

**CITY OF HELEN
COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 17, 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 MAY 3, 2016
6. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
7. ALPINE HELEN/WHITE COUNTY CVB MONTHLY REPORT
8. HELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY REPORT
9. SENATOR STEVE GOOCH UPDATE OF 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
10. ADMINISTRATIVE
 - A. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - B. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF 2016/2017 PROPOSED BUDGET
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
 - A. DISCUSSION FOR APPROVAL OF FAMILY PROMISE OF WHITE COUNTY HAVING A SPECIAL EVENT "DUCK DERBY" TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
15. PURCHASES AND BIDS; NONE
16. ORDINANCES; NONE
17. RESOLUTIONS; NONE

18. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

19. ADJOURNMENT

**THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED MAY 13, 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
MAY 17, 2016
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday May 17, 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, Commissioner Jeff Ash.

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

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Approval of Agenda; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Judy Holloway, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2016; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Item 9 moved up due to Senator Gooch having another commitment.

Senator Steve Gooch update of 2016 Legislative Session; Senator Gooch informed the Commission that the State economy is doing well, that Georgia is still the #1 state to do business in, he discussed road projects that have been completed, funding for some of the projects, and of tax changes, he then discussed bridge projects including the Pedestrian bridge in Helen, the dredging of the Port of Savannah and working with the local governments and the need to work together as a whole, that the State is being run properly and has a Balanced Budget.

Petitions and Communications from the Public; Helen Fincher Hardman thanked the Commission for the donation to Dancing with the Stars fund raiser and stated that she and Harold Link won first place.

Alpine Helen/White County CVB Monthly Report; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Director Jerry Brown was not present for the meeting.

Helen Chamber of Commerce Monthly Report; No Report. Director Renee Chacon was not present.

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Administrative

A. Financial Report; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. City Manager Jerry Elkins explained that Revenues are up 5%, and expenditures are currently under the budgeted amount for the year with 2 months still to go.

Mayor Fred Garmon stated there had been a lot of projects completed during the year and still a lot going on, and he commended the Finance Department.

Review and discussion of 2016/2017 Proposed Budget was then discussed. City Manager Jerry Elkins congratulated the Department Heads on getting their Budget request in with no increases. Motion to approve both the Financial Report and the 2016/2017 Proposed Budget made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

City Manager Jerry Elkins stated a bid from Siebert Paving had been accepted to install the Handicap ramp in front of City Hall and would include brick pavers. He also stated that additional work on the bank in front of City Hall needed to be done to stabilize it, there were no objections from the Commission.

Police Department Monthly Report; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Police Chief Brian Stephens was present and went over the report, he also informed the Commission that the weekend had been busy, and no problems were related to SOWO.

Fire Department Monthly Report; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Fire Chief Jody Prickett was present and went over the report and told of recent calls the Fire Department had responded to.

Public Works, Water and Waste Water Monthly Report; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Director Ross Hewell stated that the new speed bumps had been installed and had gotten a little abuse over the weekend, but that they had worked. He also stated that there are a lot of current projects going on that is keeping them busy.

Building and Zoning Department Monthly Report; Report included as an integral part of the permanent Minutes. Director Larry Krul gave a verbal update on the new Hotel and stated that the Red Roof Inn is open and they are working on getting the pool repaired.

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Discussion for approval of Family Promise of White County having a special event "Duck Derby" to raise funds for the nonprofit organization. Director Larry Krul explained the request, and the request to allow the organization to sell "Ducks" in town. Motion to approve the event made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Purchases and Bids; None
Ordinances; None

Resolutions; None

City Commission Comments; None

Adjournment; Motion to adjourn at 4:10 p.m. made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Helen Wilkins. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission.

RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN