

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2016
3:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR FRED GARMON
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 6, 2016
6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
7. HEMC TO GIVE UPDATE ON WIRELESS INTERNET SERVICE IN CITY
8. ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY CVB MONTHLY REPORT
9. HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT
10. ADMINISTRATIVE
 - A. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - B. JERRY MURDOCK TO DISCUSS TYPE OF ALCOHOL LICENSE NEEDED FOR NEW LUXURY HOTEL
 - C. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FROM DONA K BURKE TO DECORATE CITY FOR FALL AND CHRISTMAS 2017 Tabled from last meeting on December 6, 2016
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; SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 16-12-01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA

17. RESOLUTIONS;

A. RESOLUTION 16-12-01, A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HME AHRENS FOX FIRE ENGINE UTILIZING A LEASE PURCHASE FROM THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION'S FINANCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM.

18. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

19. ADJOURNMENT

**THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED DECEMBER 16, 2016 @ 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
DECEMBER 20, 2016
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday December 20, 2106 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall with Mayor Fred Garmon calling the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

City Clerk Marilyn Chastain called the roll and the following were present; Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, Commissioner Helen Wilkins, Mayor Fred Garmon, Commissioner Judy Holloway and Commissioner Jeff Ash.

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

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Judy Holloway, 2nd by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 6, 2016; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Judy Holloway, 2nd by Commissioner Jeff Ash. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC; None

HEMC TO GIVE UPDATE ON WIRELESS INTERNET SERVICE IN CITY; David Foster project director gave a report on the progress stating that the installation had been completed and is up and running at the Helendorf which is their pilot location and has been running well, and stated that they plan to start offering service to residential customers in the spring. Also attending from HEMC were Ronnie Turpin, Ricky Bates and Jonathan Cantrell.

ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY CVB MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the permanent 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 permanent minutes. Director Renee Chacon was present and gave a verbal report. She also informed the Commission that the Oktoberfest bands had already been reserved for 2017 and stated that the upcoming dropping of the Edelweiss on New Year's eve is becoming a large event.

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ADMINISTRATIVE

A. FINANCIAL REPORT; City Manager Jerry Elkins stated the financial report looks good and that the City is in good shape financially with revenues up compared to this time last year and expenses down. Report added as an integral part of the Minutes after the Agenda had been printed and is made a part of the permanent Minutes.

B. JERRY MURDOCK TO DISCUSS TYPE OF ALCOHOL LICENSE NEEDED FOR NEW LUXURY HOTEL; Jerry and Gail Murdock were present and informed the Commission that to be considered a 5 star luxury Hotel they would need to be allowed to have complete 24 hour room service, Mini bars in guest rooms(refrigerators), and Complimentary champagne offered upon checking in to the Hotel and asked the Commission to consider amending the current Ordinance. Motion to have City Attorney draft an amendment to the current Ordinance to add in-room alcohol service at Hotels made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

C. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FROM DONA K BURKE TO DECORATE CITY FOR FALL AND CHRISTMAS 2017 TABLED FROM LAST MEETING ON DECEMBER 6, 2016; Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock made a motion to wait until after the beginning of the new year to discuss options and to look at the budget, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Police Chief Brian Stephens gave a verbal report as well, he then thanked Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock and Rob Moore from Access North Georgia News for their help in shopping for the White Christmas. He stated they had a total of 102 children they had provided Christmas presents for and appreciated all the fund raisers and donations that had been done to raise money to make this possible. Also that they will start again in January new fund raisers for next year.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Fire Chief Jody Prickett thanked the Commission for the new truck that was delivered to him just before the meeting began, he also thanked City Manager Jerry Elkins and his wife for coming to his Governor's service award ceremony. City Manager Jerry Elkins stated that Jody has done an excellent job in getting the Fire Department cleaned up and in order.

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PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Director Ross Hewell was present and stated all is good and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Director Larry Krul was present and informed the Commission he had received a re-zoning application for the property next door to City Hall with the first Public Hearing being on December 27th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. and the next Public Hearing being on January 3, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.. he stated that he has the submitted plans in his office and invites anyone anytime to come in and look and ask questions. He then informed the Commission there were problems with the water connections at the new Valhalla Resort and that an inspection of the 3rd and 4th floors are planned for December 21st then a meeting with the Contractor is planned to discuss complying with EPD requirements. Director Krul stated he had received revised plans for the Marriott Hotel and that dry-wall is being installed at the Wilderforest Condos.

PURCHASES & BIDS; None

ORDINANCES; SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 16-12-01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA; Motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 16-12-01 made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

RESOLUTIONS;

A. RESOLUTION 16-12-01, A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HME AHRENS FOX FIRE ENGINE UTILIZING A LEASE PURCHASE FROM THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION'S FINANCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM. City Manager Jerry Elkins read Resolution 16-12-01. Motion to approve Resolution 16-12-01 made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

COMMENTS; Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Commissioner Helen Wilkins wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy and save New Year. Commissioner Jeff Ash commended Mayor Fred Garmon on his year as Mayor an of his help and guidance. Commissioner Judy Holloway wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked all of the Department heads and employees for doing a good job all year. Mayor Fred Garmon commended the Commission for accomplishments made during the year and stated it was an honor being Mayor.

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ADJOURNMENT; Motion to adjourn at 3:55 p.m. made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN