

The Santa Claus Town Council & Santa Claus Town Council met in regular session on November 13, 2023 at the Santa Claus Town Hall located at 90 N Holiday Blvd Santa Claus, In. The meeting was called to order by the President, Kevin Burke

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**YouTube-** Yes

**Town Council Members Present:** Kevin Burke, Jason Little, Patrica Vaal, Seth Windell and Brian Warran

**Absent:** None

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

**MINUTES**

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve the October 9, 2023 meeting minutes and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR-**

Chris Middleton from Amenity insurance presented the insurance policy renewal to the Town Council. Chris Middleton stated she was very thankful for all the department heads on their quick turnaround on getting the information to her in a timely manner. Middleton also gave credit to the Clerk-Treasurer, Jane Lindsey stating this is the first time all the information was turned in on time and complete which allowed her to present this information so early and not after the fact. Middleton informed the Council there would not be a rate increase this year since the Council entered into a 3-year policy rate guarantee. Middleton stated that the Town was in year 2 of the 3-year contract. Although there was not a rate increase the policy total will increase from \$53,586 to \$62,978 for policy additions.

Jason Little made the motion to approve the insurance package as presented. Seth Windell seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Seth Windell made the motion to approve the cyber insurance package as presented. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Brad Scales from Trailhead SW Indiana spoke in regards to the proposed mountain bike trails he would like to bring to the Santa Claus community. Scales reported that he viewed several potential sites in the community and feels the land in the Industrial Park would be best suited for a 5-mile trail system, pump track and some extra amenities like rails and jumps. Scales talked about how funding could work for the project stating that his company would contribute 50% of the funding and then the rest would be raised in fundraisers and grants. Scales stated that he would help spear head the fundraisers. Scales said the money would be raised first and then

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the construction would begin. The Council had questions regarding the liability insurance and also maintenance. Jane Lindsey stated the liability would depend on whether the Town maintained control of the land or if there would be a lease involved to transfer that liability to the lessee. Lindsey stated she would reach out to Chris Middleton of Amenity Insurance for guidance on the liability if the Town maintained control of the land.

Seth Windell made the motion that the Town continue to explore the Santa Claus Bike Park at the Industrial Park. Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None  
Motion carried 5-0

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Kevin Burke reminded the community that this year was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the poem 'Twas the Night Before Christmas.

*October (MS)*  
**SEPTEMBER REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

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

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT MAX MEYER**

Max Meyer reported that the fire department had ladders and hoses testing done on October 30 & 31<sup>st</sup> and they only had 2 sections of the hose fail. Meyer also reported on November 1<sup>st</sup> they had pump testing completed and both trucks passed and was recertified. Meyer had an ISO audit today. Patricia Vaal attended the audit and stated that Meyer did an excellent job. The results from the audit would be available in February.

### **PARKS & RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER ZACH TISCHENDORF**

Zach Tischendorf reported there has been an increase in memberships this month. Tischendorf stated that the new gym membership system is coming along and Tischendorf is working on setting up the payment processing and training. Tischendorf reported the Trick or Treat trail was a success despite the weather with approx. 250 kids in attendance. Tischendorf reported that they have replaced 3 bridges on the Ray Yellig Trail.

Sealed bids were submitted for the replacement of the foyer window at the Santa Claus Community Center. Attorney, Kevin Patmore opened the sealed bids and presented the bids in the following order:

Siemers Glass Co. \$9,487.95 total however with tax exempt status the bid was \$8985.00 without tax.  
Kentucky Mirror & Plate Glass \$12,743.00  
Keusch Glass Inc. \$8,600.00

Seth Windell made the motion to approve the lowest bid by Keusch Glass Inc. in the amount of \$8600 per Zach's advisement. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None  
Motion carried 5-0

### **BUILDING INSPECTOR TODD HAYS**

Todd Hayes was absent from the meeting.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT JAMES FAULKENBURG**

Police Chief, James Faulkenburg presented the Council with detailed reports including graphs of year-to-date totals of all calls received and how they broke down per area, busiest months and the type of calls received. Faulkenburg showed that Santa Claus received 1929 calls and out of those calls 1302 of them were from Holiday World and Lake Rudolph. The months of June and July were the two busiest months and between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm the highest volume of calls took place. The Council stated these reports are good to have and look forward to seeing more data like this.

