

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 20, 2018
3:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR JEFF ASH
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 6, 2018
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. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF OPEN CONTAINERS ON CITY STREETS
 - B. CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR LARRY WATERS D/B/A BLAUE WOLF BREWERY LOCATED AT 369 EDELWEISS STRASSE FOR BEER ON PREMISES, WINE ON PREMISES, AND SUNDAY SALES
 - C. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - D. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND TIMES
 - E. UPDATE FROM CITY ATTORNEY CARL FREE ON HOTEL/MOTEL TAX COLLECTION
 - F. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MALOOF STREET FENCE
 - G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH WHITE COUNTY FOR HOUSING INMATES FOR THE CITY OF HELEN
 - H. REPORT OF MEETING WITH TUBING COMPANIES IN REFERENCE TO RIVER CLEAN-UP
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; NONE

15. ORDINANCES; NONE

16. RESOLUTIONS; NONE

17. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

18. ADJOURNMENT

THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED MARCH 16, 2018 @ 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.

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 20, 2018
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday March 20, 2018 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall with Mayor Jeff Ash calling the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN; Present were Commissioners Steve Fowler, Commissioner Geneva Elwell, Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, Commissioner Lee Landress, and Mayor Jeff Ash.

Also attending were City Manager Jerry Elkins, City Attorney Carl Free, City Clerk Marilyn Chastain, Police Chief Brian Stephens, Building & Zoning Director Darrell Westmoreland, Fire Chief Jody Prickett, and Public Works Director Ross Hewell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF AGENDA; Motion to Amend the Agenda by the deletion of Item C and to approve the Amended Agenda made by Commissioner Lee Landress, 2nd by Commissioner Geneva Elwell. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 6, 2018; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC; None

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

HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Renee Chacon was not present.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF OPEN CONTAINERS ON CITY STREETS; Richard Miley of Catch 22 Restaurant stood and stated he believes allowing the open containers would generate more business to the City and to the businesses. Bill Keeland of Hofbrauhaus Restaurant stated he thinks open containers would cost the City to allow and does not want to be known as a drinking town and does not want to chase away families, but if allowed that it be during certain times such as Oktoberfest maybe. Commissioner Steve Fowler stated he is very pro-business and wants to have businesses grow, he stated he has talked to a lot of business owners and citizens and has not found anyone that supports the open containers and does not see as a benefit.

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Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock stated that she has talked with several businesses also that voiced concerns about the parking lots being made into tailgating areas and how this would be policed, that there are concerns from the tubing companies and they are not in favor of either. Commissioner Lee Landress stated he does not see any way to make this work and to try would be expensive. Mayor Jeff Ash stated the City has done an excellent job of requiring server's to obtain training before being issued a permit and does not see this as a benefit. Motion to not allow open containers made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Geneva Elwell. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

B. CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR LARRY WATERS D/B/A BLAUE WOLF BREWERY LOCATED AT 369 EDELWEISS STRASSE FOR BEER ON PREMISES, WINE ON PREMISES, AND SUNDAY SALES; Motion to approve Alcohol License made by Commissioner Lee Landress, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

C. FINANCIAL REPORT; Item removed. No report.

D. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND TIMES; Mayor Jeff Ash informed the Commission that by reducing the meetings to one meeting a month it would free up the department heads from having to attend 2 meetings, but that if a second meeting is required then it could be called on for the 4th Tuesday. Motion to change the Commission meeting days and times to the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. starting in April made by Commissioner Lee Landress, 2nd by Commissioner Geneva Elwell. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

E. UPDATE FROM CITY ATTORNEY CARL FREE ON HOTEL/MOTEL TAX COLLECTION; City Attorney Carl Free stated that the taxes are being collected correctly by the City, but may consider changes to the current Ordinance for safety reasons that vehicle information on guest be required, that he would get with Police Chief Brian Stephens for other suggestions and would like to add additional definitions to the Ordinance along with requirements for extended stay locations.

F. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MALOOF STREET FENCE; Building & Zoning Director Darrell Westmoreland explained that the property owner next to the City's Maloof Street Parking Lot is building a new house and to keep people from wandering onto his property would like to install a fence on the City property to prevent this and that it would be at his expense, and would remove at any time with 90 days notice by

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the City and will also pay any fee's to have the paper work drawn up if agreed to by the City. City Attorney Carl Free stated that the City should issue a license to install the fence and not give any type right of way if they agree to the fence. Motion to approve issuing a license to install a fence at Maloof Street by adjacent property owner Billy Maynard at his expense, and at his expense to have paper work prepared, made by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH WHITE COUNTY FOR HOUSING INMATES FOR THE CITY OF HELEN; Police Chief Brian Stephens explained to the Commission that the terms and price are the same as in previous years. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

H. REPORT OF MEETING WITH TUBING COMPANIES IN REFERENCE TO RIVER CLEAN-UP; City Manager Jerry Elkins told the Commission that he and Mayor Ash had met with each tubing company and went over the clean-up schedule (copy included as an integral part of the minutes) and that there would be enforcement of the tubing Ordinance and what the fine amounts are if violated, he stated that each company agreed to the schedule. Motion to approve schedule of clean up days by tubing companies and to enforce current ordinance by police department made by Commissioner Geneva Elwell, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Police Chief Brian Stephens gave a verbal report. He also stated that White County had given pay raises to their officers and take home cars making it harder to keep officers and that he would be asking for pay increases. Mayor Jeff Ash asked for Chief Stephens to gather information from other agencies on their wages.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Fire Chief Jody Prickett gave a verbal report and stated they had begun Hydrant testing.

PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Ross Hewell was present and gave a verbal report.

Commissioner Steve Fowler gave an update on the progress at the Veterans park.

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BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Darrell Westmoreland gave a verbal report.

PURCHASES AND BIDS; NONE

ORDINANCES; NONE

RESOLUTIONS; NONE

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS; NONE

ADJOURNMENT; Motion to adjourn at 4:19 p.m. made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN