**

Jack Morgan

**Fire Department
Chief:**

Jody Prickett

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday October 17, 2023 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall. Mayor Jeff Ash called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. City Clerk Marilyn Chastain called the roll and the following were present; Commissioner Fred Garmon, Mayor Jeff Ash, Commissioner Steve Fowler, and Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Absent was Commissioner Cliff Hood.

Also attending were City Manager Darrell Westmoreland, City Attorney Carl Free, City Clerk Marilyn Chastain, Police Chief Aletha Barrett, Finance Director Mona Wood, Building & Zoning Director Jonah Casper. Absent was Public Works Director Jack Morgan and Fire Chief Jody Prickett.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF AGENDA; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 19, 2023; Motion to approve as written made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC; Jerry Taylor and Eric Fitt both addressed the Commission asking to allow a variance request that will allow them to continue living at Ameriview Hotel. Mr. Taylor stated he has lived there for 8 years. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Fitt both stated they work in a local restaurant and do not have transportation, and have not been able to find affordable housing in town. Mr. Lee Landress stated he has available housing that is less than they are paying where they are. Motion to allow them to stay 30 days in order to find alternative housing made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY C.V.B. MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Jerry Brown also gave a verbal report. Director Jerry Brown asked the Commission to consider allowing Don Ostrowsky to return in 2024 to play German music in the bandshell during Oktoberfest at a cost of \$5,600.00. Motion to approve Don Ostrowsky returning during Oktoberfest in 2024 at a cost of \$5,600.00 made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT; Judy Holloway gave a verbal update on events at the Festhall.

**COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2023
MINUTES OF MEETING
PAGE 2**

ADMINISTRATIVE

A.UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER OF CURRENT PROJECTS

DISCUSSION OF THE UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER FOR OCTOBER 21, 2023; Motion to approve allowing them at the intersection at the FestHall and at the corner of Brucken & Edelweiss Strasse made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

DISCUSSION OF CHANGING THE NOVEMBER 21, 2023 COMMISSION MEETING TO NOVEMBER 14, 2023; Motion to approve changing the November meeting to November 14, 2023 made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

City Manager Darrell Westmoreland presented the Commission with a proposal for a new Fire Truck at a cost of 1.8 million which is less than originally planned and stated that it would take approximately 2 years after ordering for it to be built. Motion to commit to the purchase made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

PRESENTATION OF WHITE CHRISTMAS MONEY COLLECTED FROM KEG TAPPINGS; Pam Summers, Merve Barbree and Doris Skelton presented Police Chief Aletha Barrett with a check for \$4295.00 which was money collected during the Keg Tappings at various locations throughout the town. The money will be used to help purchase Christmas presents for local families.

Fletcher Holiday of EMI updated the Commission of current projects. Written report given and will become an integral part of the Minutes.

City Manager Darrell Westmoreland explained the resent vandalism of the Public Restrooms with damage estimated at \$15,500.00.
Police Chief Aletha Barrett presented the Commission with a cost of installing 8 Cameras at the Public Restrooms at a cost of \$17,079.00. With additional cost to install. She also informed the Commission of receiving a license plate reader at no cost to the department to be installed at the intersection of Chattahoochee and Main Streets. Motion to approve the purchase of the cameras at a cost of \$17,079.00 made by Commissioner Steve

**COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2023
MINUTES OF MEETING
PAGE 3**

Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

FINANCIAL REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Mona Wood gave a verbal report. Motion to approve the report made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion to approve with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Police Chief Aletha Barrett gave a verbal report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Fire Chief Jody Prickett was absent.

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

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Building and Zoning Director Joha Casper gave a verbal report.

