Our Town
Weekly Update

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2020

Patriot Day

September 11, 2001

A day to remember those who died, those who served, and those who carry on.

May we never forget.

Board of Commissioners Meeting Recap
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Special Requests/Presentation – Recognition of Resigning Planning & Zoning Board Member Louis Davis – Mayor Cowan recognized Mr. Davis for his years of service in various capacities to the Town of Burgaw and presented him with a plaque.

Special Requests/Presentation – Road Maintenance and Drainage Issues at Village on Eighteen – Residents from the Village on Eighteen spoke about the various drainage and street maintenance issues in their subdivision. The residents were told that this subdivision is a private subdivision where the streets were never turned over to the Town. The streets currently do not meet the standards to be made town streets. After much discussion, the Manager was directed to get updates on drainage projects that could favorably impact this area and report back to Olivia Dawson, a spokesperson for the community.

Christmas Wreath Discussion – Cody Suggs, Parks & Recreation Director, presented a quote to the Board for the purchase of ten (10) Christmas wreaths at a cost of approximately $6,800 to be placed on the lamp posts that are being installed along NC Hwy 53 from Walmart to US Hwy 117. This item has been talked about in the past however was not budgeted this fiscal year. After much discussion, a motion was made to purchase the wreaths. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

Drainage Easements Update – Zachary Rivenbark, Town Attorney, briefed the Board on the progress with obtaining drainage easements.

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Board of Commissioners Meeting Recap - continued

Resolution 2020-13 Approving the Request of State Grant Assistance – James Gantt, Town Manager, requested the Board approve a resolution to apply for an Asset and Inventory Grant. If awarded, this is a 100% grant. Details about the grant specifics are still being developed.

Food Truck Update – James Gantt, Town Manager, stated that he, the Planning Director, and Town Attorney have researched and met about food truck regulations. It was a consensus of this group to define special events, allow food trucks at town-approved special events, and allow food trucks at other times with an annual permitting fee within non-residential districts. The Board advised the Manager to continue developing regulations as presented.

Downtown Improvements – James Gantt, Town Manager, stated Public Works has obtained a quote and a purchase order has been approved to pressure wash the sidewalks in the Downtown area. The area currently defined is Fremont St from Dickerson St to Wright St and the west side of Wright St from Wilmington St to Satchwell St.

Old EMS Building Renovations – James Gantt, Town Manager, gave an update on the status of the plans for the Old EMS Building Renovations. The Town has received the full construction plans for the renovations. The Building Inspector and Manager have thoroughly reviewed the plans and requested some changes to be made by the Architect. We are currently waiting for the updated plans and will begin the bid process as soon as the final plans are received and approved.

Planning Board Joint Meeting with Board of Commissioners Request – The Board discussed schedules and timing to have a joint meeting with the Planning Board. It was the consensus of the Board to hold this meeting on October 15, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the Depot. This is a regular scheduled meeting day for the Planning Board.

Public Comments – Susan Fowler spoke to the Board about what appeared to be other illegal activities occurring on N Wright St.

Public Comments – Crystal Batts spoke to the Board about dilapidated houses located on N Wright St.

Public Comments – Jennifer Matthews, Old Farm Shed, spoke to the Board about the appearance of the downtown area.

Public Hearing – Zoning Text Amendment – A public hearing was held for text amendments to the Burgaw Unified Development Ordinance clarifying mixed use buildings downtown. The amendments were approved by the Board of Commissioners as presented.

Public Hearing – Zoning Text Amendment – A public hearing was held for text amendments to the Burgaw Unified Development Ordinance amending the Planning Board Rules of Conduct adding, following Robert’s Rules of Order when necessary. The amendments were approved by the Board of Commissioners as presented.

Be a part of your community

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 Parks & Recreation Department in order to assist with upkeep and beautification of our Town parks. Applications can be found by visiting burgawnc.gov/adopt-a-park. Please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at recreation@burgawnc.gov to be considered.
Saturday, October 17, 2020

Join us for a fun day in town on October 17, 2020. That morning, the Burgaw Tourism Development Authority is hosting a Community Yard Sale at the Historic Burgaw Train Depot located at 115 S. Dickerson Street. The event will be from 7:00am-12:00pm and will feature lots of fun for visitors to eat, shop, and sell. If anyone is interested in selling products at the event, register today by visiting burgawnc.gov/rentals. Further information for vendors will be sent out at a later date. All COVID-19 guidelines will be enforced at this event.

