
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE

Please visit our web site - www.townofwaynesville.org

VOL 2. NO. 3

JULY 2005



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Waynesville remains very much alive after a not extremely severe but plenty-cold winter. There has, in fact, been more activity in town during these winter months than in many years. This, of course, is only the first of April and winter has been known to linger awhile. (Remember April 9, 1993.)

Good news for the future of our community continues to build. Plans for a high end apartment complex off South Main Street (just beyond and adjacent to the property of Autumn Care Nursing Home) have been submitted to our Planning Department. This complex consists of one, two and three bedroom units totaling 160 apartments. It will be called "Vantage Pointe" Homes at Balsam Mountain". Plans for 75 affordable two and three bedroom townhouse units on Pigeon Street, off Thomas Park Drive, have also been submitted; and Quail Ridge development containing an elegant group of 24 clustered, semi-attached condominiums further out Pigeon near the Crymes Cove intersection is underway. These projects, plus the three-hundred-plus units being discussed near Lake Junaluska (near the intersection of Highway 276 and 19A) are being planned in

full compliance with Waynesville's New Land Use Standards. Positive progress in development of the Dayco property has been reported recently, as well as growing interest in nearby properties.

There is one negative item to report. The huge increase in the cost of natural gas and coal nationwide has necessitated the addition of a substantial fuel adjustment cost to the electric power Progress Energy sells to the Town of Waynesville. This has resulted in the Town being forced to increase electric rates to its own customers for the first time since 1988. You can read more about this elsewhere in this newsletter. I do, however, want to add that I have constantly observed the enormous financial abilities of Town Manager Lee Galloway and Finance Director Eddie Caldwell. Their ability to deal with this and other money matters fairly and effectively, leave no doubt that the best possible solution will be forthcoming.

All in all, positives overwhelmingly dominate news about our town. Waynesville's future has never looked brighter.

Henry B. Foy
Mayor

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 4 - Stars & Stripes Celebration - Main St.
June - October - Tailgate Farmer's Market
July 8 & 22, August 5 - Mtn. Street Dances -
Main Street
July 22 - Folkmoot Parade - Main Street

July 30 - International Festival Day - Main Street
Sept. 2,3 & 5 Sidewalk Street Sales
Sept. 2 & 3 Smoky Mountain Folk Festival

FROG LEVEL

May 7 - "The Whole Bloomin Thing Festival"
9am-3pm

THANK YOU GINNY BOYER!

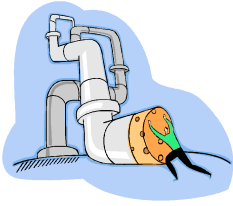
The Frog Level Association sends a special Thank You to Ginny Boyer for her volunteer work in the Frog Level area. Ginny has been planning, installing and maintaining Frog Level gardens since last fall. She is planning the addition of another feature at the corner of Depot and Commerce Streets in the near future.

ADOPT A STREET SPRING ROADSIDE CLEANUP

Twenty streets have been adopted through Waynesville's "Adopt A Street Program". This program is open to all Churches, Civic Organizations, businesses and individuals. If interested in participating please contact Freida Rhinehart at 456-2024 or 452-2491.

April 16 - 30 is the NC Department of Transportation Spring 2005 "Litter Sweep Roadside Cleanup". For more information contact Tonya Woody at 456-5633.

INFLOW, INFILTRATION AND OVERFLOWS



WHAT HOMEOWNERS NEED TO KNOW

- When clear water gets into the sanitary sewers, it must be moved and treated like sanitary waste. Too much clear water often causes sewer backups and overflows when it rains.

INFLOW is water that is dumped into the sewer system through improper connections, such as downspouts and groundwater sump pumps. (Sump pumps that pump only laundry water or other sanitary wastes are not a problem.)

INFILTRATION is excess water that gets into the sewer system through open joints, cracks and breaks in the pipes. These deficiencies may allow constant infiltration of groundwater. All of this water is called "clear water" (although it may be dirty) to distinguish it from sanitary sewage.

SANITARY SEWER is a pipe located in the street or easement that is designed solely to transport wastewater from sanitary fixtures (toilets, sinks, bathtubs, showers and lavatories) inside your house or place of business.

