

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 21, 2017
3:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HELEN WILKINS
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 7, 2017
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. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - B. DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE CHANGE EXTENDING HOURS OF SALE FOR NEW YEARS EVE THAT FALL ON SUNDAY'S
 - C. DISCUSSION WITH TUBING COMPANIES ON WAYS TO KEEP THE RIVER CLEAN
10. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
11. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
12. PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT
 - A. DISCUSSION FOR CONSIDERATION GREEN SAND FILTER IMPROVEMENTS TO WELL #4
13. BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
14. PURCHASES AND BIDS
15. ORDINANCES; FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 17-11-01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER SIX OF THE HELEN MUNICIPAL CODE: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; ARTICLE III, MALT BEVERAGES

16. RESOLUTIONS

17. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

18. ADJOURNMENT

THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED NOVEMBER 17, 2017 @ 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
NOVEMBER 21, 2017
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall with Mayor Helen Wilkins calling the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Deputy Clerk Mirinda Dispain called the roll and the following were present: Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, Commissioner Fred Garmon, Mayor Helen Wilkins, and Commissioner Jeff Ash. Absent was Commissioner Judy Holloway.

Also attending were City Manager Jerry Elkins, Deputy Clerk Mirinda Dispain, Police Chief Brian Stephens, Fire Chief Jody Prickett, Building & Zoning Director Darrell Westmoreland, City Attorney Carl Free.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 7, 2017: Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: There were none.

ALPINE 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. He announced that Helen was named #7 for the best small towns for Christmas by Southern Living. He said Trips to Discover had also named Helen in the Top 5 Thanksgiving Getaways in Georgia. CNN Travel named the Old Heidelberg as one of the Best German Bars around the world.

HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT: Chamber Secretary Linda McAllister gave the presentation for the Chamber of Commerce.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A. FINANCIAL REPORT: Report included as an integral part of the minutes. City Manager Jerry Elkins went over the report and stated that the finances were on target.

B. DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE CHANGE EXTENDING HOURS OF SALE FOR NEW YEARS EVE THAT FALL ON SUNDAY'S: The ordinance regulating New Year's Eve closing hours

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allows for the sale of alcohol to extend until 1:55 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Attorney Carl Free was asked to revise the ordinance to include Sunday for New Year's Eve closing hours of 1:55 a.m. for the next commission meeting.

C. DISCUSSION WITH TUBING COMPANIES ON WAYS TO KEEP THE RIVER CLEAN: There was great discussion regarding ways to keep the Chattahoochee River clean, especially during the busy tubing season. Both tubing companies were represented. Terry Sims and Derrick and Lesia Long were present. Property owners David Greear and Billy Maynard were present. Downstream business owner Jimmy Harris was present, as was retired employee from DNR John Erbele. Ideas were discussed including the banning of flip flops, the presence of uniformed officers on the river, signage with enforcement for littering, etc. To conclude the discussion, Commissioner Jeff Ash asked for a committee to meet in January, February and March to solidify ways to keep the river clean. He asked for David Greear, Jimmy Harris, Derrick Long, Jerry Brown and John Erbele to be potential members of the committee.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Report included as an integral part of the minutes. Police Chief Brian Stephens was present and gave a verbal report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Report included as an integral part of the minutes. Fire Chief Jody Prickett was present and gave a verbal report.

PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER MONTHLY REPORT: Report included as an integral part of the minutes. City Manager Jerry Elkins gave a verbal report and said the city was ready for the Lighting of the Village.

A. DISCUSSION FOR CONSIDERATION GREEN SAND FILTER IMPROVEMENTS TO WELL #4: Fletcher Holliday spoke with the Commission regarding Well #4. There are two filters in Well #4 that are inoperable, but all five filters have exceeded their life expectancy. To replace the two filters would cost \$36,350. To replace all five filter and bring the system up-to-date would cost \$65,275. Commissioner Jeff Ash made a motion to approve \$65,275 to make the necessary improvements to Well #4, and to authorize City Manager Jerry Elkins to determine which financial account to use for payment, and asked him to make the necessary budget amendment to that account, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Report included as an integral part of the minutes. Building and Zoning Director Darrell Westmoreland was present and gave a verbal report. He updated the Commission on the progress of several

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projects in town. He explained the tree limb, which was damaged in the tropical storm, at the future Saffrons Restaurant was being removed.

PURCHASES AND BIDS: There were none.

ORDINANCES: FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 17-11-01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER SIX OF THE HELEN MUNICIPAL CODE: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; ARTICLE III, MALT BEVERAGES: Mayor Helen Wilkins performed the first reading of Ordinance 17-11-01. There were no questions or comments. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Fred Garmon. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

RESOLUTIONS: There were none.

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS: Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock reminded everyone of the Lighting of the Village on Friday night at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Fred Garmon at 4:25 p.m., 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY DEPUTY CLERK MIRINDA DISPAIN