PURCHASES AND BIDS; None

ORDINANCES; SECOND READING; 23-09-01 ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA TO AMEND CHAPTER 62, TAXATION, ARTICLE III, HOTEL-MOTEL EXCISE TAX, OF THE OFFICIAL CITY CODE OF HELEN, GEORGIA; Motion to approve the second reading made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

RESOLUTIONS; None

WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS GOLF CART ORDINANCE; Motion to go into the work session at 11:16 a.m. made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Steve Fowler. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Motion to go out of the Work Session at 12:05 p.m. made by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

**COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2023
MINUTES OF MEETING
PAGE 4**

It was decided to continue discussions and have Attorney Carl Free redraft the Ordinance of items suggested at the meeting for the November Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE, AND PERSONEL; Motion to go into Executive Session at 12:06 p.m. made by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Motion to resume the regular Commission meeting at 12:32 p.m. made by Commissioner Fred Garmon, 2nd by Commissioner Steve Fowler. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Motion as a result of the Executive Session to approve the purchase of a 30' x 35' lot on the corner of Dye Street from Terry Sims for \$30,000.00 with closing on October 18, 2023 made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Sullivan. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS; None

ADJOURNMENT; Motion to adjourn at 12:34 p.m. made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN





Alpine Helen/White County Convention & Visitors Bureau

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

CVB Report October, 2023

ADVERTISEMENTS:

- Quarterly Yodeler Report for July, August and September.
- The Mountain Traveler Magazine.
- LRC Social Media Post.
- Southern Cast Iron Magazine.
- Georgia EMC Magazine.
- North Carolina EMC Magazine
- Southbound Magazine.
- Taste of The South Magazine.
- Southern Lady Magazine.
- Blue Ridge Country Magazine.
- Atlanta Magazine.
- GPB Next Magazine.
- American Road Magazine.
- Georgia's Great Places Magazine.
- The Discoverer.com – The Best Hike in every State – Anna Ruby Falls – Helen, GA. 1,941,897 Impressions, with an estimated value of \$17,963.
- World Atlas.com – 8 Best Hikes in Georgia – Anna Ruby Falls and Dukes Creek Falls. 8.8 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$81,878.
- Before it's News.com – Oktoberfest Celebrations Around the World – Helen. 4,060,685 Impressions, with an estimated value of \$37,561.
- Southern Living.com – 30 Festive Small Towns in the South for a Charming Christmas Getaway – Helen, GA. 11.4 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$105,450. Taking the Kids.com – Take the family out to a fall festival near you – Helen's Oktoberfest.
- The Infatuation.com – The 5 Best things to eat in Helen, GA – 3.9 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$ 36,918.
- World Atlas.com – 13 Most Scenic Appalachians Towns – Helen, GA. 8.8 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$81,878.
- The AJC.com – Where to see the leaves change colors in Georgia – Helen, GA. 10.8 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$99,900.
- The Travel Lens.com – 20 Ridiculously Beautiful Places in Georgia – Anna Ruby falls. 1.3 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$ 12,084.
- The World Atlas – 10 Most Scenic Towns in the Southern United States – Helen, GA. 8.85 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$81,878.
- AAA.com – 6 Popular German Towns in the U.S. – Helen #1.

Advertisements con't:

- The AJC.com – Enjoy an old fashioned County Fair at this year's Mountain Farm Celebration – Hardman Farm – Helen, GA. 10.8 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$99,900.
- My Itchy Travel Feet.com – North Georgia Mountains Fall Trip Itinerary – Helen. 121,000 Impressions, with an estimated value of \$1,127.
- A-Z Animals – Discover the Top 7 Senior Friendly Travel Spots in Georgia – Helen. 21.5 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$199,125.
- World Atlas.com – 7 Most Unique Georgia Towns – Helen. 8.8 Million Impressions, with an estimated value of \$81,878.

WELCOME CENTER:

- 4,949 (214 more) Visitors stopped by the Welcome Center in October.
- Helen Travel Guides delivered over 425. Mailed out an additional 142. We had 150 Travel Guide downloads.
- Website visits for the month of October 129,000 (13,000 more) with 123,000. Unique/new visitors 3.01 page visits with over 430,000 page views (276,000 more) with duration of 2.50 minutes per view. Bounce rate 49.53% with the first and third pages being most viewed.

