

TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE



www.townofwaynesville.org

VOL. 8 NO. 3

Town of Waynesville - Incorporated 1871

JULY 2011

2011-2012 Annual Budget Highlights

The Board of Aldermen held a public hearing on the 2011-2012 Budget on June 14, 2011. The budget was adopted on June 28, 2011. Highlights include:

General Fund	\$13,369,440
Water Fund	\$ 2,859,570
Sewer Fund	\$ 2,088,800
Electric Fund	\$ 8,889,350
Public Works	\$ 267,880
Garage	\$ 659,690
TOTAL	\$28,134,730

Employees - the Town has 159 full time and 60+ part time employees. Full time and permanent part time employees will receive a 3% cost of living increase - the first raise employees have received in three years. Since 2008, the town has dropped eight positions in its workforce. Fortunately these were through attrition when positions were vacant, and no one had to be dismissed from their position.

GENERAL FUND

Tax Rate: 40.82 cents/\$100 valuation. This is a "revenue neutral" tax rate, meaning that under a formula prepared by the State Treasurer's Office, the revenues from this tax rate should generate close to the same revenue from the 40 cent rate in the previous year.

Property Tax Revenues: Property taxes on real estate and motor vehicles bring in revenues of \$4,425,140, which is 16% of the total town budget.

Revaluation: During 2010-2011 fiscal year, Haywood County conducted the property revaluations. The numbers given the town for budget preparation showed that values dropped by \$1,788,672 between 2010 and 2011. This is why a rate set to achieve the same amount of revenues (plus growth) is increasing from 40 to 40.82 cents.

Other Fees and Charges:

The town has commissioned a study of the solid waste system in light of the decision of Haywood County to close the transfer station at Jones Cove Road. The County advised the municipalities, private haulers and individuals that the transfer station would close in February, 2012. Should the study result in recommendations that the town change the solid waste collection system, the Board may need to amend the budget ordinance to incorporate new or different charges for the services rendered to the citizens and commercial or industrial users.

Downtown Waynesville Association (DWA):

The town has a contract with the DWA to conduct the festivals, programs and economic development activities in the central business area. This is done for a fee under the Municipal Service District (MSD). For the past few years, the revenues generated from a 23 cent tax rate in the MSD have been adequate to raise the funds to meet contract cost. The recent revaluation of property in this area showed an increase in valuations. As a result, the new tax rate requested by DWA is 20 cents per \$100.

WATER FUND – Water Rates: 5% increase on water rates and pump fees. Even with this increase, for a customer inside town using 10,000 gallons monthly, Waynesville's rates are lower than all systems in WNC except Morganton and Spruce Pine.

SEWER FUND – Sewer Rates: No increase. For a customer inside town charged with 10,000 gallons of sewer use, Waynesville's rates are lower than all systems in WNC except Canton, Franklin, Spruce Pine and Marion.

ELECTRIC FUND – Electric Rates: No increase. Each year, the N. C. Utilities Commission compares electric rates of all public and private electric systems in the State. The most recent study showed that Waynesville's electric rates were the 20th lowest of the 106 electric systems in the state.

GARAGE FUND – The line item for the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel has been boosted by a considerable amount, with the total now being \$350,000 - up 72.4% from the \$203,018 the town paid two years ago. A one cent increase in price means \$1,050 extra expense for the town for 105,000 gallons of fuel per year.

TOWN DEBT

The total debt on town buildings and equipment, at July 1, 2011, is \$19,639,420.47. This includes the principal and interest due on debts if the town takes the full length of time to pay the principal.

During 2011-2012, it is likely that the town will incur new debts of \$360,000 for concrete repairs at the Water Treatment Plant and \$185,000 for a new bucket truck for the Electric Department. During 2011-2012, the town will be making payments on a number of loans, and the accumulative debt which the town will be paying off is \$2,140,287.93.

Report a Problem 24/7

Is your street light out or have you noticed a water leak, pothole or other problem that needs attention? Residents can report problems, make service requests, download applications, contact town staff, etc., by going to www.townofwaynesville.org. The requests and comments are immediately routed to the appropriate department and individual, allowing prompt action. Followups on requests are available if requested with a unique tracking number that can be used to track its status online, by phone, or in person.

2011 Municipal Elections

Non-Partisan elections for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen are held every four years. Election day is Tuesday, November 8, 2011. The filing period for candidates begins at noon on July 1 and ends at noon on July 15.

