

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 11, 2019
10:00 A.M.
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR CINNAMON SPURLOCK
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 14, 2019 AND MINUTES FROM CALLED MEETING ON MAY 28, 2019
6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
 - A. REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH TUBING COMPANY TO GIVE UPDATES ON RIVER CLEAN-UP
7. HELEN/WHITE COUNTY CVB MONTHLY REPORT
8. HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT
9. ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS
 - A. CAROL POWELL – HELEN ARTS AND HERITAGE CENTER CONCERNING FUNDING FOR THE HISTORY MUSEUM.
 - B. UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER ON CURRENT PROJECTS
 - C. FINANCIAL REPORT
10. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY 2019/2020 BUDGET
11. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF FY 2019/2020 BUDGET
12. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
13. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
14. PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT
15. BUILDING AND ZONING MONTHLY REPORT
16. PURCHASES AND BIDS

17. ORDINANCES

- A. ORDINANCE 19-05-01: SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 34, LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, ZONING, DIVISION FOUR, SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS, BY AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 34-256: OUTDOOR HOLIDAY LIGHTING
- B. ORDINANCE 19-05-02: SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, WITH THE ADDITION OF CODE SECTION 42-24, PREVIOUSLY RESERVED, TO ADDRESS CONSUMER FIREWORKS USAGE WITHIN THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA
- C. ORDINANCE 19-05-03: SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT OF CODE SECTION 34-131
- D. ORDINANCE 19-06-01: FIRST READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR.

18. RESOLUTIONS

19. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

20. ADJOURNMENT

**THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED JUNE 7, 2019 @ 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
JUNE 11, 2019
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday June 11, 2019 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall with Mayor Cinnamon Spurlock calling the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF AGENDA; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 14, 2019 AND MINUTES FROM CALLED MEETING ON MAY 28, 2019; Motion to approve both made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Geneva Elwell. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Robert Oberlin that lives at 246 Ber Weg asked the Commission to consider implementing rules or an Ordinance on nightly rentals because of safety concerns on his street of renters from 187 Ber Weg blocking the street. He stated he had talked with the owners and they had not been cooperative in resolving the issues.

A.REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH TUBING COMPANY TO GIVE UPDATES ON RIVER CLEAN-UP; Tara Loudermilk and Lesia Long stated that there had been a lot of debri in the river but more shoes and t-shirts than trash lately. Terri Sims stated that they have continued to do weekly clean-ups all the way to Nora Mill and thinks that once the new signs are up that will also help. City Manager Jerry Elkins stated that a new tubing company had been added to the weekly clean-up list.

HELEN/WHITE COUNTY CVB 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; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Director Renee Green was present and gave a verbal report.

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ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

A.CAROL POWELL – HELEN ARTS AND HERITAGE CENTER CONCERNING FUNDING FOR THE HISTORY MUSEUM. Ms. Powell asked the Commission to consider contributing \$20,000 to help with renovations at the Arts Center. Motion to approve funding of \$20,000.00 for the History Museum renovation with final approval of plans and permits by the City of the renovations, and with a completed project list on how the money was spent after the renovations made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

B.UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER ON CURRENT PROJECTS; City Manager Jerry Elkins stated that there will be playground equipment suppliers at the GMA convention for the Commission to look at for Unicoi Hill and Riverside park. Public Works Director Ross Hewell stated that the Riverside park equipment needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Police Chief Brian Stephens stated there needs to be cameras installed at the parks for vandalism. City Manager Jerry Elkins stated there is to be additional testing for the well project, that he hopes to have pricing in soon on the concrete water tank and hopes that the wall in back will be completed soon being it has already been 1 year since the flood and would like to set up a meeting with DOT to discuss flooding on the roadway because of safety concerns.

C.FINANCIAL REPORT; City Manager Jerry Elkins stated that the financials are looking good toward the end of the year with revenues and sales taxes up and expenses down. Motion to approve the financial report made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY 2019/2020 BUDGET; Motion to go into the Public Hearing @ 11:15 a.m. made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Geneva Elwell. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

City Manager Jerry Elkins explained and gave figures for the new budget.

Motion to come out of the Public Hearing @ 11:20 a.m. made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Geneva Elwell. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF FY 2019/2020 BUDGET; Mayor Cinnamon Spurlock read the first reading of Ordinance 19-06-01. Motion to approve budget and first reading of Ordinance 19-06-01 made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Steve Fowler. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the Minutes. Police Chief Brian Stephens gave a verbal report. Commissioner Lee Landress stated that there had not been any new officers added to the department in over 5 years and thinks they should hire 2 additional full time officers. Commissioner Jeff Ash stated an additional officer could assist in enforcement of code violations. After discussion the Motion to amend the proposed budget to include the addition of one full time police officer made by Commissioner Lee Landress, 2nd by Commissioner Steve Fowler. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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

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

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

PURCHASES AND BIDS; None

ORDINANCES

A.ORDINANCE 19-05-01: SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 34, LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, ZONING, DIVISION FOUR, SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS, BY AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 34-256: OUTDOOR HOLIDAY LIGHTING; Motion to approve the second reading made by Commissioner Geneva Elwell, 2nd by Commissioner Jeff Ash. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

B.ORDINANCE 19-05-02: SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, WITH THE ADDITION OF CODE SECTION 42-24, PREVIOUSLY RESERVED, TO ADDRESS CONSUMER FIREWORKS USAGE WITHIN THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA; Motion to approve the second reading made by Commissioner Steve Fowler, 2nd by Commissioner Lee Landress. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

C.ORDINANCE 19-05-03: SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT OF CODE SECTION 34-131; Motion to approve the second reading made by Commissioner

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Lee Landress, 2nd by Commissioner Steve Fowler. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

ORDINANCE 19-06-01: FIRST READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR. Motion already approved in item 11. Discussion and Consideration of FY 2019/2020 Budget.

RESOLUTIONS; None

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS; Commissioner Jeff Ash wanted to commend City Manager Jerry Elkins, staff and department heads on preparing the budget, Commissioners Geneva Elwell and Cinnamon Spurlock agreed. Commissioner Steve Fowler gave the Commission copies of the current Ordinances concerning the Market Platz and downtown areas where street performances are being done and wants to discuss at a future meeting. Mayor Cinnamon Spurlock asked about the coke machine on the corner of Chattahoochee and was informed that Kathy Kennedy is the owner and would like to replace it with a better looking machine. Commissioner Lee Landress stated he is happy to be getting a new officer.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN