# TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE



www.townofwaynesville.org

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JULY 2012

# Message from Retiring Town Manager, Lee Galloway



Our lives, from birth to death, are directed by decisions, decisions made by us and decisions made by others. All of these play a part in who we are, what we do and what we become in life. In July, 1973, I decided to accept a position in municipal government, and now, some 39 years

later, I have decided that it is time to bring this career as a full-time, local government employee to a close. My retirement will be effective June 30, 2012.

While in high school, I decided I wanted a career in local government service. I felt then, as I have ever since, that this was the best way in which I could fulfill my desire to serve others. I attended Wingate Junior College and UNC-Chapel Hill where I earned a degree in political science, concentrating my studies on urban issues. In the years since, I have not regretted the decision made to pursue a career in public service.

In 1973, Bob Nicholl, City Manager of Dunn, N. C., offered me a position in the Finance Department, but he decided that in addition to having a full understanding of finance, I should know something about all facets of municipal operations. If I have been a good, well rounded manager over the past 39 years, Bob Nicholl is largely responsible and I am forever grateful to him.

My career decisions led me to Manager's positions in Pearisburg, Virginia, Rockingham, North Carolina, Newnan, Georgia and Avondale Estates, Georgia. In January, 1994, I was offered the position of Town Manager of Waynesville, and it gave me a chance to return to the mountains, to be closer to my family and to again live in my native state. I am grateful to Mayor Henry Foy and Aldermen Earl Clark, LeRoy Roberson, Bette Sprecher and James Williamson, who decided to give me the opportunity to serve this community.

I have heard people talk about "my" accomplishments and the things "I" did during my 18 years as manager. I am quick to point out that if good things took place while I served as the Town Manager, they are the result of the work of the team of which I was simply a part. I have been blessed to serve with two excellent Mayors and a host of dedicated and conscientious elected officials. My blessings extend to having loyal and outstanding department heads who have directed skilled and faithful town employees. These individuals give so much of themselves to the citizens of the town and county and the many visitors to our area, and from elected official to hourly laborer, they seldom receive the praise they deserve for all that they do for Waynesville.

It was rewarding to play a part in the merger of the communities of Waynesville and Hazelwood. I take pride in the efforts that resulted in the construction of needed public facilities - the recreation center, the new fire station, the new police station, development office and meeting room for the Town Board and other community groups. We have worked to improve the infrastructure - building a new electric substation, upgrading the water and wastewater plants, building new or replacement water storage tanks and investing millions of dollars on rehabilitation of our electric system, water distribution and wastewater collection systems. We have worked together to find ways to fund top notch equipment so that our employees can perform their work better and so citizens benefit from a higher level of services. We purchased and protected the Waynesville watershed and assured continuation of a high quality of drinking water. We have done so many things and yet Waynesville is in a much better financial position than most towns in North Carolina and beyond.

There are those who did not agree with some of my decisions or with the advice offered the Town Boards I served or with the direction I felt we needed to go. I hope people will know and believe that what I have done over the past 18 years, I have done with a sincere and honest belief that it was in the best interest of the community. I had no agenda other than to do what is best for Waynesville.

I am grateful to the elected officials, employees, volunteers and citizens of Waynesville for the many kindnesses shown to my family and me over the years. Most town managers can only dream of having the opportunities I have enjoyed as the Waynesville Town Manager - outstanding elected officials and employees and a supportive and cooperative public. To all of you I say "THANKS!" In retirement, I will always be available to assist the Town Board, Town Manager, department heads and employees.

We have one of the most beautiful and most vibrant downtowns anywhere, and the partnership between property owners, business community and Town and County has been instrumental in making that a reality. People have asked if I plan to remain in Waynesville upon retirement. After 18 years, I cannot imagine living anywhere else. For me, there are trails to hike, places to fish, books to be read and new skills to be developed. There are trails that need to be maintained, volunteer hours that need to be given, people that need to be helped. As the Town Manager, I adopted Waynesville as my home, and as a retiree and a citizen of this community, I plan to give back to the Town, County and region.