Every citizen is encouraged to register and vote on November 8. To file, register to vote or check your polling place, please contact the Haywood County Board of Elections at 452-6633.

Questions About Signs?

The Town of Waynesville's Land Development Standards contain an extensive section regarding signs. Permitted sign standards are organized

by district, with sizes and types of signs allowed varying from district to district. Prohibited signs, however, are a more complicated issue. The following types of signs are prohibited within the Town of Waynesville's jurisdiction: off-premise

signs, portable or movable signs, roof signs, animated or flashing signs, signs resembling traffic signals, signs attached to utility poles, abandoned sign structures, signs containing pennants, ribbons, streamers, balloons, or spinners, and signs on sidewalks or within the road right-of-way. There are a few exceptions to the prohibition against temporary signs. Real estate signs are permitted, but only on the property for sale, lease, or rent, with size restrictions, and with only one such sign per street frontage. Political signs are permitted, but may only be displayed during a period beginning 60 days prior to an election and ending 14 days after the election. A deposit must also be paid and will be held by the town if the aforementioned time period is violated.



Yard sale signs are permitted, but may only be located on the property conducting the yard sale. Construction signs are permitted after the issuance of a building permit and must be removed

within seven (7) days of the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

Before purchasing, constructing, or placing any sign, please contact Byron Hickox, Land Development Administrator at 452-0401 to inquire about all applicable regulations and permitting procedures.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 4 - Stars & Stripes Celebration

July 8, 22 and August 5 -
Friday Night Street Dances

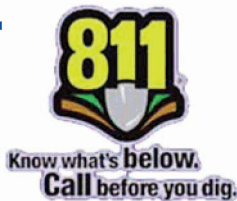
July 22 - Folkmoot Parade

July 30 - International Festival Day

August 19 - Hispanic Street Dance

September 3 - Block Party
Street Dance

Know What's Below - Call Before You Dig



Call before you dig - keeps you and your neighbors safe. Did you know that North Carolina law requires you to notify your area utilities at least 48 hours in advance of an excavation project?

By simply dialing "811", you can talk toll-free to the North Carolina One Call Center who will handle everything for you - except the digging part!

At no charge, North Carolina One Call will notify all your local utilities. That way you or your contractor can be sure to avoid them when installing the new swimming pool, sprinkler system or even trees and shrubs.

Remember - calling before you dig doesn't cost a thing, but not calling could result in property damage or serious injury. If you accidentally hit a natural gas pipeline call PSNC Energy immediately at 1-877-776-2427 or call 911.

North Carolina One Call Center, 811

www.ncocc.org

WORK ZONES



Please observe construction work zones. Drive carefully and reduce your speed for the safety of construction workers and yourself.

Purchasing Supervisor Earns Title of Certified Purchasing Agent

Purchasing Supervisor Julie Grasty, who has been in that position since November 2005, has been recognized as Certified Local Government Purchasing Officer (CLGPO) by the Carolinas Association of Government Purchasing (CAGP). CAGP is an organization with over 450 members in the Carolinas, and provides ongoing educational and training opportunities for government purchasing professionals. The CLGPO certification is available only to those purchasing officers who not only have a minimum of three years of experience, but who also attend over 150 hours of classroom instruction, and successfully pass a final cumulative exam.

Purchasing laws in North Carolina are complex, and the number of vendors for any given product are generally very many or very few. Local governments rely on their purchasing personnel for guidance on how to make the most legal cost-effective purchases of items ranging from toilet paper to fire trucks. In her position, Ms. Grasty handles the centralized purchasing services for the town, which also includes disposal of surplus property, and in recent years, time-consuming involvement in several construction and building renovation projects. With her analytical abilities and sense of responsibility for the Town's resources, she is and will remain a resource for the Town and state purchasing community for years to come.

Future Plans for Municipal Building

In the spring edition of the Newsletter, we reported on the planned renovations to the Municipal Building. We wanted to provide you an update on this work. On May 11, we opened bids on the repair work which will primarily involve exterior work. The former drive-thru window will be removed and a window to match the other windows will be manufactured and installed. Brick from the basement will be used to match the rest of the building brick and placed where the drive-thru window was located. The windows will be repaired as needed and the exterior of the windows will be painted. Any wood replaced on the windows will also be painted on the interior. The exterior of the building will be repainted and there will be repairs to masonry joints and window caulking. In the back of the building, the existing stucco will be removed and replaced with new stucco. There will be other minor repairs made as the work progresses. When doing work on a building nearly 100 years old, it is likely that unexpected issues will be encountered, and we will deal with those as they arise.