TRAVEL SHOWS/MEETINGS:

- October 4th – Executive Director Brown met with Monica Hall with ITI Digital to review a new Itinerary platform that will live on the CVB's website.
- October 5th – Executive Director Brown met with Jeramy Harvey with Adara Marketing to review the last quarter reporting.
- October 6th – Executive Director Brown met with Brantley Manderson with Encore Publications. The publication is given to all attendees of the Fox Theater in Atlanta and other Theaters in the Southeast.
- October 11th – Executive Director Brown attended the Regional Travel Association meeting in Tallulah.
- October 12th – Executive Director Brown met with Wayne Emerson with Advance Travel & Tourism to review last month's reporting.
- October 16th – Executive Director Brown and Doris Skelton visited and purchased Holiday decorations and spring flowers for the Welcome Center @ Sims Pottery.
- October 17th – Executive Director Brown met with Don Ostrowsky to set dates for him to play during Oktoberfest next year, which the City approved at the City Commission meeting.
- October 19th – Executive Director Brown met with Emily DeFoor the new Director of the North Georgia Folk Pottery Museum.
- October 25th – Executive Director Brown attended the GACVB Workshop Luncheon in Marietta.
- October 26th – Executive Director Brown, CVB Board chair Ralph Hofer and Rita Morgan met with Rob Mundy CPA on this year's clean audit.
- October 30th – Executive Director Brown attended the Annual Fall DNR Golf Tournament.

Days in Office – 19 of 22 – DNR Golf Tournament, 2 Day GACVB Meeting.

11/23

Water/Wastewater - Infrastructure Projects Update - City of Helen

Groundwater Development: The hydrogeologist hired by the City has selected four potential sites for ground water exploration. The City is moving forward with the Lenzen Property site. Additionally, EMI is moving forward with an ARC grant application for future ground water wells.

Main Street Sidewalk: Initial design of the sidewalk, curb/gutter and storm drain has been completed. Recently completed soil drilling for wall construction, GDOT is requiring design of modified retaining wall. Design is complete with resubmittal to GDOT, awaiting final approval and anticipate bid very soon.

Main Lift-Station: Contractor has begun work, new force-main has been installed to the treatment plant, paving and replacement of dilapidated storm water pipe has also been completed. Bypass pumping system is in place, power is scheduled to be disconnected Tuesday or Wednesday of this week, work has begun on new station.
Anticipated Completion Date May 2024.

Well # 11 (Lenzen Property Well): Permission to drill as well as the ground water assessment have been approved by EPD. Existing well has been plugged, Oconee well drilling is moving equipment in this week and is scheduled to begin drilling on Monday. ***This project is slated to be under construction in 2023.***

SSES: All smoke testing and manhole evaluations has been finished in Helen and Innsbruck. The final report with recommendations has been completed and submitted to City staff for review. EMI has completed remedial applications and design, scheduled to open bids on this project January 11, 2024.

Recommendations from this report are scheduled to be completed in 2023-2024.
- Anticipated Completion Date May 2024.

LAS Improvements: EMI has completed evaluation of the LAS to develop final plans and specs for a projected construction schedule to begin spring 2024. The City has received the Army Corp permit for all three Wilkins ponds and the stream. The City has received pricing from ASI for pricing of erosion remediation efforts on spray fields 3a, 3b, and 3c. ASI has begun work on construction of the road and

11/23

Helen Project Update

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erosion repairs, current progress is approximately 75% complete. Dredging of the ponds is set to begin. Once the erosion remediation efforts have been completed repair efforts of the spray field lines and appurtenances will be completed.

Construction is currently slated for November 2023 - Anticipated Completion Date June 2024.

Comprehensive Sidewalk Plan: EMI has developed new maps to use as a basis of the study and have provided such to the City for use.

SCADA/Telemetry System: Installation of equipment is complete, waiting for Windstream to install internet at WWTF. Startup will begin as soon as internet is available, expecting within the next two weeks.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): The financial analysis portion of the CIP is essentially complete; a summary is presented as part of this report.

System Connection Fee Ordinance: This ordinance is complete and is presented as part of this report.



