
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE

www.townofwaynesville.org

VOL 4. NO. 2

APRIL 2007

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

PROGRESS WITH VISION

The Dayco project, to be known as Waynesville Commons, is now moving in a positive direction. The Walmart and Home Depot projects are scheduled for completion next spring. Our next concern for that area will be for NCDOT to make improvements to South Main Street starting at the Hyatt Creek Road intersection (US 23 Business). This has been our No. 1 request to them for over 10 years now, and it has finally made its way to their Transportation Improvement Plan. We will be doing all we can to expedite this project.

Those of you interested in our Watershed will be interested in participating in our first Watershed Appreciation Month. This will involve some interesting activities for public participation on three Saturdays of this month, the 14th, 21st, and 28th. Activities will include hikes led by our management team from Western Carolina University as well as nature and birdwatching hikes by Naturalist Don Hendershot. The history of Quinlaintown, a thriving little logging community at the turn of the 20th century and whose remnants are now buried beneath the watershed's lake, will be presented by Christie Fulcher. Christie is a graduate student at the university and has an exciting, photo-rich presentation on the history of this long-forgotten little settlement. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of these activities!!!

Town Manager Lee Galloway and Fred Baker have been negotiating with NCDOT to address the problem of making left turns when leaving business exitways on Russ Avenue. All parties agree to the danger of this situation and we are expecting their early assistance to provide some measures to stop it. The section of road near McDonalds will receive immediate attention. Improvement to Russ Avenue continues to be a high priority for the town.

There continues to be a great deal going on in the town and surprises, however small, do happen. Growth is steady, and we at Town Hall are making every effort to keep the town's infrastructure at least one step ahead. We can't stop growth; we can only try to be prepared for it.

The Waynesville Watershed property occupies approximately 8600 acres in the Allens Creek area of Haywood County, North Carolina. The Town of Waynesville began acquiring this property in 1913 for the purpose of creating a



reservoir that would supply the town with abundant, high quality water for residential and commercial needs and for flood control. Waynesville purchased the few remaining privately held parcels within the watershed between 1997 and 2002 at a cost of over \$1,350,000, using a \$500,000 grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, \$250,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, \$100,000 from the North Carolina Division of Water Resources, and more than \$500,000 from the town's water fund. There remains approximately 18 acres of private property along a distant ridge in the watershed, but those remain under a very strict conservation easement to prevent damage to the high quality of water collected in the watershed.

The current property boundary includes all of the non-federally owned land that drains into the reservoir plus approximately 570 acres along Rocky Branch Creek that drain into Allens Creek north of the reservoir (outside of the true watershed for the reservoir).

In 2005, the Town of Waynesville conveyed a working forest conservation easement on approximately 7,340 acres of the property. The working forest conservation easement does not include the 690 acres that were acquired with assistance from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF), or the 570 acres in Rocky Branch Creek sub-watershed. All forms of active management are precluded from the CWMTF tract, which is to remain in a forever wild state. There are no management restrictions on the Rocky Branch sub-watershed.

The working forest conservation easement was conveyed to forever prevent residential or commercial development within the watershed.

KNOW YOUR WATERSHED

The principle objective of the easement is to maintain high quality water resources on the property. Secondary objectives included: (1) The protection of natural heritage values; (2) The creation of opportunities for environmental education; (3) The protection of scenic vistas (primarily for visitors on the Blue Ridge Parkway); and (4) The protection of other conservation values by ensuring that the property will forever retain its predominantly natural, scenic, and forested condition, and that native animals, plants, and plant communities on the property will be protected. (5) The establishment and maintenance of productive forest resources for the generation of income for the Town of Waynesville, and to facilitate the economically sustainable production of forest resources in a manner that minimizes negative impacts and the duration of impacts on surface water quality, and scenic, educational and/or recreational benefits to the public, wildlife habitat, and other conservation values

In 2006, the Town of Waynesville entered into an agreement with Western Carolina University to develop a comprehensive forest management plan for the watershed. The plan is being developed by the Western Carolina Forest Sustainability Initiative (WCFSI), which is housed in the Natural Resources Management Program at WCU, though individuals are contributing to this plan representing a variety of universities and organizations. The plan is to be completed in the spring of 2008.

To learn more about the watershed attend April's Watershed Appreciation Month activities which include talks on the history of the watershed and walking tours on the property.