**TRAILS RUSS LUTHY**

Russ Luthy reported there were 18 bollards that were needing to be replaced on the trails.

**STREET DEPARTMENT**

Nothing to report

**WASTEWATER**

Russ Luthy presented the Council with a rough draft of the wastewater budget for their review. Luthy will be meeting with the Clerk-Treasurer to review a few line items this week. Luthy also reported that he has hired a full-time employee with a Class 2 operator license that is expired and the hiring is contingent on him bringing the license up to date. This new employee will be relocating to the area and is expected to start on December 4, 2023. Luthy also gave an update on the bid opening held on October 11, 2023 and requested the Council approve engineering assistance from Midwest Engineers not to exceed \$127,205.

Patricia Vaal made the motion to enter into a service contract with Midwest Engineers not to exceed \$127,205.

Seth Windell seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Luthy after reviewing the bids for the sewer rehabilitation requested the award be given to Performance Pipeline for a base bid of \$2,783,257.69 with alternates based on linear feet for a total of \$3,047,357.69.

Patricia Vaal made the motion to award the contract to Performance Pipeline in the amount of \$3,047,357.69.

Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

**OSHA**

No lost time injuries

**WATER RUSS LUTHY**

Russ Luthy reported they are disinfecting and filling the new tower and still hoping to have the old tower disassembled this month. Bacteria sampling to be done next week.

Scot Elliott presented the 2024 water budget to the Council for review and approval. Elliott explained the revenue, expenditure and capital budgets and answered any questions by the Council. Elliott said there would be no rate increase for 2024.

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Jason Little made the motion to approve the water revenue budget in the amount of \$2,209,600.00 as presented.

Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Jason Little made the motion to approve the water expenditure budget in the amount of \$2,477,223.00. Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Seth Windell made the motion to approve the water capital budget in the amount of \$2,251,413.00. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Scot Elliott presented the Local Share Certification letter for the EDA project and requested the Council approve to allow President, Kevin Burke to sign the Local Share Certification letter for Regional Indiana 15. Patricia Vaal made the motion to allow Kevin Burke to sign the Local Share Certification letter on behalf of the Council. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 4-0 (Seth Windell stepped out of meeting)

#### **INDUSTRIAL PARK**

Nothing to report.

#### **TOWN ATTORNEY KEVIN PATMORE**

Kevin Patmore had sent out a letter to the Council prior to the meeting for review regarding the alleged election fraud claim that was filed on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Patmore asked for permission to submit the letter prepared to the Election Board. Patmore reported that the election fraud claim was since withdrawn by the alleged however the investigation into the claims could continue despite the verbal withdrawal. Patmore asked the Council if he could attend the election board meeting on behalf of the Town. The Council agreed that Patmore should attend as well as a couple of the Council members.

#### **CLERK TREASURER JANE LINDSEY**

Unfinished Business: Lindsey reported all bank accounts have been reconciled up through August and the last couple months should be completed in the next couple weeks. Lindsey also reported that the minutes were being brought up to date on the website by Brian Pund. Lindsey presented the meeting dates for 2024 however the Council tabled the approval until the December meeting. New Council member Mike Johannes had a conflict with the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting date and it was suggested that APC could possibly change dates with the Council in January. Lindsey asked the Council to decide on the payroll date for the holiday and safety bonuses. Lindsey suggested the payroll dates of 12-01 or 12-15.

Patricia Vaal made the motion to pay out the holiday and safety bonuses on the 12-1-2023 pay date. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Lindsey requested a special meeting date of 11/27 or 11/28 for a presentation of family insurance options by Danita Grosvenor. Council decided on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Lindsey stated she would let Danita know of meeting date and time and post it.

October Fund Balances:

General-\$5,307,375.80

Water-\$2,205,479.64

Wastewater-\$4,798,364.44

TIF-\$749,204.34

**VOUCHERS**

Jason Little made a motion to approve general vouchers in the amount of \$61,971.86 and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 5-0

Jason Little made a motion to approve payroll vouchers in the amount of \$78,634.76 for the month of October and Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 5-0

Jason Little made a motion to approve wastewater vouchers in the amount of \$55,957.47 and Seth Windell seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 5-0

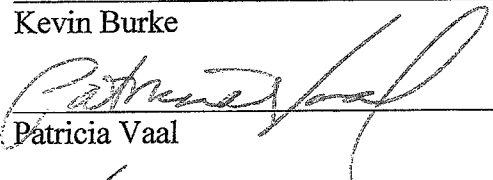
**ADJOURNMENT**

Brian Warran made a motion to adjourn the town council meeting at 7:28 P.M. and Seth Windell seconded the motion.

