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# TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE



[www.townofwaynesville.org](http://www.townofwaynesville.org)

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VOL. 7 NO. 3

*Town of Waynesville - Incorporated 1871*

JULY 2010

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## *Message from the Mayor*

### **2010-2011 Budget**

The 2010-2011 Budget Season has drawn to a close and it was certainly a challenge for your elected officials and the employees of the Town. In North Carolina Local Governments the fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year. The national economy took a tremendous drop in September 2008 and for several months thereafter, and it has been in a stagnant state ever since. While there are signs of some growth and recovery, the situation with our local budget remains uncertain and unpredictable. The greatest challenge we have had is the decline in revenues from a number of important sources.

In the budget presented to the Town Board, the Manager selected eleven of the largest revenue sources of the General Fund. The General Fund includes Police, Fire, Streets & Sanitation, Recreation, Finance and Administration. Of these eleven, the revenues in 2007-2008 were \$9,221,600, while the revenues for 2010-2011 are projected at \$8,802,860. In three years, the revenues from these eleven sources declined by \$418,740 or 4.5% of the General Fund Budget. When the revenues are going down and the expenses are going up, finding a way to make the budget work becomes extremely difficult.

While more revenues are needed to meet the higher cost of providing services, the Town Board and Management did not want to raise taxes to cover these costs. But reductions were necessary in some areas so that we could continue to operate in a sound manner. After eliminating five positions in the 2009-2010 budget, we cut out four more positions from the 2010-2011 budget. In a municipal budget, personnel costs for wages and fringe benefits are a very large portion of the total. When cuts

have to be made, you look to the largest share of the total, so we eliminated some jobs to offset new costs. We were fortunate that all eliminated positions were vacant. The Town Board has worked hard to assure that adequate equipment was on hand for our employees, and we do not want to regress to a time when we had second hand, worn out equipment. So in the 2010-2011 budget, we tried to maintain our capital expenditures and rotate out older, deteriorated equipment.

In 2007, the Town Board received a report that the condition of the water and sewer system and treatment plants were such that by 2030, more than \$31 million in improvements would be necessary to replace aging and deteriorated portions of the system. We have been fortunate to receive several grants to assist with the reconstruction of the system, but we must also put local money into these improvements. In the 2010-2011 budget, water rates and pump fees are set

to increase by 5% with virtually all of that increase going into system upgrades. There will be no increases in sewer rates for the coming year.

Another increase that was approved in the 2010-2011 budget will take the monthly residential garbage rate from \$5.50 to \$6.50. The Haywood County Commissioners have indicated that they are evaluating every phase of the solid waste program. They have voted to privatize the convenience centers, alleging it will save the county \$145,000 annually, and they voted to shut down the "pick line" where recyclables are sorted, deciding to haul blue bags collected out of the county for sorting.

The County Commissioners have also discussed closing the transfer station at Jones Cove Road and requiring that the towns and private waste companies haul garbage to the White Oak Landfill.



Apparently though, that cannot be done in less than a year, so if it does come about, it would be in the 2011-2012 budget. The closure of the transfer station will add 32 miles to the route each time a garbage truck must drive to White Oak to empty. For all of our trucks collecting garbage to drive to White Oak to empty, the increased costs will be around \$200,000 annually. If our trucks collecting old furniture and junk must make that trip, the cost will increase another \$150,000 annually. These costs would have to be passed along to the residents and businesses of the Town.

During the next several months, the Town will be evaluating all of the options available in terms of disposal of garbage. It is a very expensive operation and some changes may be needed to make it more affordable. We will provide updates as the year progresses.

Gavin A. Brown, Mayor

### Upcoming Events

- July 3 "Stars & Stripes Celebration"
- July 9, 23 & Aug. 6 "Mountain Street Dances"
- July 23 "Folkmoor USA Parade"
- July 31 "International Festival Day"

#### Reminder -

***Animals are not allowed at Town events***

All downtown events are FREE  
For more information call Downtown Waynesville Association at 456-3517 or visit [www.downtownwaynesville.com](http://www.downtownwaynesville.com)

### Sarge's Downtown Dog Walk - August 7

Sarge's Animal Rescue Foundation will hold their 5th Annual Downtown Dog Walk on Saturday, August 7. Registration will begin at 9:15 a.m. on the Haywood County Court House lawn and the walk will begin at 10:00 a.m. Following the walk, contests will be held for the dogs and their owners. Dog Walk sponsors will have tents and tables set up. Sarge's asks for your help in supporting this fundraising effort to further their mission efforts to save as many animals as possible from euthanasia.

For more info, visit [www.sargeandfriends.org](http://www.sargeandfriends.org).



### Waynesville Receives Grants for Water Work

In the past 18 months, the Town of Waynesville has been very fortunate to receive a number of grants and low interest loans for improvements on the water system.