(From the Summary of Workshops to identify Sustainability Indicators for the Waynesville Watershed Final Report...full text available at www.townofwaynesville.org)

TAXI ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE JULY 1ST

On February 13, the Board of Aldermen adopted an ordinance to govern the operation of taxicab businesses within the Town. The ordinance applies to any company providing services that originate within the corporate limits of the Town, i.e. pick up fares within the Town even if the company is based outside the corporate limits. All taxicabs must be inspected at least once a year to receive the required certificate of public conveyance. This inspection will be conducted by the Waynesville Police Department to ensure that all state safety and equipment requirements are being met, and that the cab is kept in a clean and sanitary condition. The ordinance also requires that all taxicabs display a lighted sign, clearly display a rate card, and all drivers must provide passengers a receipt if asked. Existing companies will be notified of the new ordinance. For further information contact the Waynesville Police Department at 456-5363.



ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF HONORED

The Western North Carolina Association of Firefighters (WNCAFF) represents over 400 fire departments across western NC. The Association provides an opportunity for firefighters to meet and discuss issues concerning the fire service at the local and state level. Waynesville Assistant Fire Chief Joey Webb served as the President of the Association for 2006, during which time he participated in strategic planning training sessions for 25 different fire and rescue organizations across NC. The current President of the State Firemen's Association and the President of the NC Fire Chief's Association were elected to their positions from the Western Association, an unusual occurrence that speaks highly of the members of the WNCAFF. At a ceremony at the January meeting, the incoming Association President, Chief Pete Haithcock, of Franklin Fire and Rescue, presented Assistant Chief Webb with a plaque to commemorate his service as President of the WNCAFF.

FIRE STATION PROGRESS REPORT

During the fall and winter, the old motel and florist shop on the site were demolished, underground drainage installed and dirt compacted on top to assure a firm, stable subsurface. Thus far, for the purchase of the site, demolition and land preparation, and the architectural and engineering fees to date, the Town has expended roughly \$1,000,000.

Just prior to Christmas, bids were accepted on the construction of the fire station and the successful bidder was Construction Logic, Inc., of Hendersonville, NC. The financing for \$3,000,000 has been approved by the State Local Government Commission. A notice to proceed has been issued to the contractor and over the next 30 days we will see action begin on the installation of storm drainage and then the digging of building footers.

Construction Logic bid approximately \$2.3 million dollars for the construction of the fire station and the parking areas and site finishing. We hope that the fire department will have their new station up and running by March 2008.

Once the new fire station is completed and the fire department moves out of the present facility across from Town Hall, renovation and additions will begin on that existing facility. The building will be gutted and converted into a modern, state-of-the-art police department, giving our law enforcement officers the space they really need to

operate in a safe and efficient manner. In addition, there will be a Development Office, with the Public Works Director, Planning Director, Land Use Manager, Building Inspectors and Code Enforcement Office all in one location. Construction on those renovations and additions should begin in early 2008, with a likely completion date of Spring 2009. While that renovation is underway, the Police Department will need to relocate from their present facility, and the search is underway for a temporary location for the police department. An ideal structure would contain a minimum of 6,000 - 8,000 square feet and be available for approximately 15 months.

ADOPT-A-STREET UPDATE

Waynesville’s Adopt-A-Street program represents an ongoing effort to make our town a cleaner, more beautiful place to live and work. To date, sixty-three streets have been adopted, including 15 streets added during 2006.

Individuals, families, organizations and businesses interested in participating in this effort, please contact Freida Rhinehart at 356-1172.

THERE’S A NEW GUY ON THE STREET

It is Mr. Warren Putnam, the Town of Waynesville’s new Code Enforcement Officer. Warren previously worked in the Fire Department Inspections Division and is now enforcing safety/fire/building inspection codes throughout the Town. If you have questions or concerns, contact Mr. Putnam at 456-2010, ext. 2411 or wputnam@charter.net. His office is at Station II, 280 Georgia Avenue.



A U T O M A T I C BANK DRAFT

Utility bill payment is made easy with our automatic bank draft service. This free service saves you time and stamps and ensures that your bill is always paid on time. And even though your account is being drafted, you will still receive your monthly utility bill. If after receiving your bill, you feel there is a problem with the amount due, all you have to do is contact our office before the draft date to discuss the issue. Call Utilities for an enrollment form today!

SIGN UP FOR NC GREENPOWER

The goal of NC GreenPower is to supplement the State’s existing power supply with more green energy - electricity generated from renewable resources like the sun, wind and organic matter. A contribution of just \$4 per month adds one block of 100 kilowatt-hours of green energy to North Carolina’s power supply. For your convenience, you can add



a contribution to your monthly utility bill. To learn more about NC GreenPower contact utilities at 456-3515 or visit www.ncgreenpower.org.