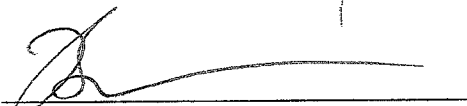
Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 5-0

The next Town Council meeting will be December 11th at 5:30 pm

Kevin Burke



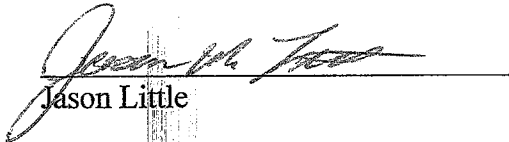
Patricia Vaal



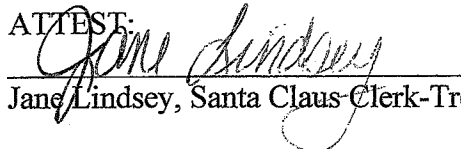
Brian Warran



Seth Windell



Jason Little

ATTEST:  


Jane Lindsey, Santa Claus Clerk-Treasurer

**SANTA CLAUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S**

**ACTIVITY REPORT**

**October 1st – 31st, 2023**

**First Responder (EMR) – 8**

**Fires/Fire Alarm -3**

**Service Call Clean Up Car Deer - 1**

**12- Total Runs**

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**OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup> AND 31<sup>ST</sup> HOSES AND LADDER TESTING ONLY HAD TWO SECTIONS OF HOSE  
FAIL**

**NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> PUMP TESTING AT THE ARCHABBEY LAKE BOTH TRUCKS PASSED AND  
RECERTIFIED**

**ISO AUDIT NOVEMBER 13 AT 12:30**

# Santa Claus Park & Recreation Department

## October 2023 Report

### SCCC Memberships, Daily Admittance, Room Rentals

	Active Members	New Members	Daily Admits	Big Room Day Rental	Big Room Hour Rental
October					

### Completed Projects

- Replaced decks on 3 bridges of Ray Yellig Trail
- Trick or Treat Trail

### New/Ongoing Projects

- Gym Membership System – working on payment processing information, practicing in training portal on website
- Park winterization
- Basketball court resurfacing
- Foyer window replacement
- Alarm Notification System - SCCC
- Mountain Bike Trails – Brad Scales provided proposal for Town Council
- Interior light replacement at SCCC

### Items for Town Council/Redevelopment Commission

- Bids for Community Center Foyer Window (Cumulative Building Fund)
- IN-162/Ashburn Road lot: contacted Valery Kessens who had expressed interest in performing appraisal and gave information for additional appraiser. After multiple follow-ups with no response the Spencer County Visitors Bureau decided to proceed with their sale of the property
- Mountain Bike Trails – Brad Scales provided proposal for the project, he will explain proposal at 11/13 meeting
- Park & Rec/SCCC Fees Ordinance

## SANTA CLAUS INSPECTION REPORT

October 2023

### TOTAL PERMITS

- 6 Improvement Location
- 4 Building Permit
- 0 911 Addresses
- 1 Electrical

### TOTAL INSPECTIONS

- 1 Pool foundation
- 1 Pool fiberglass insert
- 1 Pool bonding
- 1 Temporary Electric
- 1 Footers
- 1 Post Hole
- 1 Foundations
- 1 Basement Walls
- 1 Waterproofing
- 0 Underground plumbing
- 1 Framing
- 2 Concrete
- 0 P.U. Electric
- 0 P.U. Plumbing
- 1 P.U. HVAC
- 6 General
- 4 Gas
- 0 Electric Meter
- 0 Solar
- 4 Final
- 2 Certificate of Occupancy

Reporting: October 1 – November 1

### Misc. :

I contacted sign owners.

The Brewery, Dasher, Los Amigos Roofing

APC Meeting October 16<sup>th</sup>

I sent a Certified Letter to the owner of the property where the Lake Rudolph sign is.