**CITY OF HELEN
FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY
FOUR MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2023
TAX REVENUES SUMMARY COMPARISON**

TAX REVENUES

HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUND

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>				<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Four Months Ended 10/31/23</u>			
<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>	<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>
255,627	273,811	18,184	7.11%	1,135,446	1,161,357	25,911	2.28%

SALES TAX

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>				<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Four Months Ended 10/31/23</u>			
<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>	<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>
127,216	135,493	8,277	6.51%	531,925	565,242	33,317	6.26%

BEER/WINE/LIQUOR EXCISE TAX

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>				<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Four Months Ended 10/31/23</u>			
<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>	<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>
20,979	18,326	-2,653	-12.65%	77,258	71,621	-5,637	-7.30%

MIXED DRINK TAX

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>				<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Four Months Ended 10/31/23</u>			
<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>	<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>
8,781	11,280	2,499	28.46%	38,714	43,946	5,232	13.51%

2020 SPLOST

<u>Monthly Comparison</u>				<u>Fiscal YTD Comparison - Four Months Ended 10/31/23</u>			
<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>	<u>Oct-22</u>	<u>Oct-23</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>
124,740	134,139	9,399	7.53%	524,091	558,842	34,751	6.63%

Fiscal YTD Budget Comparison - Three Months Ended 9/30/23

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% Inc(Dec)</u>
1,425,000	558,842	39.22%

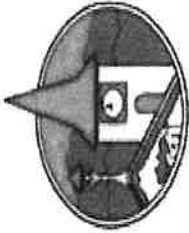
<u>Cumulative #35</u>	<u>Estimated 2020</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% of Estimate</u>
4,198,469	5,600,000	1,401,531	74.97%



**2021 Construction Fund
Account Summary**

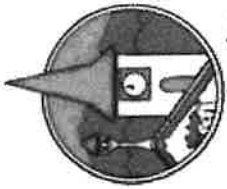
Date Range: 08/01/2021 - 10/31/2023

	Budget	10/31/2023	Available @ 10/31/23
HEX STRASSE WELL	250,000	80,471	169,529
LENZEN PROPERTY WELL #11	495,000	37,330	457,670
MAIN LIFT STATION	1,450,000	324,589	1,125,411
SSES IMPROVEMENTS	1,500,000	51,410	1,448,590
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER SEWER LINE	375,000	239,360	135,640
GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT	25,000	37,569	(12,569)
METER REPLACEMENT	595,000	409,286	185,714
WWTF SOLIDS REMOVAL	425,000	558,379	(133,379)
LAS IMPROVEMENTS	875,000	273,460	601,540
	<u>5,990,000</u>	<u>2,011,854</u>	<u>3,978,146</u>



**CITY OF HELEN AVAILABLE 2020 SPLOST FUNDS
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2023**

<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 & VEHICLES (5.36%)</u>	<u>2020 SPLOST REVENUE</u>
<u>TOTALS FOR</u>					
<u>6 YEAR PERIOD</u>	1,300,000.00	1,900,000.00	2,100,000.00	300,000.00	5,600,000.00
<u>CURRENT ESTIMATE</u>					
<u>REVENUE</u>					
ACTUAL RECEIVED	974,488.10	1,424,574.80	1,574,463.75	225,043.35	4,198,570.00
INTEREST EARNED	25,100.22	36,693.25	40,553.99	5,796.52	108,143.98
<u>EXPENSES</u>					
PRIOR YEARS TOTALS	573,093.58	398,075.64	327,448.22	105,985.57	1,404,603.01
CURRENT YEAR TOTALS	63,040.00	0.00	392,961.00	0.00	456,001.00
BANK FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>2020 SPLOST AVAILABLE</u>	<u>363,454.73</u>	<u>1,063,192.41</u>	<u>894,608.52</u>	<u>124,854.30</u>	<u>2,446,109.97</u>



City of Helen Debt Service as of October 31, 2023

Lender	Collateral	Loan Amount	Rate	Pmt. Amount	Due	Balance	Matures
BB&T	HME Ahrens Fire Truck	406,802	3.060	47,721	January*	177,130	Jan-27
GEFA CWSRF 14-018	Willow Pond Sewer Rehab	281,000	0.500	2,401	Monthly	85,780	Oct-26
GEFA DWSRG 13-012	Hamby St Bridge Crossing	309,041	0.660	2,662	Monthly	107,890	Mar-27
				<u>52,784</u>		<u>370,800</u>	

