

The Santa Claus Town Council & Santa Claus Town Council met in regular session on January 13, 2025, at the Santa Claus Town Hall located at 90 N Holiday Blvd Santa Claus, In. The meeting was called to order by President, Kevin Burke

Pledge of Allegiance

YouTube- YES

Town Council Members Present: Kevin Burke, Michael Johannes, Patricia Vaal and Brian Warran

Absent: Jason Little

Also, Present: Clerk-Treasurer; Jane Lindsey, Town Attorney; Kevin Patmore, Park Superintendent; Zach Tischendorf; Utility Superintendent, Russ Luthy, and Fire Chief Max Meyer

MINUTES

Michael Johannes made a motion to approve the January 13, 2025 and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Motion carried 4-0

PUBLIC MEETING

As advertised, there was a public hearing on the Frosty Falls housing development. Clerk-Treasurer, Jane Lindsey stated that her office sent out notices by certified mail as required by State statute.

Kiersteins presented plans for the new apartment complex for the community to view. There will be 44 units and pricing will be market rate. The units include 20 1 bedrooms, 23 2 bedroom townhomes and 1 4 bedroom. Kiersteins explained the plan to use Read 2.0 funds. To do that Keirsteins will have to have a match from the Town. Kiersteins asked for a 10 year tax abatement as the Town's match.

Patricia Vaal made the motion to close the public hearing. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Motion carried 4-0

Patmore presented Ordinance 2025-01 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING CERTAIN LANDS IN THE TOWN OF SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET AREA for the second reading.

Michael Johannes made a motion to approve the second reading of 2025-01 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING CERTAIN LANDS IN THE TOWN OF SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET AREA and adopt. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Motion carried 4-0

Kevin Patmore presented Resolution 2025-02 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING DESIGNATION OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET AREA AND APPROVING A DEDUCTION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN SUCH AREA.

02-10-2025 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

Michael Johannes made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-02 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING DESIGNATION OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET AREA AND APPROVING A DEDUCTION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN SUCH AREA. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Motion carried 4-0

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR-

Owner of Santa Paws Beth Brown shared with the Council and public her intentions of building a residential unit at her facility to allow for staff to be present at the facility 24 hours a day. Brown stated that she or a staff member currently stays at the facility however the addition will allow for more comfortable accommodations. Brown asked the Council for the steps she will need to take to get a zoning variance. Atty Kevin Patmore explained the process to Brown. Clerk-Treasurer Jane Lindsey stated she would e-mail a variance application. Lindsey stated she would need to provide plans for the addition as well as site plans with the application. Once received Lindsey would send to the BOZA board for consideration at their February meeting and possible public hearing at the March meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Kevin Burke stated that the Council needed to appoint a member for the BOZA board to fill the vacancy left by member Eric Snow. Mike Johannes made the recommendation to appoint Steve Merkel. Patricia Vaal seconded the recommendation. With no other recommendations presented a vote was taken and the appointment of Steve Merkel passed.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Motion carried 4-0

JANUARY' REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Department reports were given to the Council prior to the meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MAX MEYER

Max Meyer reported that the new fire truck will be completed and ready to pick up on March 4th. Meyer also asked the Council to declare the 93 Pierce Dash surplus equipment and that will allow him to bid it out for March.

Patricia Vaal made a motion to declare the 93 Pierce Dash surplus upon the arrival of the new fire truck. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Motion carries 4-0

PARKS & RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER ZACH TISCHENDORF

Zach Tischendorf reported that the public input meeting hosted by REA was a success. Tischendorf stated that there were 40 members of the public in attendance not including the town employees. Tischendorf said there

02-10-2025 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

was another public input meeting at the end of February to allow those that could not attend the first meeting to share their views of the new Yellig Park plans.

Tischendorf wants to remind the community that there is a free coffee, and conversations event every Friday at the Santa Claus Community Center from 8am-10am. Tischendorf thanked the area businesses that have sponsored the event and if anyone wants to become a sponsor, they can contact Jessi Mullen. Tischendorf stated that the program has had good attendance and is growing.

BUILDING INSPECTOR TODD HAYS

Kevin Burke asked Todd Hays if there was any new information on the Back 9 project. Hays stated that he had received an application for building permit for a duplex. Attorney Kevin Patmore stated that nothing can be started until the Town receives the final plat. Patmore stated that that the Back 9 has only filed a preliminary plat plan as of this date.

POLICE DEPARTMENT JAMES FAULKENBURG

James Faulkenburg publicly thanked the Spencer County Sheriff’s department for donating a cargo carrier to the Santa Claus Police department.

Faulkenburg entered discussion with the Council regarding PTO time. Currently the PTO time can only be taken in ½ day or full day increments and Faulkenburg asked if the PTO time could be converted into hours. Clerk-Treasurer Jane Lindsey was in support stating that the current policy was a detriment to the police department. After discussion with the Council, it was determined to set a special meeting to discuss this change. Lindsey stated that the Council should look at updating the personnel handbook during this special meeting as well. The special Town Council meeting was set for Monday, March 3, 2025, at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall.

TRAILS RUSS LUTHY

Nothing to report.

STREET DEPARTMENT

Community Crossing Grant Bid opening. Clint Roos from Midwestern Engineering stated the grant was a 75/25 reimbursement grant. Clerk-Treasurer, Jane Lindsey received 5 sealed bids and gave them to attorney Kevin Patmore to open. Patmore opened sealed bid and read off for all to hear. Bids were as follows:

C & R Construction from Corydon, IN	\$ 1,047,038.50
Metzger Construction Inc. from Boonville, IN	\$1,309,023.30
Knies Construction Inc. from Jasper, IN	\$1,116,088.72
J.H. Rudolph & C. from Tell City, IN	\$1,201,779.95
E & B Paving LLC from Jeffersonville, IN	\$976,099.99

Clint Roos asked the Council to allow them time to review the bids to make sure all specs are met. Roos said he will work with Russ Luthy to put together a bid tabulation. The award will go to lowest bid if all speculations are met.

Michael Johannes made a motion to turn over bids to Clint Roos and Russ Luthy to review bids and all Roos and Luthy to award the bid to the lowest vendor who meets all specs. Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None
Motion carries 4-0

02-10-2025 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

Luthy reported there has been concern from the community and the Council regarding safety of pedestrians crossing the road on the trail system at the three major crossing areas. Luthy stated that he had applied for the Safety for All grant a few months back and the town was not awarded any funds at that time. Luthy stated he had priced out for similar signage and lights as the crossing at the employee entrance at Holiday World and the costs was estimated to be \$150,000. Attorney Kevin Patmore stated that if the Council wanted to pursue this project the first step would be contacting INDOT for approval. The Council asked Luthy to go forward with contacting INDOT.

Luthy stated he also had equipment to be declared surplus. The equipment is:

1990 1200 gallon liquid manure tank
1987 double axle enclosed trailer
2008 ¾ ton truck with single rear wheel axle
2003 ½ ton truck fleet side vehicle

Patricia Vaal made a motion to declare the mentioned items as surplus and allow Luthy to start accepting bids. Michael Johannes seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None
Motion carries 4-0

Luthy presented a Midwestern Engineering invoice in the amount of \$35,500 for engineering services done on Clubhouse Road and 245. Luthy requested the Clerk pay from the MVH restricted fund. Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve the invoice from Midwestern Engineering in the amount of \$35,500 for work done on Clubhouse Road and 245 to be paid from MVH restricted. Michael Johannes seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None
Motion carries 4-0

WASTEWATER

Russ Luthy presented Pay Request #10 from Performance Pipeline in the amount of \$36,946.84 from wastewater capital.

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve Pay Request #10 for Performance Pipeline in the amount of \$36,946.84. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None
Motion carries 4-0

Luthy presented Invoice 202305902-10 for Midwestern Engineering in the amount of \$8010.31 to be paid from wastewater capital.

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve Midwestern Engineering Invoice # 202305902-10 in the amount of \$8010.31. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4 Nays: None
Motion carries 4-0

Luthy informed the Council that they gave an extension to Performance Pipeline for completion in May.

Luthy reported changes to the lateral inspection program. New legislature states the prospective buyer will be responsible for the lateral inspection.

Luthy suggested to the Council a new rate study be completed for the wastewater with a possible increase. Luthy stated the most recent increase was in 2013. No decision was made by the Council, and they are taking it under advisement.

OSHA

No lost time injuries

WATER RUSS LUTHY

Russ Luthy announced that a valuable employee resigned from his full-time position and will drop down to part time status. Luthy stated he now has 2 full time job openings. The job openings have been posted in the newspaper.

INDUSTRIAL PARK

Russ Luthy reported that they have been having issues with the 2008 excavator. Luthy stated to repair the excavator it will cost \$8,000. Luthy stated that purchasing a new one will cost \$12,000. Luthy asked the Council for permission to bid out for the purchase of a new excavator. Luthy stated they are using a rental for now. The Council allowed Luthy to start the bid process.

TOWN ATTORNEY KEVIN PATMORE

Attorney Kevin Patmore said he has been working with the Clerk-Treasurer, Jane Lindsey auditing the Law Continuing Ed fund as well as the oil well lease. Patmore stated that 2016 was the last time the town received funds from the county on tickets that have been paid. Lindsey has reached out to the county Auditor regarding these funds. There has been no money received on the oil lease since 2018. Patmore is researching this further. Patmore informed the Council that the HB1233 will not affect the town's fire department at all. Patmore stated he will keep the Council up to date on SB1.

CLERK TREASURER JANE LINDSEY

January Fund Balances:

General-\$6,413,234.39

Water-\$1,458,253.41

Wastewater-\$2,535,576.01

TIF-\$972,249.92

VOUCHERS

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve General vouchers in the amount of \$266,427.77 and Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 4-0

02-10-2025 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve Payroll vouchers in the amount of \$145,086.91 and

Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 4-0

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve Wastewater vouchers in the amount of \$84,752.67 and

Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 4-0

MISC

None presented


ADJOURNMENT

Michael Johannes made a motion to adjourn the town council meeting at 7:38 P.M. and Patricia

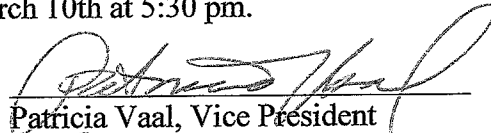
Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 4-0

The next Town Council meeting will be March 10th at 5:30 pm.

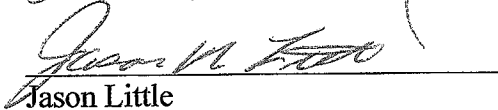


Kevin Burke, President




Patricia Vaal, Vice President

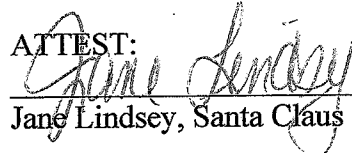
Michael Johannes



Jason Little



Brian Warran

ATTEST:


Jane Lindsey, Santa Claus Clerk-Treasurer

SANTA CLAUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S

ACTIVITY REPORT

January 1 - 31, 2025

First Responder (EMR) – 25

Fire Alarm - 2

CO – 2

Vehicle Fire - 1

30 - Total Runs

NEW TRUCK UPDATE

UPSTAIRS UPDATE – START END OF FEBRUARY

Santa Claus Park & Recreation Department

January 2025 Report

SCCC Memberships, Daily Admittance, Room Rentals

	Senior (62+)	Youth (14-17)	Adult	Daily	Big Room Hour Rental
January	28	13	94	29	10

Completed Projects

- Water Fountain/Bottle Filler Install at SCCC
- Trail storm clean up
- Yellig Master Plan Public Input Meeting

New/Ongoing Projects

- Janitor/Field Supply Orders
- Park Maintenance Building Insulation
- SCCC Janitor Closet Project
- Trail Bollard Striping
- Yellig Park Banner Sponsorships
- Yellig Master Plan & DNR/LWCF Grant
- Basketball court resurfacing

Items for Town Council/Redevelopment Commission

**SANTA CLAUS INSPECTION REPORT
JANUARY 2025**

TOTAL PERMITS

2 Improvement Location
2 Building Permit
0 911 Addresses
0 Electrical

TOTAL INSPECTIONS

1 Temporary Electric
1 Footers
0 Foundations
0 Basement Walls
0 Waterproofing
1 Underground plumbing
1 Framing
2 R.I. Electric
1 R.I. Plumbing
0 R.I. HVAC
8 General
0 Gas
0 Electric Meter
0 Post
1 Final
5 Certificate of Occupancy

Reporting: Jan.1, 2025 - February 1

Misc. :

Removed Temporary Sinage

APC Meeting

Town of Santa Claus

TOWN COUNCIL AND
OFFICE OF THE CLERK-TREASURER



90 N. HOLIDAY BLVD.
P.O. BOX 92
SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA 47579
(812) 937-2551
FAX (812) 937-2630

Santa Claus Police Department Activity for January 2025

Off Duty Call Out's - 8
Citations for Town of Santa Claus - 8
Warnings for Town of Santa Claus - 40
Crash reports for the Month - 6
Vehicle Inspections - 5
Domestic Disturbances- 1
Assist another Depts.- 9 See Attached
Medical Emergencies- 9
Disturbances - 32
Theft Reports - 0
Verbal Warnings - 0
Case reports/ Investigations- 8 / 34
Warrant Service- 1
Gun Permits- 0
Arrests- 1
Assist Motorist- 2

Christmas Lake Village Activity For January 2025

**Melchoir – Injured Deer
Melchoir – Tree Down
Melchoir - Domestic
Elf LN – Vin Check
Melchoir – Animal Cruelty
Melody Ln – Medical
Holly – Vin Check
Melody – Juvenile Problem
Donder – Door Open
Blitzen – Door Open
Madonna - Medical
Jingle Bell – Assist DCS
Mistletoe – Medical
Ornament – Lock-Out
Melody Ln – Juvenile Problem
Melchoir – Suicidal Person**

Reserve Hours Worked January 2025

**47-6 - Jazyk – 8
47-8 – Kennedy – 32
47-7 – Goffinet – 12
47-9 – Griebelbauer – 0**

PLANT INFORMATION

Treatment

January	2025	25.78	MG
January	2024	15.72	MG

Precipitation

January	2025	9.89*	INCHES
January	2024	7.72	INCHES

*6 inches of additional precip- based on snow and ice amounts.

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Process control testing, plant O&M. Work continues on the AMP project. Inlet distributor for O2 ditch – Installed.

COLLECTION SYSTEM

SSO(s)	0
--------	---

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Routine station and maintenance checks. Sewer main and lateral rehab ongoing. Work on #'s 10, and 5 L.S.'s.

LATERAL INSPECTIONS

REVOLVING TOTAL LATERAL INSPECTIONS		0	CIPP (To Date)
NEW IN: January	#	0	Mainline Prep (ft.) 50,401
COC'S			Mainline Install (ft.) 27,408
COC'S COMPLETED	#	0	Lateral Prep (ft.)
REQUIRING REPAIRS	#	0	Lateral Lined (ft.) 780
NO REPAIRS	#	0	Safety
EXEMPT LATERALS	#	0	As of January 31, 2025, no Lost Time injuries
YEAR TO DATE			2 field assessment(s) completed
REQUIRING REPAIRS	#	0	Fire Extinguisher monthly check. Standardizing safety inspections. Will need to appoint safety coordinator
NO REPAIRS	#	0	
EXEMPT	#	0	

STREETS

MOWING		No
SIGN- REPLACE/REPAIR/INSTALL	#	No
COMPLAINTS	#	Yes
STREET REPAIRS		YES

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Assist other depts as needed. Culvert inspections, veh/equip maint and repair, road inspections. Prep for '24/25 Paving. C

WATER AND WORK ORDERS

WORK ORDERS- TOTAL RECEIVED	#	19
WORK ORDERS- COMPLETED	#	19
WORK ORDERS- PENDING	#	0

OPEN ACTION ITEMS –Water

Piping complete, tie ins and service re-connections complete. Final grading and seeding, April'25. Prelim engineering begun on SC to Mariah Hill main reinforcement.