

**CITY OF HELEN  
COMMISSION MEETING  
JANUARY 3, 2017  
10:00 A.M.  
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE HELEN WILKINS
2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN
3. NOMINATION AND VOTE FOR MAYOR
4. NOMINATION AND VOTE FOR MAYOR PRO TEMPORE
5. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO THE MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEMPORE
6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 20, 2016
9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
10. ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS
  - A. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REZONING APPLICATION AND CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 8409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HELEN, GEORGIA. APPLICANT TERRY SIMS, AGENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER ARCUS BARKER, PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE FROM R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-3 (HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL) AND APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR "AMUSEMENT PARK" USE.
  - B. CONSIDERATION OF THE REZONING APPLICATION AND CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 8409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HELEN, GEORGIA. APPLICANT TERRY SIMS, AGENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER ARCUS BARKER, PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE FROM R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-3 (HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL) AND APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR "AMUSEMENT PARK" USE.
  - C. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FROM DONA K. BURKE FOR FALL AND CHRISTMAS DECORATING.
  - D. SET QUALIFYING FEE FOR EXPIRING TERMS OF COMMISSION SEATS FOR THE 2017 ELECTION

11. POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

12. FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

13. PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER OPERATIONS

14. BUILDING AND ZONING OPERATIONS

15. PURCHASES AND BIDS NONE

16. ORDINANCES

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 17-1-01, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE CITY OF HELEN, GEORGIA, BY THE ADMENDMENT OF CHAPTER SIX OF THE HELEN MUNICIPAL CODE: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

17. RESOLUTIONS NONE

18. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

19. ADJOURNMENT

**THIS AGENDA WAS POSTED DECEMBER 28, 2016 @ 4:00 P.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  
JANUARY 3, 2017  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Helen City Commission met on Tuesday January 3, 2017 in the Commission Chambers at Helen City Hall with Mayor Pro Tempore Helen Wilkins calling the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Helen Wilkins stated that she has appreciated the service that Mayor Fred Garmon had given the City this past year as Mayor and wish he could have been here today for the meeting.

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

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

Nomination and Vote for Mayor; Motion to Nominate Helen Wilkins as Mayor for 2017 made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Nomination and Vote for Mayor Pro Tempore; Motion to Nominate Commissioner Jeff Ash as Mayor Pro Tempore made by Commissioner Helen Wilkins, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Administration of Oath of Office to the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore; Oath of Office given by City Clerk Marilyn Chastain to Mayor Helen Wilkins whom was joined by her family for the ceremony and then to Mayor Pro Tempore Jeff Ash. Mayor Helen Wilkins thanked her family and sons for coming as she was sworn into office.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

Approval of Minutes from December 20, 2016; Motion to approve made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

Petitions and Communications from the Public; None

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Administrative Operations

A. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REZONING APPLICATION AND CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 8409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HELEN, GEORGIA. APPLICANT TERRY SIMS, AGENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER ARCUS BARKER, PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE FROM R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-3 (HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL) AND APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR "AMUSEMENT PARK" USE. Motion to go into the Public Hearing @ 10:15 a.m. made by Commissioner Judy Holloway, 2nd by Commissioner Jeff Ash. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present. After several people from the audience spoke either for or against, Commissioner Judy Holloway asked for those attending that are for the Coaster being allowed to raise their hand which were the majority of those attending and for those opposed to raise their hand of which there were 7. A motion to go out of the Public Hearing at 11:00 a.m. was made by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, 2nd by Commissioner Jeff Ash. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

B. CONSIDERATION OF THE REZONING APPLICATION AND CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 8409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HELEN, GEORGIA. APPLICANT TERRY SIMS, AGENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER ARCUS BARKER, PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE FROM R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-3 (HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL) AND APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR "AMUSEMENT PARK" USE. City Manager Jerry Elkins informed the Commission that any conditions need to be incorporated as part of the Motion if approving. After discussion of what types of conditions to place on the property, Commissioner Jeff Ash made a motion to approve the change from R-2 to C-3 and approve the Conditional use permit for Amusement Park use with the conditions that the hours be limited from 9 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., to plant a tree buffer near existing homes, and to have down cast lighting on poles, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

C. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FROM DONA K. BURKE FOR FALL AND CHRISTMAS DECORATING. Dona K Burke informed the Commission that she is withdrawing her proposal. Mayor Helen Wilkins thanked Dona K for her years of work decorating.

D. SET QUALIFYING FEE FOR EXPIRING TERMS OF COMMISSION SEATS FOR THE 2017 ELECTION; Motion to set the Qualifying fee at \$35.00 made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS; Police Chief Brian Stephens stated all is good in the Police Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS; Fire Chief Jody Prickett stated that all is good and up and running and that he loves the new truck.

PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND WASTE WATER OPERATIONS; Public Works Director Ross Hewell informed the Commission that all is well in Public Works.

BUILDING AND ZONING OPERATIONS; Director Larry Krul also stated all is good and that he has no news on the Marriott Hotel but that the rebuilding of the Wilderforest Condos is going good.

PURCHASES AND BIDS; None

**ORDINANCES**

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 17-1-01, 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. Motion to approve the first reading made by Commissioner Jeff Ash, 2nd by Commissioner Judy Holloway. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

RESOLUTIONS; None

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS; Stacey Jackson asked if he could make a comment to the Commission and stated that he is not in favor of allowing alcohol sales at Hotels because it will hurt the 3 Package stores that are in town, that he wants the council to consider not allowing because they would not be looking out for small businesses. City Attorney Carl Free stated the Ordinance is a mirror of the state law and the state does allow.

ADJOURNMENT; Motion to adjourn at 11:37 a. m. made by Commissioner Cinnamon Spurlock, 2nd by Commissioner Jeff Ash. Motion approved with a unanimous vote of the Commission present.

**RESPECTFULLY PREPARED BY CITY CLERK MARILYN CHASTAIN**