Debt Service 2021 Construction Bond 6,383,900

Helen Police Department

Monthly Report



October 2023

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Arrests- 26</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Felony- 0• Misdemeanor- 22• FVA- 1• VGCSA- 3	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Citations</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">399</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Security Checks</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,522</p> <p>*Downtown businesses 71 (5,325)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Calls for Service</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">834</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Foot Patrol Hours</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">48</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Accident Reports</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">11</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Criminal Trespass</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Investigations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cases cleared by arrest• Cases closed• Cases opened• Investigative Interviews• Search warrants obtained

Calls for Service

911 Accidental/Open Line/Hang Up	8	Fight	5	Road Rage	
Abandoned Vehicle	1	Fire Calls	6	Security / Business Check	41
Active Shooter		Flag Down	4	Sexual Assault Reported	
Alarm Calls	1	Follow up Report	7	Shots Fired	
Amber/Levi/Matties Call/Alert		Foot Patrol	48	Special Detail	21
Animal Call	3	For Your Information	3	Speeding Vehicle	
Apparent Death		Forgery		Stalking	
Armed Robbery		Fraud	1	Subject Screaming	7
Assault		Harassment		Suicide (attempt or threat)	1
Assist Fire / LEO	2	Hit and Run	9	Suspicious Person or Vehicle	46
Assist Motorist	2	Hostage Situation		Taking Report	3
Assistance Needed		Improperly Parked Vehicle	34	Temporary Protection Order	
Attempting to Stop		In the Area	5	Test Call	
BOLO	1	Intoxicated Driver/ Ped.	10	Theft Report	1
Bomb Threat		Indecent Exposure	2	Threats	3
Bond	22	Juvenile Problem	1	Traffic Accident	12
Burglary	11	Kidnapping		Traffic Hazard	1
Call by Phone	10	Lines Down		Traffic Stop	304
Car Jacking		Loitering		Tree Down/ Across Roadway	1
Chase in Progress		Lost/Found Item or Person	15	Trespassing	1
Child Abuse/ DFCS		Mechanical Breakdown	5	Problem Unknown	1
City/County Ordinance Violation	25	Medical Calls	31	Vandalism	
Court Detail	4	Meet in Person	24	Vehicle Lock Out	1
Criminal Trespass	1	Mental Subject		Vehicle Registration Info.	3
Damage to Property	5	Missing Person		Vehicle Taken without Permission	
Debris in Roadway		Noise Complaint	6	Vin Verification	1
Deliver Message	2	Not Otherwise Specified	28	Walk Thru	7
Direct Traffic	1	Open Door	1	Wanted Person/Warrant	2
Dispute	5	Overdue Motorist	1	Wanted/Stolen Indicated	
Disturbance	16	Pandering		Welfare Check	2
Domestic		Pick up Prisoner/ Subject	4	School Crossing/ Traffic	2
Driver/Criminal History Requested		Possible Dam Failure		Subject in Custody	
Driver's License Info.		Prowler		Wrecker needed	
Drug Suspect		Public Assist	6	Civil Process	
Emergency Road Repair		Reckless Driving		Illegal Dumping	
Entering Auto		Refusing to Leave		Residence Check	
Escort	3	River Patrol		Calls for Water Dept Problems	
Extra Patrol		Road Blocked		Information Purposes Only	

Total call for service: 834

City of Helen Fire & Rescue

Monthly Report for October 2023

Total "911 Responses" = 69 / Year to Date = 681

Major Incident Type(s) Breakdown

Major Incident Type	# Of Incidents Current Month	2022 Monthly Comparison	% Of Total Current Month
Fires	0	3	0%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear (No Fire)	0	0	0%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	50	53	72.46%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	2	4	2.9%
Service Call	4	11	5.8%
Good Intent Call	11	6	15.94%
False Alarm & False Call	2	1	2.9%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0	0	0%
Special Incident Type	0	0	0%
TOTAL	69	78	

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TTL
2022	41	30	23	40	66	81	87	55	62	78	52	59	675
2023	42	33	58	54	69	96	132	71	57	69			681
Difference	+1	+3	+30	+14	+3	+15	+45	+16	-5	-9			

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	7	10.2%	8	9	7	10	6	13	16
Aid Received	7	10.2%	Busiest Hours for Date Range						
None	55	79.7%	1100-2259						

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	4:35	50

Overlapping Calls

Overlapping calls are two or more calls occurring at the same time before the Duty Crew can respond to it. For instance, the Duty Crew could be responding to, arriving at, or at the scene of an incident when another call for service comes in. In October we had 14 overlapping calls for a total of 20.29% of our calls. This year our overlapping call average is about 15.57% (106 of 681).



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"	39
Engine 32	1997 Ferrara "Spartan"	1
Truck 31	2002 Ferrara "Igniter Series"	7
Rescue 31	2000 Ford "F-650"	6
301	2016 Ford "F-150"	13
ATV 31	2016 Polaris "Ranger"	3

Training

Firefighters completed a total of **162.00 combined hours of classroom and practical training.**

Fire Department Non-Emergency Activities		
Walk In Evaluation & Public Assist	22	*Yearly Apparatus Pump Testing – All Passed *All Ground Ladders Tested – All Passed *Trunk or Treat at Helen First Baptist *Attended Grand Opening of Tiny Town *Replaced Front Turn Signals on Eng. 32
Station Tour/Visitors	14	
Public Relation Hours	122.23 hrs.	
Fire Safety Programs	12 kids	
CPR/BLS Class	1	
Smoke Detector Installation	0	
Pre-Fire Plans/Inspections	6	
Hose Testing (Feet)	0	
Hydrant Testing/Maintenance (Total #)	0	



Helen, GA

Service Order Statistics

Group Summary

Group	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
1ST AVAILABLE	40	37	2	1
CHIPPING	1	0	1	0
TRASH	2	1	1	0
WATER	5	5	0	0
Grand Totals	48	43	4	1

Staff Summary

Staff	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
1ST AVAILABLE	5	4	0	1
CHRIS ESTES	1	1	0	0
EDWARD SALWAY	34	32	2	0
JACK MORGAN	4	2	2	0
JARED TURNER	1	1	0	0
JIMMY ROGERS	3	3	0	0
Grand Totals	48	43	4	1

Job Code Summary

Job Code	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
CHIPPING - CHIPPING	1	0	1	0
CONNECT - CONNECT	2	1	1	0
DELIVER CAN - DELIVER CAN	1	1	0	0
DISCONNECT & READ - DISCONNECT & READ	1	1	0	0
LEAK CK - LEAK CHECK	2	2	0	0
LOCK NON PAYMENT - LOCK NON PAYMENT	2	2	0	0
MISC - MISC	22	22	0	0
PICK UP CAN- TERM - PICK UP CAN - TERMINATE SERVI	3	1	1	1
PICK UP TRASH - PICK UP TRASH	1	1	0	0
READ - READ	1	1	0	0
READ TO TRANSFER - READ TO TRANSFER	5	4	1	0
RE-READ IN BILLING - RE-READ IN BILLING	2	2	0	0
TURN OFF/ON- REPAIRS - TURN OFF/ON - REPAIRS	2	2	0	0
UNLOCK - UNLOCK	1	1	0	0
UNLOCK & READ - UNLOCK & READ	2	2	0	0
Grand Totals	48	43	4	1

Action Summary

Action	Issued	Completed	Voided	New
Connect	2	1	1	0
Disconnect	1	1	0	0
Re-Read	2	2	0	0
Occupant Change	5	4	1	0
Miscellaneous	32	31	1	0
Cutoff	2	2	0	0
Service Action	4	2	1	1
Grand Totals	48	43	4	1

Issued by User

User	Issued
Mirinda	6
Susie	38
Tori	4
Grand Totals	48

Completed by User

<u>User</u>	<u>Completed</u>
esalway	35
ssanders	6
thead	2
Grand Totals	43



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

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Helen, Georgia 30545
706-878-2733
706-878-1655 -fax
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The City of Helen is an equal
opportunity provider and employer

BUILDING AND ZONING MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2023

Commissioners:

Jeff Ash
Steve Fowler
Fred Garmon
Cinnamon Sullivan
Cliff Hood

City Manager:

Darrell Westmoreland

**City Clerk/
Clerk of Court:**

Marilyn M. Chastain

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: 4

Electrical: 0

Mechanical: 0

Plumbing: 0

Signs: 1

Events: 1

INSPECTIONS

-Permitted: 8

-Courtesy inspections and consultations: 5

-Builder and Architect consultations: 7

Certificate of Occupancy permits issued: 2

ORDINANCE 23 – 11 - 01

Removed from Agenda

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY THE ADDITION OF CHAPTER SEVENTY-ONE: MOTORIZED CARTS

WHEREAS, THE CITY COMMISSION OF HELEN GEORGIA FINDS THAT FOR REASONS RELATING TO TRAFFIC; FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY OF CITIZENS AND VISITORS TO THE CITY, AND FOR THE ABILITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TO IDENTIFY THOSE MOTORIZED CARTS OPERATED UPON CITY STREETS, THAT IT IS NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE TO ENACT MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS TO PROVIDE FOR MOTORIZED CART USE ON CERTAIN DESIGNATED STREETS OF THE CITY; TO PROVIDE FOR REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF MOTORIZED CARTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE RULES OF OPERATION OF SUCH MOTORIZED CARTS;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED, by the Helen City Commission that The Official Code of The City of Helen, Georgia, is amended by the addition of **Chapter 71, Motorized Carts** as follows:

Sec. 71-01. Findings; definition.

- (a) The city commission finds that all streets located within the territorial boundaries of the city and under its jurisdiction are designed and constructed so as to safely permit their use by operators of motorized carts except upon North Main Street and South Main Street, upon which the operation of motorized carts shall be prohibited. On all other city streets, the operation of motorized carts shall be permitted, in accordance with this chapter. Motorized Golf Carts shall be authorized to cross Main Street, but only at designated golf cart crossing(s) locations.
- (b) This ordinance is adopted to address the interest of public safety. By regulating such operation of motorized carts within the city, the city is merely addressing safety issues. All persons who operate or ride in motorized carts do so with their own judgment and at their own risk, and must be observant of, and attentive to the safety of themselves and others, including their passengers, other motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the City of Helen has no liability in negligence, nuisance or under any other cause of action for losses resulting from the use of motorized carts upon city streets.

- (c) The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

Automobile means a passenger vehicle primarily designed to legally travel on the highways of this state that usually has an engine capable of propelling the vehicle over 35 miles per hour.

Motorized cart means every motor vehicle having no less than four wheels and an unladen weight of 1,300 pounds or less and which cannot operate at more than 20 miles per hour. These carts are commonly referred to as "Golf Carts".

Sidewalk means a paved area of generally five feet in width or less that is designed or intended for the use of pedestrian traffic only.

Sec. 71-02. Registration/decals/transfer requirements/operational requirements

- (a) *Motorized carts.* It shall be the duty of every property owner in the city limits of Helen, who owns an electric or gasoline-powered motorized cart that is operated over the streets and those areas accessible by the public within the corporate limits of the city to register the cart with the city within ten business days of the date of purchase. This duty is also imposed on every business located within the city limits of Helen, which owns and/or uses electric or gasoline-powered motorized carts that are operated on the streets of Helen. A numerical decal shall be issued upon registration; and a record of each motorized cart number, along with the name and address of the owner or business, shall be maintained by the city. The decal must be affixed to the driver's side of the cart in such a manner as to be fully visible at all times. The failure to have a current registration and decal on a motorized cart shall be a violation of this section. Valid identification will be required to be provided by the cart owner in conjunction with the registration of the motorized cart.
- (1) The registration fee shall be \$15.00 for each cart. Registered carts shall display the required numbered decal issued by the city.
 - (2) *Registration and payment deadline.* If a cart is not registered within ten business days of purchase, a \$20.00 penalty will be applied in addition to the registration fee; and the cart shall be considered an unregistered cart after the ten-business-day period.
 - (3) After the initial implementation of the ordinance, registration with the city shall be on an annual basis. If a motorized cart is not registered by

January 1 of each year, a \$20.00 penalty will be applied in addition to the registration fee; and the cart shall be considered an unregistered cart.

