NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS WHO MAKE ONLINE PAYMENTS

Please note that if you make your utility payment online AND have a six digit WIPP pin number, you will now need to drop the last two digits of the number in order to process the payment online. The system only recognizes the first four numbers of the WIPP pin number. We apologize for any inconvenience, but this is necessary for third party billing. Thank you for your cooperation.

For questions or concerns, please call our Customer Service Representative at 663-3445.

Public Hearings Scheduled

The following public hearings will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 5:30 PM (or thereabout) during the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting at the Historic Train Depot, located at 115 S. Dickerson Street in Burgaw, NC. All interested parties are invited to attend, written and oral comments are welcome.

**Public Hearing #1** Consideration of Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments recommended by the Planning Board on July 16, 2020 clarifying mixed use buildings downtown; defining mixed use and adding standards to enable the occasional residential unit downstairs in the B-1 Zoning District: Section 6-2: Definitions of Basic Terms; Section 16-13: Standards for Construction or Expansion in B-1 District.

**Public Hearing #2** Consideration of Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments recommended by the Planning Board on August 20, 2020 amending Section 2-2(8) Planning Board Rules of Conduct subsection (a) adding following Robert’s Rules of Order when necessary and re-lettering the subsection.
Police Department

- Sergeant Williams attended RADAR training this week. RADAR is the child forensic interviewing model utilized in investigations. This is a difficult class to attend and complete. Thank you to Cape Fear Community College Law Enforcement Continuing Education Department for bringing the training to our area and sponsoring it (no fee for LE officers).

- The PD attended the Zoom conference call with the Mt. Calvary Center for Leadership Development. The center has initiated a Regional Social Justice Task-force to develop strategies to address immediate and ominous concerns of many communities. There are representative from religious, political, business, education, law enforcement, and citizens.

Stay safe and participate in the 9 PM Routine

The Burgaw Police Department would like all citizens to take a little extra time every evening to help deter criminal activities around town. Call family and friends and ask them to join you by participating in the “9 PM Routine.” We encourage everyone to make it a habit to do the following actions each evening:

1. Turn on outside lights,
2. Ensure your windows and doors are closed and locked,
3. Close and secure garage and/or shed doors,
4. Remove any valuables from your vehicles and make sure they are locked, and
5. Report any suspicious activities or vehicles.

R U Okay Program offered by Burgaw Police Department

We would like to remind the Town of Burgaw residents and family members of the RU Okay? program established by the Burgaw Police Department. The program calls individuals weekly to check their safety and security. The program is open to Burgaw residents who are elderly, shut ins, or just could use someone to check in on them throughout the week. Those individuals are also notified during inclement weather conditions such as hurricanes or ice storms of safety concerns.

If you or a family member are interested in being added to the program, please contact the Burgaw Police Department at 910-259-4924.

SUMMER STORMS AND HURRICANE SEASON ARE HERE. SIGN UP TODAY TO RECEIVE WEATHER ALERTS!

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
Public Works Department

- On Monday John, Robert and Ben H checked and jetted hot spots around town. These are known areas where back-ups can occur and are routinely checked and cleaned to ensure the system functions optimally.
- Green team this week focused on mowing the train depot, town signs, wells, lift stations and cleaning storm drains.
- Ben P and Efrain worked on cleaning ditches of storm debris Tuesday.
- John, Robert and Ben H repaired a cleanout on West Williams Street. They also used the camera to check the storm drain on Bridgers Street.
- Wednesday was street patching day. A reminder that you can report potholes using the form found on our website! If you go to the Public Works Department page, click streets and drainage and it will be on main ‘Streets and Drainage’ page.
- Public Works would like to welcome Efrain Cruz to our team! We hope everyone gives him a warm Burgaw welcome.

REMINDER TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF BURGAW REGARDING CURBSIDE VEGETATIVE DEBRIS COLLECTION

Please be advised of these requirements prior to placing vegetative debris at the street for pickup.

- The Town does not pick up vegetative debris generated by contractors for non-residential and multi-family development customers.
- Do not mix vegetative debris with other materials.
- Do not place vegetative debris in the street. All debris must be a minimum of two feet from the edge of pavement.
- Do not place vegetative debris in front of a fire hydrant.
- Do not place vegetative debris within twenty feet of an intersection or in a manner that will impair the ability of the traveling public to see oncoming traffic.
- Residents should place all debris on their property. Please do not place vegetative debris on town parks, the railroad right of way, or undeveloped/unoccupied property.

Failure to adhere to these rules may result in the debris not being collected and/or fines assessed by the Town of Burgaw.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Ben Hansley
Maintenance Worker II

Job Duties: Repair water and sewer leaks, grass cutting, machine operator, and other related repair/maintenance duties

How long have you worked for the Town? 1 1/2 years

What do you love most about working with the Town? I love working with my employees and something new to work on everyday

Fun Fact about me: I love spending time with family
DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES continued

Planning Department

- Finished agenda items for the two public hearings for September and turned them into the clerk.
- Mema’s has filed for site plan review as well as a conditional use permit to be heard in October by the Board of Commissioners. The site is on Highway 53 across from Walmart.
- Continued to work on the new Development Ordinance required by NC General Statute 160D.
- Assisted the public with permits including; tree cutting, zoning certification and answered questions on permitted uses and the zoning of property.

