

The Santa Claus Town Council met in regular session on October 15, 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- @townofsantaclaus7938

Audio Recording- Yes, Deputy Clerk & Media

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

Absent: None

Also, Present: Clerk-Treasurer Jane Lindsey, Town Attorney; Kevin Patmore, Police; Beau Anderson, Utility Superintendent; Russ Luthy, Building Inspector; Todd Hays, Parks Director; Zach Tischendorf and Fire Chief; Max Meyer

Kevin Burke, President began the meeting with a moment of silence for the Adkins family and all those who assisted with the tragedy.

MINUTES

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve the September 8, 2025, minutes and Michael Johannes seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Patricia Vaal spoke on behalf of the Santa Claus Arts Commission informing the council and community that the Christmas tree project was delayed until 2026 due to unexpected expenses with engineering and construction expenses. Vaal announced the arts commission received a \$10,000 grant that will be used on a holiday mural to be painted on the Holiday Foods building. Vaal stated that the community will be allowed to help paint the mural. Vaal stated the hope to have the mural completed by the Christmas parade weekend for all to enjoy. Jane Lindsey, Clerk-Treasurer stated she has received positive feedback regarding the mural. Lindsey stated she had pictures on display at the Common Grounds coffee event.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Kevin Burke mentioned that there are several Fall events going on in the community and encouraged community members to attend.

SEPTEMBER REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT MAX MEYER

Max Meyer announced that medicine clean out day was scheduled for October 25, 2025 from 8:00 am – noon at the Santa Claus fire station.

Max Meyer reported that the fire department participated in a fire prevention education day at Lincoln Trail school on October 10th for Pre-K through grade 6.

Meyer announced the fire department received a FEMA grant for dual band radios in the amount of \$42,665 requiring a local match of \$2,133 totaling \$44,798.49. The grant support improved communication capabilities across emergency services and enhancing response coordination. Meyer states the government shut down may delay procurement however the department has 1 year to finalize purchases.

PARKS & RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER ZACH TISCHENDORF

Zach Tischendorf announced the Trick or Treat Trail will be held on October 26th from noon- 2:00 pm at Yellig Park. Tischendorf stated there will be food trucks, inflatables, pumpkin carving, face painting and much more. Tischendorf invited the community to come and support this event.

Tischendorf stated that the Fall sports have ended and winterizing efforts on sports fields are underway.

POLICE DEPARTMENT JAMES FAULKENBURG

Beau Anderson, Lieutenant spoke on behalf of the police department. Anderson informed the Council of a needed repair for one of the 2022 Ford Explorers. Anderson stated that there was a recall on the vehicle but Sternberg in Dale, Indiana could not fix the recall due to Ford not providing the required part. Damage was caused to the fuel injector due to the recall. Anderson presented a quote from Sternberg for the repair in the amount of \$2286.67. Anderson stated that Sternberg informed them they could submit the invoice for reimbursement from Ford after the repair was completed. After discussion the Council wanted Sternberg to provide in writing that the town would be reimbursed the for amount, they are out for the repair.

Michael Johannes approved the quote in the amount of \$2286.67 from Rainy Day with a commitment in writing from Sternberg that Ford will reimburse the town for the damage caused by the recall. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

Anderson will reach out to Sternberg for the letter and forward to the council.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Todd Hayes reported there was a sign permit filed for an electric sign. Hayes stated that this would require a variance and the applicant was instructed to request the variance from the BOZA board.

UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT RUSS LUTHY

TRAILS

Russ Luthy reported that the Next Level Trail project was awarded Knies Construction from Jasper, IN. Luthy said the town is awaiting the contract with Knies Construction to proceed.

STREET DEPARTMENT

Russ Luthy reported he has received several complaints regarding the cracks in the new pavement in Holiday Village. Luthy said that dry cracks that are attributed to dry weather shrinkage is a common and non-hazardous issue that will be addressed with crack sealing if needed. These types of cracks are not due to contractor error but are an act of Mother Nature and will not be covered under warranty.

The intersection rehab project is underway and is still on track to be completed in the 3-week time frame. The street department is monitoring signage confusion on detours.

Patricia Vaal spoke on the efforts to resolve road name inconsistencies. Vaal stated she will be taking on this project and working with the county and highway officials. Vaal stated this is important to improve emergency response and mail delivery accuracy. Vaal also stated that having one name for the entire road will help in receiving future grants as well.