STORM SEWER is a pipe designed to carry rainwater away. Storm sewers are normally much larger than sanitary sewers because they are designed to carry much larger amounts of water. Drainage ditches and swales perform the same function in many neighborhoods.

AN IMPROPER CONNECTION TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM permits water from sources other

than sanitary fixtures and floor drains to enter the sanitary sewer system. That water should be going to the storm sewer or allowed to soak into the ground without entering the sanitary sewer as required by the Town's Sewer Use Regulations and the N. C. State Plumbing Code. Some examples of improper connections include downspouts, groundwater sump pumps, foundation drains, drains from window wells and outdoor basement stairwells and drains from driveways.

Improper connections must be removed in order to reduce the possibility of a sanitary sewer overflow that may flow into a street or yard from a manhole cover or into basements of homes and lessen the amount of water that has to be treated. An eight-inch sanitary sewer can handle domestic wastewater flow from up to 200 homes, but only eight sump pumps, operating at full capacity, or six homes with downspouts connected to the sewers, will overload this same eight-inch line.

HOW DOES THE TOWN IDENTIFY THE SOURCES OF CLEAR WATER ENTERING THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM?

Dye Testing - by flushing water and dye into a suspicious downspout or sump pump, the Town can determine sources of clear water entering the sewers by the color of the water as it flows through the pipes.

Television Inspection - by guiding portable television cameras through the sewer pipes, the Town can detect many of the sources of clear water entering the sewers.

Smoke Testing - by filling the sanitary sewer line with smoke and watching where it emerges, the Town can detect many more sources of clear water. The smoke is kept from entering buildings by the drain traps required on all sanitary fixtures and drains. It will emerge from the

sewer stand-pipe vents on the roof of buildings – and from improper connections such as downspouts. It may also emerge from holes in the ground that lead to leaks in sewer lines. Improperly connected plumbing or drains inside a home can also be identified through smoke testing.

Home Inspection - House-to-house inspections are simple inspections of the exterior and interior of a property or residence. Inspectors check for illegally connected roof, yard, driveway, basement, and foundation drains, as well as sump pumps. Inspections usually take less than 10 minutes.

WHEN YOU DETECT A LEAK OR AN IMPROPER CONNECTION -

If the leak is in the public sewer line, the Town will repair it. If the source of the clear water is in a private line entering the public sewer, the Town will notify the property owner who should consult with a licensed plumber to determine the source of the inflow or infiltration and to have the problem corrected. The Town will conduct a follow-up inspection to verify that the problem has been corrected.

WHAT CAN A PROPERTY OWNER DO TO MINIMIZE BASEMENT SEWER BACKUPS?

- * Consult with a licensed plumber to review your particular plumbing system.
- * Consider the installation of a backwater check valve in the basement sewer line.
- * Consider the installation of a removable standpipe in the basement floor drain.

If you see manholes which are overflowing please report this immediately to our Public Works Department at 456-3706.

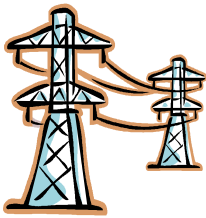
TOWN PROJECTS

WALL STREET - The work of installing curb bump outs and crosswalks for pedestrians on Wall Street will continue this Spring.

CAROLYN'S POINT - Work will continue on the Carolyn's Point project at the intersection of N. Main and Wall Street.

TRAFFIC LIGHT AT HAYWOOD AND DEPOT - Improvements are scheduled for the intersection of Haywood and Depot Street which include a new traffic light.

PAVING - Several streets are scheduled for paving this Spring and Summer.



INCREASE IN ELECTRICAL RATES

Town of Waynesville electrical customers will see an increase on their utility bills beginning April 1, 2005. This will be the first increase since 1988 and is necessary due to increased fuel prices.

Waynesville purchases electricity from Progress Energy and resells the electricity to its Waynesville customers. When Progress Energy experiences increases in the natural gas and coal they use to generate electricity, these increases must be passed along to Waynesville. Since July 1, 2004, the cost per kilowatt hour the Town is paying Progress Energy has risen by 14.38%, and the Town has absorbed that increase in hopes that it might level off. In January and February, 2005, we found that the Town is paying 21.07% more per kilowatt hour than for the same months a year ago. Thus far, the Town has absorbed a loss of

\$401,000 in the electric fund, and with recent cost increases, that number would grow to around a \$600,000 loss by June 30. We simply cannot absorb that kind of a loss, and the Town Staff had to recommend a rate increase to the Town Board.