The firm selected for the work was Strickland Waterproofing Company, Charlotte, and their proposal was for \$78,750. A number of local contractors attended the pre-bid workshop, but only one local firm, Jayco Construction, submitted a bid on the work. Renovation work should begin in late June and take approximately four to five months. The parking lot at the municipal building will pretty much be closed to the public during construction. We apologize for any inconvenience the project may cause.

Rain Barrels For Sale



Haywood Waterways Association, the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce, and NC Cooperative Extension Service (Haywood County) are selling rain barrels to raise awareness of water conservation.

The 55-gallon barrels are made from recycled pickle containers.

They are fitted with connections for a garden hose, overflow pipes, or to connect multiple barrels in series. The barrels also have a drain and bug screen. The tops can be removed for easy cleaning and maintenance. Display models are at the Chamber Office (28 Walnut Street), the Cooperative Extension Office (589 Raccoon Road), and Waynesville Fly Shop (168 South Main Street).

The cost for one barrel is \$75 (Plus \$6 sales tax) with proceeds benefitting each organization.

Rain barrels are good for water and a great investment for maintaining healthy gardens and landscaping. During drought they provide a source of water for irrigation and reduce the strain on rivers and wells. By capturing and retaining rainwater they help reduce stormwater impacts when it does rain.

Rain barrels can also be ordered through Eric Romaniszyn, Haywood Waterways' Executive Director at 828-631-2823 or eric@haywoodwaterways.org.

The Dirty Truth Behind Washing Your Car

Did you know washing your car at home can harm the environment? The average homeowner uses 116 gallons of water to clean a car. During a drought, hand washing your car can put additional stress on the local water supply. The amount of water used to wash the car may not be the worst part of the washing process.

The dirty water produced while cleaning your car is toxic. The water that comes from your car can contain soap, detergents, exhaust fume residues, gasoline, oil, heavy metals, rust and sediment. If you wash your car in your driveway the dirty water will flow into the storm drain where it is then taken to the nearest waterway. Once in the waterway, this toxic water can harm water quality and wildlife.

The best solution for keeping your car and the



environment clean is to use a commercial car wash facility. A commercial car wash uses up to 60% less water during the cleaning process and the water collected after the car wash is not dumped into the storm drains. Some car wash facilities even recycle their water!! If you must wash your car at home here are a few tips to help reduce the environmental impact:

- 1. Use a nozzle at the end of the hose - using a nozzle will help to reduce the amount of water used during the washing process.***
- 2. Use biodegradable or phosphate free soaps and detergents - when phosphate enters waterways it can produce algae blooms which can negatively impact recreational activities like fishing and swimming. As algae decay, the process uses up the oxygen and can cause fish kills.***
- 3. Wash your car on the lawn or permeable surface - when your car is washed on a permeable surface the dirty water will seep into the ground where it is filtered before entering the ground water or waterway.***
- 4. When you are finished washing your car don't dump your dirty water bucket in the driveway or down a storm drain - instead dump your water bucket into your sink or bathtub.***

By following these easy tips you can help keep our waterways clean for all to enjoy.

Article submitted by Christine O'Brien, Project Assistant with Haywood Waterways Association, P. O. Box 389, Waynesville, NC 28786. www.haywoodwaterways.org

REMINDER REGARDING TREE TRIMMING DEBRIS DISPOSAL

If you hire a private tree company, landscaping firm or individual to trim your trees, the property owner will be responsible for removal and disposal of the material. The Town will only pick up small amounts of brush produced by the homeowner (no more than one truckload or a volume which will take less than 30 minutes to load or chip). For additional information or questions please call 456-3706 Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. until 4 p.m.



Safe Disposal of Hypodermic Needles

Before you toss those discarded diabetic needles in your household garbage consider this - what if someone picked up a bag of garbage and were stuck by one of those needles?

Hypodermic needles should be disposed of properly. The needle and syringe should be placed inside a heavy duty metal or plastic household container (that can't be punctured by the needle) with secure lid (taped on with content identification written on container). When ready to discard, the container with needles to be disposed of should be placed in your regular residential household garbage for pickup.