- (4) The owners of motorized carts operating within the city prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall be given _____ from the effective date of the ordinance to register their motorized carts in accordance with this chapter.
 - (5) *Transfers.* Upon occurrence of a sale of the cart to another person who shall operate the cart over the streets of the city, the registration must be transferred to the new owner within ten business days of the change in ownership at a cost of \$15.00.
 - (6) *Special tourism events.* City Commission may, at its discretion, waive registration requirements for special events of a limited duration to which out-of-city residents may bring carts as participants.
 - (7) *Owner relocation.* In the event that a registered motorized cart owner changes his/her address or contact information after the motorized cart is registered, that owner shall have 60 days to provide their new contact information to the city. If the ownership information is not updated within 60 days of relocation, a \$20.00 penalty will be applied and the cart shall be considered an unregistered cart after the 60-day period.
 - (8) *Damaged decals.* The existing holder of a decal for a registered motorized cart will be entitled to a replacement decal in the event of a change in motorized cart, damage to the cart damaging the decal, or other similar circumstances.
- (b) *Operational requirements for motorized carts.*
- (1) Every gasoline powered motorized cart shall at all times be equipped with an exhaust system in good working order and in constant operation, meeting the following specifications:
 - a. The exhaust system shall include the piping leading from the flange of the exhaust manifold to and including the muffler and exhaust pipes or include any and all parts specified by the manufacturer.
 - b. The exhaust system and its elements shall be securely fastened, including the consideration of missing or broken brackets or hangers.
 - c. The engine and powered mechanism of every cart shall be so equipped, adjusted and tuned as to prevent the escape of excessive smoke or fumes.

- (2) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any gasoline powered motorized cart to operate or permit the operation of such cart on which any device controlling or abating atmospheric emissions, which is placed on a cart by the manufacturer, to render the device unserviceable by removal, alteration or which interferes with its operation.
 - (3) All motorized carts, whether electric or gas, shall have a braking system sufficient for the weight and passenger capacity of the vehicle including a parking brake, a reverse warning device functional at all times when the directional control is in the reverse position, a main power switch which shall render the power circuit inoperative when the switch is in the 'off' position or the key or other activating device is removed, such key or other activating device only being removable in the 'off' position, head lamps, reflex reflectors, tail lamps, a horn, a rearview mirror, turn signals, safety warning labels, and hip restraints and hand holds.
- (c) *Age.* Only those persons 18 years of age or older may register a motorized cart.

Sec. 71-03. Operation regulations.

- (a) Those persons who are 16 years of age and older may drive a motorized cart on the streets of the city unless such person has had his or her license to operate a motor vehicle suspended or revoked by the state which issued said license in which case such person shall not be permitted to operate a motorized cart on the recreation paths and/or streets and those areas accessible by the public of the city during the time of suspension or revocation.
- (b) All operators shall abide by all traffic regulations applicable to vehicular traffic when using city streets.
- (c) Motorized carts shall not be operated on sidewalks at any time.
- (d) Violations of Georgia Traffic Laws and/or any other Georgia Law by the operator of a motorized cart while operating the motorized cart shall be subject to the same penalties which may be imposed upon the operator of an automobile under Georgia Law.

Sec. 71-04. Liability.

Each person using motorized golf carts within the city is liable for his or her own actions. Liability insurance coverage varies, and each person operating a golf

cart on the recreation paths and public streets and those areas accessible by the public should verify their coverage.

Sec. 71-05. Penalties.

- (a) Any person who violates the terms of this article shall be punished as follows:
- (1) For the first offense, a fine of not less than \$250.00.
 - (2) For the second offense, a fine of not less than \$500.00.
 - (3) For a third offense committed within one year of conviction for a second offense of violations concerning a motorized cart, a fine of \$1,000.00.
 - (4) If a registered golf cart has received three violations within a one year period, then in such event, the registration for that golf cart shall be revoked. Such cart may not be re-registered a motorized cart for use in the city for a period of two years following the receipt of three or more violations in a one year period.