It is felt that the increase being passed along should be tied to the increase in the average cost per kilowatt that the Town experiences in charges from Progress Energy. Based upon these projections, an average residential customer using 800 kilowatts per month presently has a bill of \$67.21 per month. At the new rate that bill for 800 kilowatts per month will be \$71.73. This amount is still \$1.40 less than the same Progress Energy residential customer who now pays \$73.13 per month. Rate increases could be as high as 7.73% for residential customers and 11.66% for commercial customers, but those increases are still well below the 14.38% increase in actual cost the Town has seen this year. We will continue to try to absorb the extra increases as we attempt to operate more efficiently and hold our costs down in other areas.

The Town Board and Town Staff very much regret that we must pass along these higher costs, and we realize that this is a substantial increase at one time. Each one of us has seen the effects of the substantial increases in energy prices, whether for gasoline, home heating oil, kerosene, propane, natural gas or coal. Progress Energy is paying more as well and passing the cost on to us. If we are to run our city as a business, and we believe that is what you expect us to do, we cannot absorb a \$600,000 loss; consequently, we must now pass a portion of this increase along to our customers.

The Electric fund is very important and historically has helped keep tax rates lower here than in other towns. The Town will review electrical

charges quarterly and adjust its rates accordingly. Updates regarding this issue will appear in our quarterly newsletter and on the Town's website.

PRESERVING HISTORY

Does your home or business have historic significance? Is it at least 50 years old? The Waynesville Historic Preservation Commission encourages owners of property or structures of historic significance to become registered on the local landmarks list and the National Register of Historic Places.

Twelve structures have received designation as local landmarks in Waynesville since 1997. Historic designation allows up to 50% deferrals of Town and County property taxes (landmarks only), up to 40% deferrals on State and Federal taxes for income producing properties (National Register only), and up to 30% deferrals on State and Federal taxes for non-income producing properties (National Register only). Historic designations protect and/or enhance property values while preserving special character and heritage.

If you are interested in pursuing Local Landmark Designation for your property please contact Planner Director Paul Benson at (828) 456-2004.

WATER STREET COTTAGE

The Frog Level Association hopes to begin restoration of the Water Street cottage this spring. The cottage was constructed around 1900 (Queen Anne structure). An application has been submitted for local landmark designation. Anyone interested in being involved in the project can call Carol James at 627-1058.

MAYOR Henry B. Foy

ALDERMEN: Gavin Brown
Gary Caldwell
Elizabeth Feichter
Kenneth Moore

MANAGER A. Lee Galloway

Holiday Schedule - Town offices will be closed.

May 30 Memorial Day
July 4 Independence Day

Garbage pickup will be on a regular schedule.

UPDATED WEB SITE - The Town of Waynesville's web site has a new look with some interactive sections. Please take time to visit us soon at www.townofwaynesville.org.

Police Administration 456-5363
Fire Administration 456-6151
Building Inspections 456-8647
Code Enforcement 456-2010
Utilities 456-3515 or 456-5057
Tax Collections 452-3588
Town Manager 452-2491
Town Clerk 452-2491
Human Resources 456-2028
Planning 456-2004
Zoning 452-0401
Public Works Director 456-4410
Streets/Sanitation/Water/
Sewer/Electric 456-3706
After Hours/Emergency 456-5363
Water Treatment Plant 456-8497
Waste Treatment Plant 456-4685
Parks and Recreation 456-2030
Armory 456-9207

DOWNTOWN WAYNESVILLE ASSOCIATION 456-3517
www.downtownwaynesville.com

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

ABC Board
2nd Tuesday at 11 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

Recreation & Parks Advisory Comm
2nd Tuesdays - 6:30 pm - 550 Vance Street

Waynesville Housing Authority
1st Wednesdays 5:30 pm - 65 Church Street

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

MEETING SCHEDULES

TELEPHONE REFERENCE