WASTEWATER

Russ Luthy spoke on the aging wastewater treatment plant. Luthy stated that they are facing infrastructure challenges including a failed generator requiring a \$18,000/month rental until the part is received to fix the current one. Luthy stated that wastewater rates will need to be increased soon. Luthy stated he will have a 2026 budget estimate at the November meeting and would like to have discussion on the possible rate increase.

Luthy presented Midwestern Engineering invoice # 202305902-16 in the amount of \$2666.50 to be paid from Wastewater Capital fund.

Jane Lindsey stated she did not have a copy of this invoice and requested Luthy provide her with a copy for payment.

Michael Johannes made the motion to approve Invoice # 202305902-16 from Midwestern Engineering in the amount of \$2666.50 to be paid from Wastewater Capital. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

WATER

Russ Luthy reported that the Marian Hill water line project was awarded to SLB Pipe Solutions. SLB Pipe Solutions was the lowest bidder at \$748,655.00 and below the expected cost per engineering. This multi-phase project to improve fire protection to Mariah Hill.

Luthy reported the warranty work on the ladder in the new 750,000-gallon water tank was completed.

Jane Lindsey, Clerk-Treasurer announced that Midwestern Engineering has been acquired by CHA Consulting. Lindsey presented an Assignment of Contracts to the Council for review. Lindsey stated by signing the Assignment of Contracts all our current contracts with Midwestern Engineering will be merged to CHA Consulting. This transition will maintain continuity with familiar staff, ensuring steady oversight of upcoming infrastructure projects.

10-15-2025 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

Michael Johannes made the motion to approve the consent to assign contracts and allow President Kevin Burke to sign on behalf of the Town. Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None
Motion carried: 5-0

INDUSTRIAL PARK

Russ Luthy presented Pay Application #7 from Performance Pipeline in the amount of \$8720.38 to be paid from Industrial Park TIF. Luthy stated this invoice is for overage. Michael Johannes made the motion to approve Pay Application # 7 from Performance Pipeline in the amount of \$8720.38. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None
Motion carried: 5-0

Patricia Vaal entered discussion regarding the mountain bike trails. Vaal stated that the developer was needing commitment from the Council regarding the land to complete the grant applications. The mountain bike park grant application was submitted by Brad Scales with the letter of support from the town. After lengthy discussion involving land commitment, liability protections and maintenance the council asked park Director, Zach Tischendorf to request Brad Scales to attend the next meeting for more detailed discussion on grant specifications before further commitments can be made.

TOWN ATTORNEY KEVIN PATMORE

Kevin Patmore presented Ordinance 2025-04 establishing a Wheel Tax for the first reading. Patricia Vaal made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-4 the establishment of Wheel Tax. Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None
Motion carried: 5-0

CLERK-TREASURER JANE LINDSEY

September Fund Balances:

General-\$7,005,902.00

Water-\$1,806,871.25

Wastewater-\$1,000,488.41

Jane Lindsey presented Resolution 2025-05 A RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES for the second reading and adoption. Lindsey stated a public hearing was held last month as advertised and the

first reading was approved. Michael Johannes made the motion to approve the second reading and adoption of Resolution 2025-05 A RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATION AND TAX RATES. Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None
Motion carried: 5-0

Lindsey stated that the Spencer County Economic Development requested the Council appoint a member to serve on their board. Lindsey reported that RJL has been in contact with her and has recommended a person of their choice to be our appointment. Kevin Patmore, Attorney for the Town reached out to RJL to request a copy of their by-laws and Patmore reported that he reviewed the by-laws that was sent to him by Christy Powell of RJL. After reviewing the presented by-laws Patmore said that the appointment should be one of the council members. Patmore stated that they were having a meeting for potential board members and recommended one the council members attend. Patricia Vaal stated she would attend to represent the council. No appointment was made at this time since the by-laws stated that the initial board would be made up of the county commissioners for one year and that allowed the town council time to take this matter under consideration.

VOUCHERS

Jason Little made a motion to approve General vouchers in the amount of \$104,406.31 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 \$99,924.66 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 \$194,723.25 and Michael Johannes seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

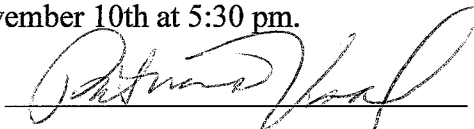
Michael Johannes made a motion to adjourn the town council meeting at 6:54 P.M. and Brian Warran seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried 5-0

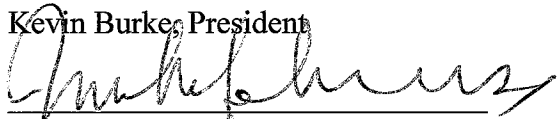
The next Town Council meeting will be November 10th at 5:30 pm.