# *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 October, 2023**

**Off Duty Call Out's - 9**  
**Citations for Town of Santa Claus - 1**

**Warnings for Town of Santa Claus - 65**

**Crash reports for the Month - 8**

**Vehicle Inspections - 7**

**Domestic Disturbances- 5**

**Assist another Depts.- 12 See Attached**

**Medical Emergencies- 9**

**Disturbances - 15**

**Theft Reports - 0**

**Verbal Warnings - 4**

**Case reports/ Investigations- 13/70**

**Warrant Service- 1**

**Gun Permits- 3**

**Arrests- 3**

**Assist Motorist-**

## **Christmas Lake Village Activity For October 2023**

**Melchoir – T-P**  
**Shepherds Ln – Animal Complaint**  
**Melchoir Dr – Animal Complaint**  
**Silent Lane – Suicidal Person**  
**Winter Ln – Paper Service**  
**Winter Ln – Domestic**  
**Winter Ln - Domestic**  
**Melchoir Dr – Hit and Run**  
**Donder Ln – Harassment**  
**Balthazar – Vin Check**  
**Holly Dr – DCS**  
**Holly Dr – Welfare Check**  
**Balthazar – Medical**  
**Winter Ln – Welfare Check**  
**Kasper – Disabled Vehicle**  
**Melody – Disturbance**  
**Melchior Dr – Animal Complaint**  
**Pyracantha – Medical**  
**Winter – DCS**  
**Pyracantha – Suicidal Person**

**Reserve Hours Worked October 2023**

47-6 - Jazyk - 8

47-8 - Kennedy - 18

47-7 - Goffinet - 48

47-9 - Petter - 0

**Agency Assists; October 2023.**

Gentryville - Medical

County - Warrant

County - Crash 10-50 PI

Dale - Disturbance

Dale - Fight  
County - Crash PI  
Dale - Domestic  
County - Domestic  
County - Alarm  
Dale - Runaway  
County - Battery  
ISP - Pursuit

**PLANT INFORMATION**

Treatment

Oct	2023	9.43	MG
Oct	2022	8.43	MG

Precipitation

Oct	2023	4	INCHES
Oct	2022	1.87	INCHES

**OPEN ACTION ITEMS**

Process control testing, plant O&M. Work continues on the AMP project. NPDES draft permit received-WW Supervisor on sick leave. Ox. ditch rotor malfunction. Inlet distributor for O2 ditch ordered. Potential candidate for Cl. III operator. Note: Other items on file at WWTP.

**COLLECTION SYSTEM**

SSO(s)	0
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**OPEN ACTION ITEMS**

Routine station and maintenance checks. Sewer main and lateral rehab ongoing. Jet lines, monitor manhole on Evergreen. Lift Station rehab (capital) continues- 1 station left to rehab. Sewer rehab bid opening set for Oct. 11. Lower bidder to be announced.

**LATERAL INSPECTIONS**

**Safety**

REVOLVING TOTAL LATERAL INSPECTIONS		32	
NEW IN: Sept 2023	#	2	
<b>COC'S</b>			
COC'S COMPLETED	#	0	
REQUIRING REPAIRS	#	1	
NO REPAIRS	#	0	
EXEMPT LATERALS	#	1	
<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>			
REQUIRING REPAIRS	#	13	No Lost Time injuries
NO REPAIRS	#	16	
EXEMPT	#	3	

**STREETS**

MOWING		Yes
SIGN- REPLACE/REPAIR/INSTALL	#	Yes
COMPLAINTS	#	Yes*
STREET REPAIRS		YES

**OPEN ACTION ITEMS**

Assist other depts as needed. Culvert inspections, veh/equip maint and repair, road inspections. \*Complaint from School Corporation, over-grown tree limbs striking school buses. Utility has begun removal. Crack Sealing in Progress. Draft 2023 PASER report for INDoT.

**WATER AND WORK ORDERS**

WORK ORDERS- TOTAL RECEIVED	#	28
WORK ORDERS- COMPLETED	#	27
WORK ORDERS- PENDING	#	1

**OPEN ACTION ITEMS –Water**

EDA Project apparent low bidder, Copper Ridge Contracting. Capital project water tower final steps: SCADA, and miscellaneous electric, old tower demolition, fill new tower.