## Comments by Mayor Gavin Brown and Mayor Henry Foy Regarding Retirement of Lee Galloway

Lee Galloway joined us in 1994 and immediately tackled difficult challenges facing the Town. His efforts brought the Town fully into the 20th century and poised us for the 21st century. Among those accomplishments were the successful merger with Hazelwood, the completion of protection of the Watershed with the purchase of several properties and the adoption of the Land Design Standards.

Lee's ability to choosing extremely competent personnel to fill town positions is evidenced by the Town's successful operations. He has taken his talents to numerous statewide offices and proudly speaks of his years of service with the ICMA.

Add to this managerial expertise his character of always being a true gentleman allows us to see why Lee will be truly missed in the years to come. He has shown unqualified concern for the town employees and at the same time is most considerate when dealing with the citizens and their issues.

Waynesville has been truly blessed to have had Lee serve the town for the last 18 years. Lee won't retire, he will simply seek out new quests. On behalf of the Town of Waynesville we wish him well in the coming years.

#### Like us on Facebook!

Several Town Departments have
Facebook pages, which they use to notify
people of upcoming events and give interesting tips
and information. Just search for the Waynesville
Police Department, Waynesville Fire Department
and Waynesville Parks and Recreation!

# Residents Can Receive Notices of Utility Outages and More

The Town of Waynesville encourages residents and businesses to sign up for its new Citizen Notification System to receive critical information before planned street closures, water and power outages and emergencies.

Town residents and customers can receive time-sensitive messages however they prefer - text messaging, email, or voice phone call to a home or cell phone. With this new system, provided by DeltAlert, residents will receive utility notices and emergency information within minutes.

To maintain the Town's infrastructure, service disruptions, whether to repave a street or repair a water line, are an unfortunate necessity. The success of this important program depends on individual participation, so all Waynesville residents and business owners are urged to register today.

To ensure they receive these messages, customers must sign up and register their contact information at www.townofwaynesville.org or call 828-452-2491.

#### Electric Meters Being Replaced With Radio Read Meters

In order to increase efficiency, some electric meters are being replaced with radio read meters. Meter readers can read the meters from their truck or when walking nearby. So far 325 meters have been replaced.

Town employees are easily identified by their vehicle or

uniform. If you are ever in doubt about the identity of a worker in your area, please call the Public Works Department at 456-3706 for verification.



# Arch Sign Installation in Early July

The Waynesville Public Art Commission was created in 2006 and works to enrich public spaces through original public art that celebrates Waynesville's unique historic, cultural, natural and human resources. In April, Ted Dake of Moto-Fab Metal Works was chosen to fabricate the "Gateway to the Smokies - Waynesville, North Carolina" arch for the entrance into the mini park in downtown Waynesville. This project is meant to honor the historic arch which used to stand over Main Street and which indicated the route to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The piece will be installed before July 18th, just in time for Folkmoot. The WPAC is still accepting donations for the arch - major contributors will be listed on the dedication poster and the Public Art Commission website, and all contributors will be listed in the newspaper.

It is the Commission's hope that by replicating the arch we will also be rekindling many wonderful memories and reinstating a very important local historical landmark. For more information please call 828-452-2491, or make your checks payable to Town of Waynesville-Public Art Fund-Arch project. Donations may be mailed to: Town of Waynesville, P.O. Box 100, Waynesville, North Carolina 28786. Your donation may be tax deductible and you will receive a receipt for that purpose.

## **Town Budget Year Begins July 1**



Every spring Town Staff and the Board of Aldermen craft the annual budget for the Town of Waynesville. The Town's budget year begins July 1, ending on June 30, so the budget that just began is called the 2012-2013 budget. On

June 12 the Board held a public hearing on the budget, which was adopted on June 26. Highlights include:

#### General Fund: \$ 14,186,410

The General Fund provides all of the basic government services: Police, Fire, Recreation, Finance, Administration, Street Maintenance and Sanitation Services. Property taxes are the largest source of funding for the General Fund, and the property tax rate will remain the same as last year, at 40.82 cents per \$100 valuation. This was the "revenue neutral" tax rate adopted after property revaluation. Sales tax remains the second largest source of revenue.