This has and will continue to cause some traffic disruption and blocked streets along with some pavement cuts, asphalt patching and some disruption to water service at times. We apologize for the inconveniences to our residents and visitors, but we are enthusiastic to get some help meeting the rehabilitation costs of the water system.

The Town received a \$1,000,000 grant from the State of North Carolina for the installation of a new water system, two tanks and two pump stations in the Eagles Nest development at the end of Eagles Nest Road. The homeowners of that development contributed \$300,000 toward the expense of the project. By July 1, we expect all 34 homes in Eagles Nest development to be connected to the new lines, and the entire system will be owned and operated by the Town.

The Town applied for \$904,000 in federal funding under the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for the reconstruction of various undersized and deteriorated water lines. One of the main lines to be replaced is a 6-inch concrete asbestos water line extending from Russ Avenue along Dayton Drive behind Ammons Drive-in, then along U. S. Route 19 until crossing under the road and extending to Gateway Street. In addition, a long section of 2-inch water line on Mauney Cove Road is being replaced with an 8-inch line. There will also be replacement of approximately 7,000 feet of different sized water lines in various areas of town. The water maintenance department identified those sections of line in the worst condition, normally old galvanized pipe that had numerous leaks or had flow problems from mineral deposits in the lines. The final portion of this grant will allow the purchase of about 1,000 water meters, many of which will be remote read meters, with consumption measured by a computer in a truck driving by a home or business.

In May, the Town received a grant of \$213,000 from the North Carolina Rural Center for extending the new 8-inch water line from Gateway Street to the new pump station constructed along Route 19 near Queens Farm by the Maggie Valley Sani-



tation District. Once this is completed, the Town of Waynesville will be able to provide water to the customers of the Maggie Valley Sanitary District in times of drought.

The volume and quality of water supplied customers should be much better as a result of these projects.

## Information Available for Seniors

If you are interested in finding information concerning Senior Discounts, Safelink Wireless, services for seniors, public transportation, help for caregivers, or a directory of services available for seniors, go to [www.haywoodconnections.org](http://www.haywoodconnections.org). Seniors who live in Waynesville may also call Evelyn at 646-0982 or Sandy at 734-5393 for any senior related information. Watch for the Waynesville team brochure in local businesses.

## Senior Trip to Dillard House and Whistle Stop Antique Mall

The Waynesville Parks and Recreation Department will offer a trip for seniors age 50 and above to the Dillard House and the Whistle Stop Antique Mall on Thursday, July 8, leaving the Recreation Center at 10 a.m. and returning at 5 p.m.

The trip will include lunch at the Dillard House and a stop at the Whistle Stop Antique Mall for a few hours. There will also be a stop at the Chocolate Shop so bring some extra spending money. The cost for lunch and transportation is \$23 for members and \$25 for non-members.

To register or for more information call 456-2030 or email [recprograms@townofwaynesville.org](mailto:recprograms@townofwaynesville.org).

## Fans Available for Seniors

A donation was made to Mountain Projects, Inc., from the Town of Waynesville Electric Department to purchase fans for the elderly, 60 years of age and older. The recipients of the fans MUST be Town of Waynesville electric customers and bring a current bill as proof. Fans may be picked up at Mountain Projects, Inc., Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. A limited number of fans remain and will be distributed on a first come first serve basis.



## THANK YOU from Maintenance Departments

Thank you for your patience as town crews work to improve services to Waynesville residents. Be on the lookout for these workers so we can make safety a priority!



## Please Do Not Place Signs on Utility Poles or Street Signs!

## Call Before You Dig

State law requires excavators to call the North Carolina One Call Center (NC One Call) at 811 at least two working days (excluding weekends and holidays) before beginning any excavation work. When an excavator's locate request is received by NC One Call, Utilities have two working days from 12:01 a.m. of the next business day to mark their underground facilities. For example, if you want to dig on Thursday, you should submit your locate request to NC One Call on Monday. Locate markings are valid for 15 business days starting on the day you call in the locate request. If you accidentally hit a natural gas pipeline call PSNC Energy immediately at 1-877-776-2427 or call 911.



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

## Finance Department to Move to Hazelwood in August

Work has begun on the renovation of the Hazelwood Office. The interior of the building is being refreshed, and a second drive-thru lane will be added. In August, this building will become the home of the entire





Finance Department, which includes utilities and taxes: Finance Director, Assistant Finance Director, Accounts Payable and Receivables staff and the Tax Collector. If you have questions regarding a utility or tax bill or need to make a payment in person, Hazelwood will be the convenient one-stop location beginning August 2010. In addition to a second drive-thru lane, there will be a 24-hour drop box, computer kiosk in the lobby for online payments, and a staffed payment counter.

**Changes downtown -** The move to the Hazelwood Office will allow the closure of the payment office at the downtown Municipal Building (old Town Hall). On Main Street, a dropbox will remain, and a computer kiosk will be in the lobby for online payments via credit card or electronic check. However, there will be no finance department personnel to accept a payment in the Municipal Building. The ramp associated with the drive-thru window will be removed and replaced by landscaping and additional parking.

