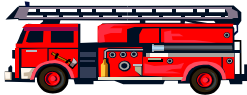

TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE

www.townofwaynesville.org

VOL 3. NO. 1

JANUARY 2006

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



The Town, as you may be aware, has an immediate need to re-locate its downtown fire fighting facility. Traffic in the Central Waynesville business district has reached the point where too much time is lost moving fire fighting equipment to its problem source, and this problem will rapidly continue to get worse. There is also an equally urgent need to provide more space for the Police Department since space they now occupy is only about 35% of the space needed for their size force to operate efficiently. Plans for improving those facilities are now beginning to move forward.

Property at the intersection of North Main and Broadview Streets, owned by Home Trust Bank, has been made available for purchase by the Town. This purchase will be subject to results of subsurface investigations by a qualified engineering firm to determine that underlying soils and/or water table are suitable to sustain the weight and other loads created by the new building. The Town will then complete plans made in recent studies, obtain bids and proceed with construction. This will enable the Town to continue plans to convert space to be vacated by the Fire Department into useable space for the Police Department.

It is unlikely that the Town's budget will permit completion of all work to the Police Department required by our recent facilities study. The total space required by that study will be needed even more after the two years time it will take to move the Fire Department. However, the space gained by moving the fire fighting facilities will provide a big temporary relief for the Police Department.

Henry B. Foy, Mayor

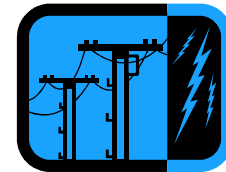
ELECTRIC RATE UPDATE

During the spring of 2005 the recommendation was made that Town electric rates be adjusted at the beginning of each quarter based upon the increase or decrease in the average per kilowatt hour rates charged by Progress Energy in the preceding quarter.

As reported previously, during the first quarter after this change, the Town was essentially breaking even. In July and August the Town saw a dramatic increase in the charges from Progress Energy as they pass along the dramatic increases they are seeing in their purchases of coal and natural gas. With these increases, the Town's power costs have risen \$530,148.

For the period beginning January 1, 2006, a rate increase of \$.004095 cent per kilowatt hour will be implemented. This increase will mean that the average residential customer using 800 kilowatts monthly will see their bill increase by \$3.28 per month before sales tax,

meaning a bill of \$74.70 monthly plus tax. Customers using different amounts or those on demand meters will see varying impacts upon their charges.



HEAT

During the past several months, energy costs have risen at an unprecedented rate. We have seen it at the gasoline pumps and when we have filled up our fuel tanks with heating oil, kerosene or propane. We have also seen these rising energy costs in the bills we receive for our electricity or for natural gas. Even wood for the cook stove or wood stove is more expensive.

This is not news for most of us, but as the cost of all sources of energy has increased dramatically, there are people in our community who simply cannot afford to pay these higher prices. There are a lot of our friends and neighbors who have to make choices between buying their medicine or buying enough food for their family or paying the fuel bills to keep their homes warm.

The Town has come up with a program which may be helpful. We would like to offer our citizens an opportunity to join the Heat and Energy Assistance Team, or HEAT for short. To join this team and help

others in our community, people may donate funds to the Town for the HEAT Program. The Town in turn will give these funds to the Haywood Christian Ministries or the Salvation Army with the understanding that the money will be used to assist people with their fuel or energy bills. The Town will keep a record of all donations made and since the contributions are tax deductible, the Town will provide people with a letter acknowledging the donation at the end of the calendar year. Those interested in joining the Heat and Energy Assistance Team may add any amount to their check when paying their utility bill to the Town of Waynesville or just send a donation to the Town and specify that it is for the HEAT Program. There is no limit to the amount you might donate, and you may add a donation to your utility bill each month if you would like to do so.

If you have questions on this, please call us at 452-2491. We hope that you are able to help others in our community and that you will join HEAT today.

ENERGY CONSERVATION INFORMATION

For more information on energy conservation please visit the U S Department of Energy website at <http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/>

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION LUNCHEON



The Town of Waynesville held its annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, December 9. Approximately 220 people attended including full time and part time employees, retirees, Mayor and Board of Aldermen and members of the various boards and commissions.

Several awards were presented. Forty-six employees, representing 28% of the Town's work force were recognized for perfect attendance during 2005. The following employees were recognized for years of service.

5 Years: Freida Rhinehart, Vivian Green, Kimberly Aldridge, Jackie Pressley, Lisa Burnett, Brandon Gilmore, Robert Stiles, Scott Worley and Robert Messer.

10 Years: Tony Moody, Chris Chandler, Ricky Harris, Warren Putnam, Chris Mills, Allen Stewart, Jerry Nichols, Michael McFarland, Jeffrey Stines, Julie Grasty and Garry Fox.

15 Years: James Robertson and Tim O'Neill.

20 Years: Blaine Jones, Mike Smith and Tim Plowman.

25 Years: Mike Warren, Wayne Birchfield and Bill Franklin.

This year the Town honored two "Employees of The Year". Kristen Curtis, a four year employee in the Parks and Recreation Department and Doug Grasty, a thirty-one year employee in the Water/Sewer Maintenance Department. Congratulations to both these employees!