Projects funded for the coming year include the construction of the much-anticipated Skatepark,

a complete redesign of the Town website, and the purchase of a new pumper truck for the Fire Department.

One of the most significant issues for the budget this year was planning for the changes we have to make to our solid waste program to adjust to the now required drive to the White Oak Landfill to dispose of residential and commercial waste. One new position is being added this year, for a driver who will essentially shuttle the garbage trucks between Waynesville and White Oak. Solid waste fees will increase 38% to help cover the increased sanitation costs. So residential fees will increase from \$6.50 a month to \$9.00. Further evaluation of our solid waste services are also planned for the coming year, especially in yard waste and recycling.

#### Water Fund: \$ 3,099,500 Sewer Fund: \$ 2,186,900

The Water and Sewer Funds are both funded through the user fees charged to our customers, and rates will increase 6%, beginning August 1st. In the coming year we expect to spend \$498,000 to make much needed repairs at the Water Treatment Plant, as well as spending \$300,000 in repairs to the water distribution system and \$350,000 on the sewer distribution system – the pipes in the ground.

As people buy more efficient appliances our revenues have dropped, but the need for improvements have not changed. Several years ago the Town's Asset Management Plan identified nearly \$31 million in construction and repair needs for both the water and sewer systems, and work continues to address those needs. Even with the rate increases, our water and sewer rates remain among the lowest in the area.

#### Electric Fund: \$ 9,769,310

The third enterprise fund for the town, the Electric Fund also exists to serve its customers, and its revenue comes from the customers. There is currently no proposed increase for electric rates. We are anticipating an increase in electric sales when the expansion at the Sonoco Plant is complete this summer. This will aid in the debt payments on the substation that was constructed in 2010, but more importantly it's a symbol of job growth in the town.

#### Town Debt

In the 2012-2013 fiscal year we anticipate adding \$761,000 in total debt for the purchase of a bucket truck for the electric department at \$196,000, \$130,000 for a new rearloading garbage truck, and \$435,000 for a new fire truck. The first payments for these vehicles won't be due until the following

budget year, 2013-2014. In that same two-year time frame the town will make payments on existing debts of \$1,975,520 this year and \$1,744,391 in fiscal year 2013-2014 - a total of \$3,719,911 is scheduled to be paid off, which is almost five times the amount of the new debt of \$761,500 which will be added. As of June 30, 2012, the end of the 2011-2012 budget, the Town had a total debt of \$17,502,232.48.

A copy of the budget is available for public review at the Municipal Building, and the budget ordinance and fee schedule are available online at www.townofwaynesville.org.

#### **Wellness Committee**

With assistance from wellness coordinators from Wells Fargo, the Town has established a wellness committee and representatives from each department



are working on ideas and programs to encourage healthy living for town employees. The first two meetings were focused on organization of the committee and discussions of the committee's purpose. A logo was chosen: "Well Thang, You Make My Heart Sing" as well as a mission statement. In an effort to get feedback from all employees, a Needs and Interest Survey was developed and results were generated from town staff at their annual health fair. The results of the survey indicated employees are most interested in weight loss initiatives. The Wellness Committee is now working on a promotional event to be announced at a later date.

## **Upcoming Events**

July 4 - Stars & Stripes Celebration on Main Street. Shops & restaurants open, live music & entertainment, refreshments, fun for all ages - 11 am - 3 pm

July 6 - "Art after Dark." Downtown Waynesville Galleries & Studios remain open late the First Friday evening each month through December. Demonstrations, artists' receptions, music & more 6 - 9 pm.

July 6 & 20 and August 3 (Friday evenings) Mountain Street Dances. Downtown is Alive at Night. Put on your cloggin' & square dancin' shoes and enjoy an old-fashioned mountain hoe down! Live mountain music, demonstrations and instruction by local clogging teams. Refreshments available, in front of the historic Haywood County Courthouse. 6:30 - 9 pm.

July 20 - Folkmoot USA Parade. Main Street. Dancers and musicians from around the World will parade from the Haywood County Courthouse

down Main Street after the opening ceremonies of FOLKMOOT USA. 12:30 p.m.