**WATERSHED APPRECIATION MONTH
APRIL 2007**

The Town of Waynesville will hold its first Watershed Appreciation Month in April. Events include presentations, guided hikes and informational talks on such watershed topics as local history, water quality monitoring, forest conditions in the watershed, bird watching and more. All activities will take place at the Waynesville Water Treatment Plant, except for the Quinlaintown History Presentation, and Resource Assessment for Mountainside Development Discussion, both of which will be held at Town Hall.

Every activity is free and open to the public. For the guided hikes, all participants must be able to walk with group at a slow to moderate pace on the trail. Space for the guided hikes is limited, so please call Alison Melnikova at 456-2002 to reserve your space for the Saturday hikes.

Saturday, April 14th

9 - 11 am Water Quality Monitoring Talk & Hike

11:30 am-1:30 pm Forest Conditions in the Watershed Hike

Dr. Peter Bates & Dr. Jerry Miller of Western Carolina University will lead both hikes and discuss the current work being done on the development of the Waynesville watershed management plan.

2 - 4 pm Water Bugs and Water Quality

Why do we care what water bugs live in the streams? Sampling gear will be available and interested participants will go to Allens Creek below the dam to take samples of benthic macroinvertebrates, learn rudimentary taxonomy, and how to give an evaluation of water quality based on what's living in the stream. Presented by Haywood Waterways Association.

Saturday, April 21st - Come Celebrate Earth Day in Your Backyard!

9 - 11 am Birdwatching Hike

Join Naturalist Don Hendershot as we look for Neotropical migrants returning to their nesting grounds. Blue-headed vireos, black-and-white warblers, black-throated green warblers and many more should be arriving by mid April. Plus there may be some lingering waterfowl on the impoundment.

11 am - 11:30 am Haywood Waterways Association

A presentation on the group, its projects, and the importance of community involvement. The Haywood Waterways Association (HWA) is a nonprofit association dedicated to maintaining and improving the water quality of the Pigeon River. Its focus is reducing non-point pollution in the Pigeon River Watershed through the development of voluntary initiatives.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Nature Hike

Join Naturalist Don Hendershot for a general walking tour of the watershed. Many spring ephemerals will be in bloom including spring beauty, various violets, bloodroot, bellwort, trilliums and more. We could get some early butterflies and we will turn a few stones in streams for salamanders.

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm Quinlantown History Talk (Town Hall)

Christie Fulcher, a graduate student at WCU, will give a photo-rich presentation on the history of Quinlantown. "A little over a hundred years ago, the Quinlan-Monroe Lumber Company contracted with Haywood Mining and Lumber (and later Champion Fibre Company) to extract timber for board lumber, pulp and acid wood. The need for numerous workers to quickly remove the timber gave rise to a small logging camp called Quinlantown at the confluence of Bald and Allen Creeks. All of this significantly influenced the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the watershed."

Saturday, April 28th

9:00 - 11:00 am Birdwatching Hike

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Nature Hike

2:30 - 4:30 pm Resource Assessment for Mountainside Development (Town Hall)

Gordon Small, a member of the Haywood Waterways Association Board of Directors, will give this presentation. The Resource Assessment for Mountainside Development is an important initiative to protect the headwaters of our watersheds and thus protect water quality downstream and human life. It has received a lot of attention lately and this presentation is not to be missed.

For further information contact Alison Melnikova, Assistant to the Town Manager at 456-2002 or Eric Romaniszyn, Haywood Waterways Association Project Manager at 452-9077.

WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT A LITTLE WATER?



Stormwater run-off is the new hot topic when it comes to pollution control. Stormwater is the water that runs off streets, parking lots, rooftops, and other hard surfaces whenever it rains. Storm drains or ditches carry run-off directly to nearby streams, without passing through a water treatment plant.

Stormwater is a problem because it carries pollutants from the surrounding landscape into our waterways. These pollutants impact the ecology of local streams, resulting in degraded habitat and poor water quality. Toxins affect both water quality and the streambed, because they can accumulate in sediment. Toxins come from metals, salts, oil, etc., from roads and parking lots; from pesticides and other farm or garden chemicals; and from grease, soap, cleansers, solvents, paint and other chemicals that may get dumped into a storm drain or simply out the back door.



The most prevalent pollutant in Western North Carolina is sediment. Sediment comes from unpaved roads and road banks, and from disturbed land. Anywhere vegetation has been cleared, such as a construction site or an area prepped for landscaping, that area becomes vulnerable to erosion. Dirt washing off of disturbed sites into streams buries the rocky bottom of the streambed. This smothers fish eggs, larvae and bugs and eliminates hiding places (protection). A sandy, silty stream bottom is poor habitat. In addition, when stream banks are cleared of vegetation, the banks themselves

erode, depositing soil into the stream and becoming steep and sheer. This is also considered poor habitat.