Inspections Department

- Walmart has permits for entry improvements to help with busy customer traffic.
- Hot permits lately are interior renovations and whole house generators.
- We have a few new single-family dwellings in the works and continue to have development inquiries for major single-family projects needing sewer capacity. One developer is interested in participating in the sewer expansion efforts.
- Cape Fear Community College has their permits for their welding and diesel mechanic education building.
- The Pender County courthouse renovations is going well. I am still working with the designers for interior doors challenges.
- Parks and Recreation up-fit designs to the old EMS building is in plans review with comments sent and waiting for response. Once all the code issues are resolved, it can be prepared for bid requests.

Parks & Recreation Department

- This week our department worked to clean/make repairs to our local rental facilities. Painting is now completed at the Burgaw Community House and is available for rent to all interested parties. The Burgaw Train Depot received much needed cleaning on the exterior of the building is now in good shape for our upcoming Fall season. Contact the Parks & Recreation today to schedule your next function.
- As a reminder to our residents and visitors, all bathrooms and playgrounds remain closed under orders issued by Governor Cooper. Signs still remain outside playground areas to remind residents not to utilize the play equipment. Greenspaces, the Osgood Canal Greenway and Urban Trail, and Tennis Courts remain open. The public will be notified once an updated order is issued by the Governors office. If you have questions or concerns, please contact our office.

Is your organization looking to become involved within the community? Sign-up today for our newly formed Adopt-A-Park program in order to better serve our local parks and greenspaces. This program is designed as a yearlong commitment to the Burgaw Parks & Recreation Department in order to assist with upkeep and beautification of our town parks. More information about the program and the application can be found by visiting burgawnc.gov. Contact the Parks & Recreation Department at recreation@burgawnc.gov for consideration.
1975 Attempted Jail Break

Early on a Sunday morning in July 1975, 25 year old Pender County Jail Inmate, Freddy Kea, attempted escape from what is now known as the “Old Jail”, and home to Pender County Tourism. He was housed on the second floor of the jail for various crimes including assault. Per newspaper accounts, Deputy McCoy was placing another inmate in the large cell around midnight. Kea struck the deputy in the face. Several of the other inmates joined in the attack and continued to beat the deputy with metal from the barred windows and placed him in one of the cells handcuffed. Kea then took the deputy’s revolver and fired a shot into the floor and reportedly called to other deputies on the first floor stating that Deputy McCoy was injured and demanded guns and to be allowed to walk free out of the jail.

Law enforcement from Pender County, New Hanover County, Duplin County, Highway Patrol, FBI and ABC agents all responded to the scene. During the stand-off, more shots were fired by Kea on the second floor, some piercing the door of the fire exit stairway. Kea eventually handed over Deputy McCoy’s firearm to law enforcement and surrendered. Kea was moved to the New Hanover County Jail to separate him from the other inmates. Deputy McCoy sustained minor injuries. Freddy Kea was convicted and sentenced to 20 to 25 years in prison for armed robbery and kidnapping along with other charges.

Still today, the bullet holes that penetrated the first layer of the steel door of the second floor fire exit door remain. Freddy Kea served his sentence and was released from prison on August 23, 1993. Kea has been in and out of prison all his life, and today the 69 year old is incarcerated in Central Prison finishing out a 10 year sentence for crimes that took place in 2010.
**Upcoming Recycling Pick-up Schedule**

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**OUR TOWN WEEKLY UPDATE**

**Utility Bill Reminders**

- All utility payments are due by the 10th of the month.
- The Town allows a grace period until the 15th of the month.
- Late fees are imposed on all delinquent accounts on the 16th of the month.
- Disconnects occur on the 21st of the month for delinquent accounts.

NOTE: If you plan to pay around the 15th or 21st, we encourage you to make your payment by phone, visit Town Hall, or utilize the drop box. Online payments take 24-48 hours to reflect on your account in the utility billing system.

**BurGaw Fire Department Needs Volunteers**

BurGaw Fire Department is seeking community members to become volunteer firefighters. Excellent training and benefits! Come by the Fire Department located at 109 N. Walker Street or call 259-7494 for more information.

**Our Town**

**Weekly Update**

**Town Hall**
109 N. Walker St.
Burgaw, NC 28425
910-259-2151
mail@burgawnc.gov

**Office Hours**
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday-Friday

**Mayor**
Kenneth T. Cowan

**Mayor Pro Tem**
Wilfred Robbins

**Commissioners**
Jan Dawson
James Murphy
Bill George
Vernon Harrell

**Town Manager**
James H. Gantt

**Town Clerk**
Kristin J. Wells

**Town Attorney**
Zachary Rivenbark

**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.