July 21 - INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL DAY (new date for 2012) Main Street. Haywood County Arts Council and FOLKMOOT USA join together to present a day long extravaganza of music, dance, crafts and food from around the World. 10 am - 5 pm.

August 4 - Downtown Dog Walk. Proceeds support the proposed Sarge's Adoption Center. Courthouse lawn, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

August 10 - 3rd Annual Main Street Mile - 6:30 p.m. Fundraiser for Shriners Hospital for Children.

# Waynesville Trolley Company is Available for Your Shopping Convenience

Waynesville Trolley Company provides trolley transit service connecting Downtown Waynesville Frog Level and Hazelwood Village. The Trolley runs every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at a cost of \$5 for the day. Tickets are available for sale around town. Passengers can get on and off throughout the day and enjoy various shopping areas of Waynesville. The Trolley is scheduled to end November 3, however this could change and be extended through the Christmas Holiday Season.

#### Waynesville Skate Park T-Shirts for Sale

The Waynesville Parks and Recreation Department is selling t-shirts to promote the new Waynesville Skate Park. The shirts are \$10 each and may be purchased at the Waynesville Recreation Center. All proceeds will go toward the cost of the park. Construction for the Skate Park is expected to begin late summer. The park will be 8,000 square feet and located at the site of the old horse ring on Vance Street in Waynesville.

For more information please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 456-2030 or email recdirector@townofwaynesville.org.

John Lewis Swift, retired Town of Waynesville employee, passed away at the age of 63 on Tuesday, June 19. John served the Town as Planning Director for almost 20 years. The Mayor, Board of Aldermen and Town Employees extend condolences to the family of John Swift.

#### Ten Reasons to Keep Your Grass Cut Short

The Code Enforcement Department is responsible for enforcing the Town's Weed Ordinance. Weeds/grass that measures 10" or more in height and located within 300' of an occupied building used as a residence or business is in violation of the Town Code. Keeping your grass cut short not only improves your property's appearance but can help you avoid the following:

Snakes • Rats • Ticks • Spiders Negative impact on neighborhood Health issues • Safety issues Fire hazard • Flies • Mosquitos

# Greenhill Cemetery Burial Spaces Available

Cemetery spaces are available for purchase in the Greenhill Cemetery. Traditional burial spaces and columbarium units are \$900 each. In ground burial spaces for cremations are \$450 each. If you purchased spaces in the past and are interested in purchasing additional spaces close to yours, please contact the Town of Waynesville's Cemetery Superintendent Daryl Hannah at 828-456-3706. Burial spaces will not be held indefinitely for any reason and may be made available to others. If you wish to make a purchase, be sure to make it before December 31, 2012.

### **July 2012 Retirees**

Code Enforcement Officer Warren Putnam retired July 1, 2012. Warren was joined by his family to celebrate his retirement at a reception on Wednesday, June 20. Mr. Putnam began work with the



Town as a firefighter in 1995 and served in Code Enforcement from 2008 until his retirement.



Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Larry Brookshire also retired July 1, 2012. Larry began work with the Town in April 1998. To celebrate retirement, his coworkers treated him to a steak dinner at Ryan's.

Thanks to Warren Putnam and Larry Brookshire for your service

to the Town of Waynesville! We wish you many happy years in retirement.

The Town of
Waynesville
wishes everyone
a safe
and happy
Independence day!



# 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.

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<u>July 2012</u>						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Yard Waste						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Bulky Items						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Yard Waste						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Bulky Items						
30	31					

August 2012						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Yard Waste					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Bulky Items						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Yard Waste						
27	28	29	30	31		
Bulky Items						

September 2012						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
					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
Bulky Items						

**MAYOR:** 

Gavin A. Brown

ALDERMEN:

Gary Caldwell Julia Freeman J. Wells Greeley LeRoy Roberson

**MANAGER:** 

**Marcy Onieal** 

ASST. MANAGER: Alison Melnikova

**TOWN CLERK:** 

Phyllis R. McClure

## **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

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

**Labor Day** - Offices closed September 3 (garbage pickup September 4)

#### **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

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.

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