Important Information on Upcoming Meetings

Due to the COVID-19 mass gatherings and social distancing guidelines, the following meetings will be available to the public via phone call or online participation only. Public comments may be submitted prior to the meeting time by email to the Town Clerk at kwells@burgawnc.gov. Public Forum will be conducted as usual during the regular meeting and comments will be taken verbally on the phone or online during that time. To join the meetings, please follow the phone number or link listed below. For questions regarding remote meetings, contact the Town Clerk at kwells@burgawnc.gov or 910-663-3441.

Board of Commissioner Special Meeting: May 12 at 12:00 PM
The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the FY 2020-2021 municipal budget. All interested parties are invited to attend by phone at 1.857.444.6500 (enter ID 627-922-434 #) or online at join.me/627-922-434.

Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting: May 12 at 4:00 PM
All interested parties are invited to attend by phone at 1.857.444.6500 (enter ID 320-646-692 #) or online at join.me/320-646-692.

A Message from the Town Manager

Governor Roy Cooper has issued Executive Order 138 which is classified as “Phase 1” of the reopening of North Carolina. This executive order will go into effect at 5:00 PM on Friday, May 8, 2020 and is currently scheduled to expire at 5:00 PM on Friday, May 22, 2020 unless changed or extended by the Governor. While the “Stay-at-Home” order is still in place, this executive order does allow for additional businesses to reopen. For more information and to view some frequently asked questions, visit our website at https://burgawnc.gov/COVID19.

With all the news about the COVID-19 pandemic, many people have forgotten this year is a census year. It is extremely important to our community that everyone participate in the census. As of Friday, May 8, 2020, only 44.7% of Burgaw residents have responded and 48% of the total residents of Pender County. It’s simple and only takes a few minutes to complete, just visit https://2020census.gov/ or call (844) 330-2020.

A message to all residents and business owners:

Due to the virus, GFL garbage truck drivers will only be picking up what is bagged and tied. Loose garbage placed beside the cart will not be picked up.
**Our Town Weekly Update**

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- Green team has been busy mowing around town including parks, town buildings and Public Works facilities. They also fertilized the trees along the railroad right-of-way.
- Our crew started jetting hot spots this week. These are areas around town that are known problem spots for sewer back-ups. By jetting monthly we hope to prevent back-ups before they occur in Town and along our line to Wallace.
- We replaced several boards on the handicap ramp at the Train Depot that were starting to rot.

Recently, our Public Works crews had to clear our pump on Chubb Road that services the sewer line to Wallace. The pump was clogged due to excessive wipes. We would like to remind everyone these wipes should not be flushed. They do not break down like normal toilet paper and can cause clogs.

**Burgaw Police Department’s K9 Kane to get donation of body armor**

Burgaw Police Department’s K9 Kane will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Kane’s vest is sponsored by Don and Misty Fike of Galesburg, IL and will be embroidered with the sentiment “Honoring those who served and sacrificed”. Delivery is expected within eight to ten weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. The non-profit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four-legged K9 officers. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided over 3,830 U.S. made, custom fitted, NIJ certified protective vests, in 50 states, through private and corporate donations, at a value of $6.9 million dollars.

The program is open to dogs actively employed in the U.S. with law enforcement or related agencies who are certified and at least 20 months of age. New K9 graduates, as well as K9s with expired vests, are eligible to participate.

The donation to provide one protective vest for a law enforcement K9 is $960.00. Each vest has a value between $1,744 – $2,283 and a five-year warranty, and an average weight of 4.5 lbs.

There is an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States. For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts tax-deductible donations of any denomination at www.vik9s.org or mailed to P.O. Box 9 East Taunton, MA 02718.
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- We worked this week to order new trail signs along the Osgood Canal & Urban Trail. The new signs should be available next week and will replace the existing mile marker signs that have become dated or broken over the years. We will work to phase out all the signs that have become dated over the years as the new budget year approaches. While walking the trail, please contact the Parks & Recreation department if you notice broken or damaged signs.

- The Parks & Recreation also held our first Virtual Bingo Night on Thursday May 7th. The event was held via Join Me and had around 30 participants. $200 dollars’ worth of gift cards were given away including a Ivey Hayes Train Depot Print. We would like to thank everyone that is participating in these virtual events and hope to be back to normal soon.

- The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met virtually on Monday May 4th to discuss the future of our department and what we will aim to achieve as we move forward in 2020. Some great discussion was held on capital improvements, budgeting, and special events. A number of activities are scheduled for 2020 and our board hopes that all can come out to participate as the current circumstances improve. We also encourage all residents to attend our meetings as community input is key to a successful Parks & Recreation program. Our next scheduled meeting is July 20, 2020, location TBD.

- The new swing for the pocket park on South Wright Street was completed this week by Bench Wood Works on Hwy 53. Special thanks to Tony Moore for working with us to build these custom benches and swing that will add to the appeal of our Town.

Warm weather is just around the corner!
Planning to fill your POOL soon?
Contact us prior to filling your pool so that we get an accurate meter reading before and after the pool fill. An adjustment can be made to your sewer portion of your utility bill if accurate readings are on file.
Call us first!
910-663-3445

INGREDIENTS:
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup fresh lemon juice
- 6 cups water
- Ice

DIRECTIONS:
1. Add the sugar and 1 cup water to a pan and bring to a boil, stirring to help dissolve the sugar. Cool 15 minutes.
2. Add the sugar water, lemon juice, 6 cups water, and ice to a pitcher.
3. Mix to combine and serve.

