

5-5-2026 WATER BOARD MINUTES

The Santa Claus Waterworks Board met in regular session on May 5, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the Santa Claus Town Hall located at 90 N Holiday Blvd Santa Claus, In 47579.

YouTube-Yes @townofsantaclaus7938

Audio-Yes Clerk Treasurer using Fireflies App

The meeting was called to order by President, Scot Elliott at 6:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Scot Elliott, Tony Perkins, David Maddox and Steve Leiberling

Board Members Absent: Theresa Hartwig

Also, Present: Jane Lindsey, Clerk-Treasurer; Chris Glenn, Water Supervisor; Kevin Patmore, Attorney

MINUTES

Tony Perkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2026, meeting as presented. Steve Leiberling seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried 4-0

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cindy Morrison spoke on behalf of her family's property and the easement they consented to for the Mariah Hill project. The Morrison's were compensated for the easement and given a free tap if they decided to tap into the water line. The Morrison's were objecting to the clause in the out of town water service application that states in line items D & E "That, in consideration for service to the property, the property may be annexed by the Town of Santa Claus and I (we) will not at any time or in any way object or remonstrate against the annexation of said property by the Town of Santa Claus. That the agreement to waive objection and remonstration to any future annexation by the Town of Santa Claus shall by binding upon my (our) successors and assigns and shall further constitute a covenant running with the property." The Morrisons claimed that they were not made aware of this clause in the water service agreement prior to the easement agreement. The Morrisons are requesting the language be removed from the application. The Morrisons stated they have already invested in 2200 feet of pipe from the tap to the trailer on the property. Morrison stated that she understood that the annexation clause will probably never be an issue, however that is not a guarantee which is the reason for the request of removal of the language. Morrison stated that their property is intended for recreation, farming and hunting not development or town expansion.

Scot Elliott stated that the easement they consented to and were compensated for is different from tapping into the water service. The easement contract does not have this language in it. This applies only to those who choose to apply for out-of-town water service. Elliott went on to clarify that this language has been part of the application process for a very long time. Kevin Patmore, Attorney for the Water Board stated that he researched back to 1998, and this language was included in those applications as well. Patmore stated that he felt it went back even further. Patmore explained that the state legislature supports annexation when towns provide services like water and sewer. Allen Pund, who is a property owner next to the Morrisons spoke and reported that the Punds ran their own line and paid for it personally and felt that they should not have had to sign this to access the water line they installed. Patmore stated that the Punds signed the agreement years ago and did not question it at that time. The Board acknowledged that there could have been a communication failure utilizing a third party with Russ Luthy taking responsibility for the lack of communication. Scot Elliott stated that changing the language would have to have action from the Town Council. Steve Leiberling stated that he would be in favor of submitting the documents to the Town Council for review.

Steve Leiberling made a motion that the Water Board recommends removing the language in the application and agreement in regards waiving the objection of annexation for outside water services. David Maddox seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried 4-0

Scot Elliott will attend the Town Council meeting to be held on May 11, 2026.

REPORTS

Reports were given to the board to review prior to the meeting.

STATEMENT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Scott Elliott reminded Chris Glenn that meter reads will need to be done on 6-1-26 for the new water rates to be in effect.

CHRIS GLENN, WATER SUPERVISOR

Chris Glenn updated the board on lead testing. Glenn stated that the town remains in compliance and reporting is ongoing. Glenn reported that physical dig up testing has been reduced from 700 to 50. Glenn stated the utility department is preparing for new regulatory requirements effective in 2028 and praised cooperation from 120 Water.

CLERK-TREASURER

Jane Lindsey, Clerk-Treasurer, provided the Board with March's financial reports. Lindsey stated that March bank statements have been reconciled and are in balance. Lindsey presented the board with a letter she wrote to the Spencer County Auditor confirming the \$6000,000 ARPA funds the town received from the county has been spent. Lindsey stated the letter is just proactive communication and supports accountability. Elliott requested that Lindsey hold off sending the letter until June so the town can include the notification of substantial completion at the same time. Letter tabled until the June meeting.

GIS

Chris Glenn reported that the GIS system adoption expands to utilize photo documentation and notes for assets improving accuracy. Operators use photos with notes to precisely locate water and sewer lines, reducing guesswork.

MARIAH HILL LINE PROJECT

SLB Pipe Solutions Pay App #5 in the amount of \$67,348.35 to be paid from Water Capital Projects. Tony Perkins made the motion to approve SLB Pipe Solutions Pay App #5 in the amount of \$67,348.35. Steve Leiberger seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried 4-0

Scott Elliott reported SLB is 2 weeks from completion. Elliott informed the board of a progress meeting being held on May 14th at 8:00 am. Substantial completion expected to be presented at the June meeting. Elliott hopes to have a bid opening for Phase 2 in November.

VOUCHERS

Clerk-Treasurer presented the water vouchers in the amount of \$387,207.94.

Steve Leiberger made the motion to approve the voucher in the amount of \$387,207.94. Tony Perkins seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried 4-0

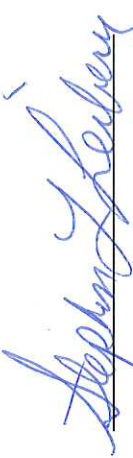
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No further business Tony Perkins made the motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm. David Maddox seconded the motion.
Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried 4-0

Next monthly Water Board meeting will be on June 2, 2026, at 6:00 pm.



Scot Elliott, President



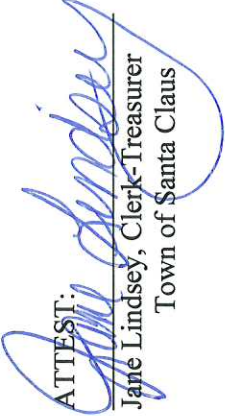
Stephen Leiberger, Vice President



Tony Perkins, Member



David Maddox, Member

ATTEST:


Theresa Criss-Hartwig, Member

Jane Lindsey, Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Santa Claus