During this time, you might consider the various convenient alternatives for bill payments - regular mail, online payment with credit card or electronic check or automatic bank draft. Call 456-3515 for more information.

## **Skatepark Design Continues**

Spohn Ranch has continued to lead interested citizens in the design process for a skatepark. At the time of this printing, the designer is incorporating citizen input into a final design, which will be presented to the Board of Aldermen for review. The design process should be finalized by September, allowing the skateboarding community to work with parents, interested citizens, and town staff in fundraising to make the construction of the skatepark a reality! Once the design is finalized, a cost estimate will be developed to aid with fundraising. To date, the Recreation Department has secured \$81,000 in grant funds for the project, in addition to the \$40,000 already available for the project. If you are interested in helping, please contact Rhett Langston at 456-2030.



## **Artist Selected for Mini-Park Railing**

The citizens on the Public Art Commission had a difficult choice this April. They had to select the artist to create the decorative railing for the downtown mini-park. 23 artists applied, and the three finalists who presented their concepts in late March were all quite strong. Ultimately Ben Kastner and Richard Coley, the co-owners of Intracoastal Iron, based in Wilmington, NC were selected. Both artists began as underwater welders on oil rigs, and later spent years in apprenticeship learning blacksmithing and design techniques. Their experience and craftsmanship, combined with the artistry exhibited in the work samples and design proposal will make for an enduring and exciting work of art in downtown Waynesville.



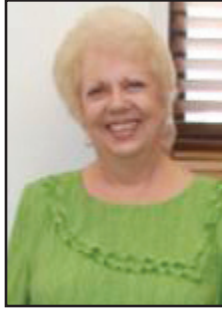
The strong contemporary proposal from Intracoastal Ironworks includes layered mountains, handcrafted trees, a recognizable Waynesville church steeple, and in honor of the designation of the Great Smoky Mountains as the "Salamander Capital of the World," three salamanders. Installation and a dedication ceremony are planned for September 1st.

The \$20,000 commission will be raised from private individuals, area businesses, and a grant from the Haywood County Tourism Development Authority. A fundraiser was held June 24th at HART Theater, and the "Salamander Capital of the World" theme continued with an art auction of more than twenty custom works of art - paintings, jewelry, pottery, quilted wall art and metal - all of which featured the evening's theme of the salamander. Fundraising is continuing, and all donations, large and small, are welcome.

For more information, please call 452-2491 or visit the town website.

## Planning Department Retirement

On July 1st, Freida Rhinehart retired from her position as Deputy Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant in the Planning Department. A Town employee for 10 years, Freida began as an Administrative Assistant in Administration. She transferred to the Planning Department in 2006 where she was the helpful welcoming face that greeted citizens, and assisted the Planning Department staff, Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, and Community Appearance Commission. We hope Freida has a long and enjoyable retirement.



## New D.A.R.E. Vehicle in Town



The Waynesville Police Department recently acquired a new Chevrolet Camaro for D.A.R.E. Officer Tyler Howell. D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) is a police officer-led series of classroom

lessons that teaches children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives. The vehicle is considered a critical tool in acquiring the attention of children and helping to establish a positive rapport with them. Despite tough budget times, the vehicle purchase was made possible thanks to a JAG Grant, substance abuse funds, and generous community support along with favorable pricing from Anderson Chevrolet-Buick, Waynesville.

## Help the Fire Department Protect Your Property

The Waynesville Fire Department offers business and home owners a new way to ensure fast and secure emergency access. The Knox-Box system consists of a secure key box, vault, or cabinet which holds building entrance keys, electronic access cards and vital emergency information. The box is purchased by the property owner, and in consultation with the fire department, it is mounted near the building entrance or property gate. Firefighters are then able to use a unique high security Knox Master Key to open the box during an emergency. The Master Key is actually secure in its own box, which requires a unique PIN code to access, ensuring the key remains secure.



For more information on the Knox-Box program, call 456-8646.

## Yard Waste and Bulky Items Pickup Schedule

The pickup schedule is printed below for the months of July, August, and September for bulky items (junk) and 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 regarding pickup please call 456-3706, Monday through Friday, 7 am - 4 pm.

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

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

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

**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](http://www.downtownwaynesville.com)**MEETING SCHEDULES****Board of Aldermen**

2nd &amp; 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 5:30 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.

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

*Independence Day* - Offices closed July 5 (garbage pick up on July 6 for both days)

*Labor Day* - Offices closed September 6 (garbage pick up on September 7 for both days)

**HAVE A SAFE AND  
ENJOYABLE SUMMER**

**Weather too hot? View photos from this past winter  
by Ed Kelley at [ed@theridgerunner.com](mailto:ed@theridgerunner.com)**

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