You can help reduce non-point-source pollution by reducing the sources of the pollutants that are carried by run-off:

- Never dump anything down a storm drain.
- Never dump liquid (or solid) waste onto the pavement.
- Make sure your car doesn't drip pollutants onto the pavement
- do regular auto maintenance.
- Use fertilizers and other garden products sparingly, and never when rain is predicted.
- Scoop up after your pet.
- Fence livestock out of streams.
- Make sure all household drainage (washing machines, toilets, sinks, bathtubs) are connected to a sewer system or a septic tank, and NOT the storm drain pipe or directly to a stream or ditch.
- Inspect and maintain septic systems regularly.

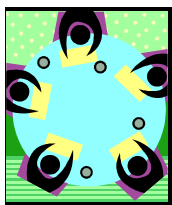
Little changes in habits can make all the difference for healthy streams and our quality of life.

ANNUAL BOARD RETREAT

The Town of Waynesville Mayor, Board of Aldermen and Town Staff attended their annual retreat on Friday, February 23, 2007, at the Lake Logan Conference Center. Highlights from the retreat included:

Property Appearance Issues - Code Administrator Jason Rogers addressed enforcement issues. Several non-complying properties have been identified, property owners were notified by mail and some have complied. Proposed changes were discussed regarding the Junk Vehicle Ordinance.

Master Plan for Central Business District - Main Street Director Ron Huelster noted that growth pressures on Main Street have increased business turnover, pushed small businesses out of downtown and "paved the way for chain development". He encouraged the Town to "go to the next level" beyond the Land Development Standards adopted in 2003 by supporting an Urban Design Plan



for the Comprehensive Business District.

Financial Issues - Finance Director Eddie Caldwell reviewed the Fire Station budget, noting that the Town had closed on its \$3 million loan for the new fire station.

Personnel Needs - Town Manager Galloway reviewed current and anticipated staffing needs. The Town may need to hire additional inspectors on a part-time basis in the future.

The Public Works Department has experienced additional demands spending time separating green clippings from trash that cannot be buried. When the mowing season begins and with the surge in building permits it may be necessary to hire two additional employees in the street department. Additional water and sewer personnel may be needed with new lines and asset management recommendations. (Note - there has been a 10% growth in customers each year)

The Police Department will request additional dispatchers this year. Fire employees help out now, but won't be able to when the department relocates to North Main Street.

Vacancies in the water, sewer and public works (electricians especially) are remaining open and it is a challenge to hire qualified applicants. In order to remain competitive and retain workers, the Town will need to raise pay and look at longevity.

Recreation - Director Rhett Langston reviewed past, present and future changes in parks and recreation. This department began offering more classes, increasing capacity for the senior program, offering home school physical education, a five kilometer road race in cooperation with Folkmoot, grammar and middle school dances, held a retreat, offered mini-field trips, etc. Future plans include expanding the disk golf course to 18 holes, reopening concession stands, cross training department aids, instituting uniforms for staff and posting signs to indicate activities.

ABC Store - The Town Board authorized the ABC Board to begin investigating a permanent location for a future store.

Planning and Zoning Issues - A discussion was held regarding the annexation boundary agreement with Maggie Valley and the proposed Extraterritorial Jurisdiction expansion.

Electric Rates/Fuel Adjustment Charges - Town rates are still on average five percent lower than Progress Energy's. A rate increase may be needed if the Town decides to build another sub station.

Water & Sewer Rates/Projects - Fred Baker recommended that tap fees be increased \$250 to recover increased costs. He also addressed impact fees recommended in the McGill Water and Sewer Asset Management Manual.

Police Overview - Chief Bill Hollingsed highlighted his department's accomplishments, including a MADD Award for DWI arrests and successful prosecution, DRE certification, SWAT Range Improvements, technology and equipment donations, a successful fund raiser, improved firing range and lodge upgrade. The League is assisting the department with designing both a fitness and wellness program.

Gary Caldwell
Elizabeth Feichter
Kenneth Moore

MANAGER A. Lee Galloway

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Good Friday - Offices closed Friday, April 6. Garbage pickup will be on a regular schedule.

Memorial Day - Offices closed Monday, May 28. Garbage pickup will be on a regular schedule.

Independence Day - Offices closed Wednesday, July 4 (no garbage pickup). Garbage will be picked up on July 3.



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

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

Public Art Commission
2nd Thursdays 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.

Call 452-2491 for information or visit www.townofwaynesville.org for an application if interested in serving on Waynesville's boards or commissions.

TELEPHONE REFERENCE

Police Administration	456-5363
Fire Administration	456-6151
Building Inspections	456-8647

MEETING SCHEDULES