Thank you for doing your part to help keep our workers and others safe!

IT'S ALL LITTER!

Most cars and trucks come with one or more ashtrays, but many smokers insist on tossing their cigarette butts out the window of the vehicle. This creates several problems. For one thing, a cigarette butt is litter, just like a paper cup or bag from the local fast food restaurant. For another, that cigarette butt will often wash into the gutter or a ditch and find its way to a stream and perhaps to Lake Junaluska or the Pigeon River. Cigarette butts are not bio-degradable, so once the butt hits the pavement and makes its way downstream, it is likely to remain in that form.

In some cases, cigarette butts have been found in the stomach of fish. Some studies show that the fish cannot digest the butt, that it remains in the stomach of the fish. This leaves the fish feeling that it is full, it stops eating and it dies.

And what if the cigarette that is discarded was still lit?! A few years ago, a Town employee was using a vacuum device in the street cleaning process. Apparently the device had taking in some leaves and paper and at some point, a lit cigarette. Before long, the contents of the canvas vacuum bag began to burn. Fortunately, the Town employee was not injured, but the vacuum device was ruined.

In another case, a lit cigarette was thrown from a vehicle during the drought we suffered through a few years back. The cigarette caught a hedge on fire and the fire burned toward a home and melted the vinyl siding, leaving an expensive repair for the homeowner.

Please be thoughtful of the environment, of the fish or birds that might eat the cigarette butt. Please remember the danger a discarded lit cigarette might cause others, human or animal. Use your ashtray in the vehicle. A cigarette butt is litter and our world is not a dumping ground!



Please Separate Items to be Picked Up

All items left to be picked up by the Town should be separated from other items. For example, limbs, grass clippings, recycling items, etc. should not have household garbage or other items mixed in. Items will be left at site if improperly prepared for pickup. For questions or additional information please call 456-3706 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

NOTE: Carpet, tires and stumps will not be picked up. Please call Haywood County at 627-8042 for proper disposal of these items.

July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Yard Waste					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Bulky Items					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Yard Waste					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Bulky Items					

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Yard Waste					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Bulky Items					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Yard Waste					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Bulky Items					
28	29	30	31			

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Yard Waste					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Bulky Items					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Yard Waste					
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Bulky Items					

MAYOR:

Gavin A. Brown

MAYOR PRO TEM:

Gary Caldwell

ALDERMEN:

Elizabeth Feichter

J. Wells Greeley

LeRoy Roberson

MANAGER:

A. Lee Galloway

ASST. MANAGER:

Alison Melnikova

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Independence Day - Offices closed July 4 (garbage pickup July 5)



Labor Day - Offices closed September 5 (garbage pickup September 6)

TELEPHONE REFERENCE

Police Administration	456-5363
Fire Administration	456-6151
Building Inspections	456-8647
Code Enforcement	456-2010
Utilities	456-3515
Tax Collections	452-3588
Town Manager	452-2491
Asst. Town Manager	456-2002
Town Clerk	452-2491
Human Resources	456-2028
Planning	456-2004
Zoning	452-0401
Public Works Director	456-4410
Streets/Sanitation	456-3706
Water/Sewer/Electric	456-3706
After Hours/Emergency	456-5363
Water Treatment Plant	456-8497
Waste Treatment Plant	452-4685
Parks and Recreation	456-2030
Armory	456-9207

DOWNTOWN WAYNESVILLE

ASSOCIATION

456-3517

www.downtownwaynesville.com

MEETING SCHEDULES

Board of Aldermen

2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7 pm - Town Hall

ABC Board

3rd Tuesday at 10 am - 373 Walnut St.

Board of Adjustment

1st Tuesdays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

Community Appearance Commission

1st Wednesdays at 9 am - Town Hall

Firemen's Relief Fund Board

On Call

Historic Preservation Commission

1st Wednesdays at 2 pm - Town Hall

Planning Board

3rd Mondays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

Public Art Commission

2nd Thursdays at 4:00 pm - Town Hall

Recreation & Parks Advisory Comm

2nd Tuesdays 5:30 pm - 550 Vance St.

Waynesville Housing Authority

1st Wednesdays 5:30 pm - 65 Church St.

PRSRV STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
WAYNESVILLE, NC
PERMIT #422

TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
P.O. BOX 100
WAYNESVILLE, NC 28786