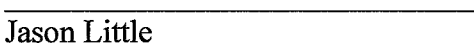
Kevin Burke, President



Patricia Vaal, Vice President



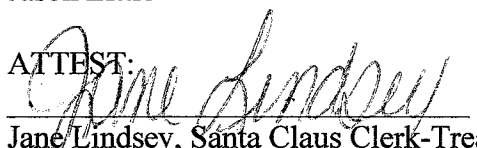
Michael Johannes



Jason Little



Brian Warran

ATTEST:


Jane Lindsey, Santa Claus Clerk-Treasurer

SANTA CLAUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S

ACTIVITY REPORT

September 1- 30, 2025

First Responder (EMR) – 19

Fire – 2 Mutual Aid to Fulda

1 Lawn Mower

CO -1

Signal 9 – 2

25 - Total Runs

OCTOBER 6TH PUMP TEST WITH ST MEINRAD FIRE AT THE ARCHABBEY LAKE

OCTOBER 10TH FIRE PREVENTION AT LINCOLN TRAILS SCHOOL PREK – 6TH

OCTOBER 25TH MEDICINE CABINET CLEANOUT 8AM -12PM

Santa Claus Park & Recreation Department

September 2025 Report

SCCC Memberships, Daily Admittance, Room Rentals

	Senior (62+)	Youth (14-17)	Adult	Daily	Big Room Hour Rental
September	18	12	61	7	8

Completed Projects

- Park slide deck repair
- SCCC Roof Repair
- Ashburn Road/IN-162 Appraisals
- Park Master Plan (Physical copies available at Town Hall, SCCC). Digital copy will be available online soon

New/Ongoing Projects

- Field maintenance; field repair at end of season
- Trail Maintenance
- Park Master Plan, Phase A Engineering
- Universal Design – Foyer Restroom Bid Process (November/December timeframe)

Upcoming Events

- Trick or Treat Trail – October 26th, 12-2 PM

Items for Town Council/Redevelopment Commission

SANTA CLAUS INSPECTION REPORT
September 2025

TOTAL PERMITS

7 Improvement Location
6 Building Permit
0 911 Addresses
0 Electrical

TOTAL INSPECTIONS

0 Temporary Electric
2 Footers
0 Foundations
1 Post
1 Underground Electric
0 Underground Plumbing
3 Framing
2 R.I. Electric
2 R.I. Plumbing
1 R.I. HVAC
7 General
1 Gas
0 Electric Meter
5 Final
1 Certificate of Occupancy

Reporting: September - October, 2025

Misc. :

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 September, 2025

**Off-Duty Call Outs – 9
Citations for the Town of Santa Claus - 6**

Warnings for Town of Santa Claus – 25

Crash reports for the Month - 6

Vehicle Inspections - 9

Domestic Disturbances- 2

Assist another Dept.- 14 See Attached

Medical Emergencies- 9

Disturbances - 49

Theft Reports - 1

Verbal Warnings - 6

Case reports/ Investigations- 12 / 49

Warrant Service- 2

Gun Permits- 1

Arrests- 1

Assist Motorist- 6

Christmas Lake Village Activity For September 2025

**Prancer Drive – Vin Check
Donder – PD crash
Melchoir Drive – Vin Check
Balthazar Drive – Civil Issue
South Baltazar – Assist DCS
Madonna Dr – Medical
South Balthazar – Medical Run
Ornament Lane – Medical
Silverbell - Medical**

Reserve Hours Worked September 2025

**47-6 - Jazyk – 8
47-8 – Kennedy – 16
47- 7 – Goffinet – 16
47-9 – Grieblebauer – 0**

SANTA CLAUS UTILITY REPORT

PLANT INFORMATION

Treatment

September	2025	8.82	MG
September	2024	10.8	MG

Precipitation

September	2025	3.52	INCHES
September	2024	6.32	INCHES

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Plant O&M, Process control testing. Work continues with the AMP project. Gear box for #4 ditch rotor, installed.

COLLECTION SYSTEM

SSO(s)/	0
By-pass	

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Routine station and maintenance checks. Sewer main and lateral rehab ongoing. L.S. Upgrade job awarded to Jochem Tech.