Add a fun flavor!
Raspberry Lemonade
Add 2 cups fresh raspberries
Cucumber Lemonade
Add 1 peeled and sliced cucumber
Lavender Lemonade
Add 2 tablespoons edible dried lavender

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”
-Coretta Scott King
Burgaw residents prepared for weeks for an event to be remembered by all. The sky was dark and looming the morning of Wednesday July 4, 1883. People from all around New Hanover and Pender Counties came to Burgaw for a celebration. The crowd was estimated to be 1,500 to 2,000 people. A procession formed and the citizens of Pender and surrounding counties, officers of the Town of Burgaw and Pender County, along with many others marched to the proposed site for the Pender County Courthouse. A cornerstone was laid by H.H. Munson, a citizen of Burgaw. The cornerstone contained items such as the Act creating the county of Pender, the Act creating the county site and permanent seat of justice of Pender County, the Act incorporating the Town of Burgaw, a list of hotels and attorneys, the County Seal, names of the builders, a $500 Confederate note, one German Mark, German money from 1768, and one coin each of England, Italy, Prussia, Norway, Russia, Nova Scotia, Sweden, Denmark, France and Belgium. It also contained a new issue US 5 cent piece, a copy of The Morning Star newspaper from July 4th, 1883, a Webster’s elementary spelling book, and other various newspapers and items. Following the placement of the cornerstone, the address was given by F.H. Busbee of Raleigh. In his address, he talked about important historical matters, the division of New Hanover and the formation of Pender County. As Busbee reached the conclusion of his speech, the sky opened and heavy rain fell across the area. A feast followed the ceremony. Preparations had been made in anticipation of feeding 4,000 to 5,000 people, but it was believed the crowd was less so to the weather. The day concluded with a grand ball at the Academy (the first school in Burgaw).

The courthouse was a 76 x 44 brick building with the courtroom having a 19 foot pitch. A tower was built on the front of the building that raised 36 feet above the roof. Vaults were built within the building for the Superior Court Clerk and the Register of Deeds. The courthouse was built for $9,856.00 (which is $274,800 by today’s value). The first court was held on December 17, 1883 and remained in action until the present day courthouse was constructed in 1936. To date, it is unknown what happened to the cornerstone and the items placed in the time capsule.

The inscriptions on the cornerstone were as follows: On the east the words

July 4, 1883
A. L. 5883
Pender Court House.
On the south the Scales of Justice and the words
Fiat Justitia Ruat Celum.

Above Photos Courtesy of the Pender County Public Library Digital Archive

Interested in the history of your town?
We have the perfect activity for you and your family to enjoy on a sunny day. Stop by Town Hall to pick up a copy of our Historical Downtown Burgaw Self-Guided Walking Tour and enjoy a stroll through our beautiful town!
Reminders from our Public Works Department

Yard Debris & Bulky Household Items

Public Works picks up yard debris & bulky household items throughout the week excluding holidays, weather permitting. We use a grapple truck with a claw to pick up items. Please keep your piles separated to make it easier for us to pick-up.

Mixed waste will not be picked up! If you have both white goods and yard debris please make two separate piles.

Yard Debris and/or Construction and Demolition (C&D) generated by an individual that was paid to do a service (contractor or otherwise) will not be picked up, it is their responsibility to dispose of the debris they generate.

For more information or questions, please visit our website or call 259-2901.

Mosquito Spraying

The weather is getting warmer and the mosquitos are starting to come around. We would like to remind our residents if you have beehives in the town limits, please let us know so we can keep your hives away from the mosquito spraying chemicals.

Call or email your name, address, and phone number to cabbood@burgawnc.gov so we can add your address to the ‘no-spray’ areas.

For questions or concerns, please call 259-2901.

Receive EMERGENCY ALERTS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION on the go with CodeRED!

Receive critical notifications from the town:
- Severe Weather Alerts
- Boil Advisory Alerts
- Missing Persons
- Road Closures
- Other Important Town Information

Sign-up to receive alerts by text, call, and/or email today!

Visit BurgawNC.gov
MEETING CANCELLATION NOTICE

The regular Planning & Zoning Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 5:30 PM has been canceled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 18, 2020.

Don’t Forget to Press the Button

Safety is a top priority for the town. The Rapid Flashing Beacons were installed to assist our residents with crossing our streets safely.

We would like to remind our pedestrians and bikers to press the button before crossing the street. As always, please remember to look for traffic before crossing.

EVENT CANCELLATION NOTICES

These events have been canceled due to COVID-19

2020 NORTH CAROLINA BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL

2020 SUMMER on the SQUARE Concert Series

We look forward to everyone joining us for these events in summer 2021!

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Stay IN THE KNOW

We encourage everyone to enroll with “Notify Me” on our website to receive the weekly newsletter directly to your email and/or via text message. There are also options for enrolling to receive emergency notifications or when special events are added to our online calendar. For assistance, please contact the Town Clerk at 910-663-3441 or email kwells@burgawnc.gov.

Visit our website at BurgawNC.gov