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FIRE CAPTAIN MIKE WARREN

Members of the Fire Department and the entire city workforce were saddened over the death of Fire Captain Mike Warren on October 14. Mike lost his battle with an aggressive type of pancreatic cancer for which there was no known cure. We will miss his loyalty and dedication to the Town and the friendship he showed each of us. In his final six months with the Town, he taught us a lot about living and dying.

A memorial plaque and comments honoring Mike Warren were presented at the luncheon. Mike's

wife, two daughters and brother attended and all those family members remain in our thoughts and prayers.

TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

This area's strongest industry at the present time is the tourism industry and economic development seems to be based upon the creation of new commercial enterprises. With a major commercial shopping area planned for the former site of Dayco Manufacturing, there are serious needs for street improvements on South Main Street/U.S. 23 Business South in West Waynesville. For a decade, improvements to this section of State Highway have been the highest priority for the Town of Waynesville, but it has taken it many years to gain a place on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Now that this property is under contract and plans are being developed for this shopping center, the need for improvements to this road is even more pressing.



Russ Avenue (US 276 North) is the most heavily traveled road in Haywood County and the second busiest highway in Division 14. Traffic on this road on most days is a nightmare and traffic turning into various businesses along the road has resulted in the road carrying the highest accident rate in the town. The present volume of traffic exceeds 30,000 vehicles per day and there are projections that the volume could reach 45,000 vehicles per day by 2020. With the long delay in getting road projects onto the TIP, planning on traffic alternatives for this road must begin now.

GROWTH AND APPEARANCE

Growth in the community has many benefits in terms of new tax base and new utility customers and new jobs for citizens. But there are also negatives like increased traffic, the loss of more open space, stormwater runoff and greater erosion with silt reaching our creeks and water sources. If the growth is destined to take place, it seems that we have to make greater efforts to control the growth and development. This might mean more stringent development regulations and the introduction of planning and zoning or land use management at all levels of local government. Within the Town, there are many eyesores which detract from our appearance and could likely discourage residents, commercial enterprises and manufacturing firms from locating in our community. Some of these situations are in existence because of the lack of enforcement powers by the Town to deal with clean up. Other situations exist due to a lack of aggressive enforcement of State and/or local ordinances.

STREETS AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT

The Town of Waynesville Streets and Sanitation Department is located at 129 Legion Drive. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Some of the services include: pickup of residential garbage, bulky household items, yard waste and blue bag recyclables (items are picked up by separate trucks). Items must be out for pickup by 7:00 a.m. on pick up day, but no earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to pick up. Please do not mix items together and do not include animal or human waste in items for pickup. This department also maintains streets (including paving and snow removal), sidewalks and cemetery.

Additional information is available at www.townofwaynesville.org. The Public Works Department can be reached by calling 456-3706.



BAG LEAVES BEGINNING MID-JANUARY

Beginning January 13 and until next October, leaves must be placed in plastic bags for collection. After January, leaf pickup drops to a very low volume. The vacuum machine is removed from the truck, allowing the truck to be used for other purposes. Leaves will be vacuumed again beginning next October. **REMEMBER** - Do not burn leaves inside the corporate limits. When leaves are bagged do not mix residential garbage or recycling with the leaves.

It has been somewhat of a difficult year for the Town in the collection of leaves. You will recall that the leaves stayed green late into the fall in 2005. We planned to put two trucks out collecting leaves on October 17, but few leaves had fallen at that point. So we delayed the second truck for a few weeks. Then, in early November, it seemed like all the leaves fell at one time, and while we had two trucks collecting, we could have used four had we had four leaf machines on hand. We spent the rest of the month behind on collections and it was not until December that we began catching up. We apologize for any delays and inconvenience this caused the public.



We continue to see carpet left at the curb by residents or private businesses or contractors expecting the Town to collect it. The Town does not pick up carpet or any type of building materials, as this must be taken to the White Oak landfill for disposal. When residents purchase new carpet or contract for renovations on their home, they need to have the contractor include the cost of removing the carpet or construction materials from the site and disposing of those items in the proper manner. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter. We would also remind you that if you hire someone to trim or cut trees they are to remove the brush.

SIGNS

Signs require the issuance of a permit and must meet Waynesville's Sign Ordinance Regulations. Please contact Paul Benson or Byron Hickox to get your sign permit. The Town's Sign Ordinance is available at www.townofwaynesville.org. Click on Departments and Services, then Planning - Land Development Standards Article VII.



Please do not post signs, including yard sale, political, real estate, notices, posters, etc., on utility poles, public benches, trash receptacles, lampposts or any other public structure or building.

Are You Interested In Serving on One of Waynesville's Boards or Commissions?

The Town of Waynesville is looking for volunteers to serve on its boards and commissions to fill vacancies as they occur. If you are interested in serving your community and live within Waynesville's planning and zoning jurisdiction, please contact Town Clerk Phyllis McClure or

Deputy Town Clerk Freida Rhinehart
at 452-2491 or 456-2024. Or drop by
Town Hall to pick up an application.

MAYOR Henry B. Foy

ALDERMEN: Gavin Brown
Gary Caldwell
Elizabeth Feichter
Kenneth Moore

MANAGER A. Lee Galloway

TELEPHONE REFERENCE

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

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
No Blue bag pick up on Holidays - will
be picked up the following week

New Year's Day - Offices closed Jan.
2 (garbage pickup regular schedule)

Good Friday - Offices closed April 14.
(garbage pickup regular schedule)



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

MEETING SCHEDULES

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 St

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