LATERAL INSPECTIONS

REVOLVING TOTAL LATERAL INSPECTIONS	56		CIPP crew to return in 2026 to begin prep of SA 8
NEW IN: September	13		
COC'S			
COC'S COMPLETED	5		
REQUIRING REPAIRS	0		
NO REPAIRS	4		Safety
EXEMPT LATERALS	1		As September 30, 2025, no Lost Time injuries
			1 field/1 compound assessment(s) completed
			Compound, fire exting.'s and eyewash stations checked
			Will need to appoint safety coordinator

STREETS

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

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Assist other depts as needed. Culvert inspections, veh/equip maint and repair, road inspections. CCG Paving project 90% complete. Ditching in HV- Ashburn Rd and Rose Bowl Dr.

WATER AND WORK ORDERS

WORK ORDERS- TOTAL RECEIVED	#	22
WORK ORDERS- COMPLETED	#	22
WORK ORDERS- PENDING	#	0

OPEN ACTION ITEMS –Water

2024 Validated Water Audit submitted to IFA. Final plans for Mariah Hill (PHI)

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)
 Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015
 Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Budget Form No. 4
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Ordinance / Resolution Number: 2025-05

Be it ordained/resolved by the **Town of Santa Claus** that for the expenses of **SANTA CLAUS CIVIL TOWN** for the year ending December 31, **2026** the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of **SANTA CLAUS CIVIL TOWN**, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the **Town of Santa Claus**.

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Date of Adoption
Town of Santa Claus	Town Council	10/13/2025

Funds				
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
0005	CASINO/RIVERBOAT	\$17,500	\$0	0.0000
0061	RAINY DAY	\$75,000	\$0	0.0000
0101	GENERAL	\$1,036,579	\$766,913	0.3612
0706	LOCAL ROAD & STREET	\$60,000	\$0	0.0000
0708	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	\$169,350	\$0	0.0000
1092	CUMULATIVE BUILDING	\$75,000	\$41,718	0.0167
1135	POLICE	\$3,000	\$0	0.0000
1191	CUMULATIVE FIRE SPECIAL	\$74,000	\$46,465	0.0186
1312	RECREATION	\$194,000	\$130,000	0.0612
2379	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL IMP (CIG TAX)	\$30,000	\$0	0.0000
2391	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT	\$100,000	\$124,905	0.0500
2411	ECONOMIC DEV INCOME TAX CREDIT	\$270,000	\$0	0.0000
2430	REDEVELOPMENT - GENERAL	\$5,000	\$0	0.0000
		\$2,109,429	\$1,110,001	0.5077

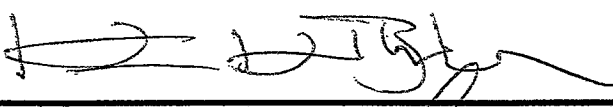

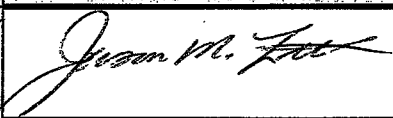
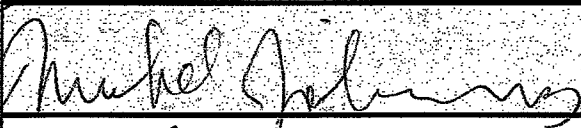

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)
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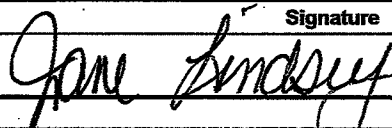
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Home-Ruled Funds (Not Reviewed by DLGF)

Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget
9501	INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT	\$50,000
9502	TIF A&C ALLOC	\$779,800
9503	USER DEFERRAL PROGRAM	\$1,000
9504	LAW CONT ED	\$1,500
9505	TIF INDUSTRIAL 475	\$200,000
9506	SC Trail 219	\$8,000
9507	OPIOID UNRESTRICTED 2256	\$3,000
9508	Opioid Restricted 2257	\$2,000
9509	MT ZION RD/HWY 245 MAIN FUND	\$250,000
		\$1,295,300

Name		Signature
Kevin Burke, President	Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Patricia Vaal, Vice President	Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Jason Little, Member	Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Michael Johannes, Member	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Brian Warran, Member	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST

Name	Title	Signature
Jane Lindsey	Clerk-Treasurer	

MAYOR ACTION (For City use only)

Name		Signature	Date
	Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Veto <input type="checkbox"/>		

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1 Yes No

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before December 31 Yes No