Later in the day, the town will be hosting our annual Halloween event with a little twist this year. Join us for a Spooktacular Drive Thru Trunk or Treat. The event will be from 2:00pm-4:00pm at Rotary Park located at 102 Industrial Drive. The event is free to the public and will feature a number of vendors and Halloween decorations, not to mention lots of CANDY! Visitors are asked to remain in their vehicle and our vendors will assist you. If any business or organization is interested in registering to become a vendor, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (910)-300-6401 or recreation@burgawnc.gov.

Share our newsletter with your neighbors

We would like to remind everyone that you can receive our weekly newsletter directly to your cell phone by text message and/or email. Please share with your friends and family. Our newsletter is the best way to stay informed of meetings, special events, and important information. To enroll, visit our website at www.burgawnc.gov and select “Notify Me” on the homepage. 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.
DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Public Works Department

- Ben H. weeded around fire hydrants and helped Matt cut some drainage swells at the debris site.
- The green team did downtown trash, mowed pump station 1, the triangle area near Timberly Lane, and cleaned storm drains.
- Roland and Jeremy picked up white goods and debris throughout town.
- John and Ben H. repaired a storm drain on E. Satchwell Street, worked on draining some storage tanks at pump station 1, and helped Chuck inspect storm drains on E. Bridgers Street.
- Brian ran the street sweeper on Tuesday and Wednesday around downtown and the streets on the southwest side of town.
- John, Brian, Ben H., and Lucas repaired a water leak on W. McCullen Street and potholed cable lines for preparation for a water line repair on W. Wilmington Street. Both leaks were within 75 feet of each other and both were on old lead joint pipes.
- Arthur worked on several locates this week, completed work orders and helped with water repairs.
- Public Works has been shorthanded this week with as many as 4 to 5 out the entire week.

Finance Department

- 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.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Lee Williams
DETECTIVE SERGEANT, BURGAW POLICE DEPARTMENT

Job Duties: Investigate crimes, answer service calls, assist patrol as needed

How long have you worked for the Town? 7 years

What do you love most about working with the Town? I enjoy the small town atmosphere

Fun Fact about me: I enjoy being outdoors
DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES continued

Planning Department

• The Planning Board will consider the following items at the regular September 17th meeting at 5:30 pm at the Depot:
  • Announcing our joint meeting with the Town Board of Commissioners at the regular Planning Board meeting scheduled for October 15, 2020 at 5:30pm at the Historic Train Depot.
  • Consideration of Chapters 9-13 of the new Unified Development Ordinance codified as part of the new NC G.S. 160D requirements.

• Worked preparing the Planning Board agenda packet.

• Prepared Chapters 14-17 of the new UDO, meeting the requirements of 160D to deliver to the Manager and Town Attorney for review.

• Attended and presented two text amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance at the Board of Commissioners meeting Tuesday.

• Worked with the planning technician mailing certified letters and notifying violators (after field checking) based on the complaints we received during the Board of Commissioner’s public forum on Tuesday.

• Thursday I attended a zoom meeting with School of Government law professor Adam Lovelady and planners for him to answer 160D questions.

• Assisted the public with permits including; zoning certifications and answered questions on permitted uses and the zoning of property.

Police Department

• On Wednesday, the PD met with Tim Fuss, the Law Enforcement Continuing Education Director at CFCC, to discuss future training and ideas brought up about the instructors who teach classes such as Implicit Biases and De-escalation. We also discussed future training and training simulators coming to CFCC.

• Thursday evening was our monthly CPR (Community, Policing, and Race Relations) forum. It was hosted by Mr. Jordan at House of Gains. The events are greatly supported by the community and the discussions are important for those we serve.

• Sergeant Byrd attended re-certification for the Intoximeter instrument. "Intox" is utilized in the testing for impaired drivers during DWI investigations.

• Administrative Assistant Ramirez and Captain Fuller attended an online training/meeting for the Division of Criminal Information. DCI is the state run database that provides information to law enforcement officers such as DMV information and criminal histories of individuals.

• The PD will have a meet and greet at Southern Chic’s on Fremont Street next Saturday, September 19th starting at 10:00 am. Kane, and handler Corporal Padgett, along with other Burgaw Police Officers will be there to answer questions and meet the public. If anyone is interested in a similar event in the town, please feel free to reach out to the Chief Hock at 910-259-4924.

Meet & Greet with K9 Officer Kane

When: Saturday, September 19, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Where: Southern Chic’s Treasures, 115 West Fremont Street
Plane Crash

State Highway Patrol Officer, W. M. Whitley was first on the scene on July 3, 1945 at 3:15 in the afternoon. Crash equipment and personnel were called in from Bluenthenthal (now Wilmington International Airport), Cherry Point and Camp Lejeune, but unfortunately, nothing could be done for the 8 soles that were on board the Navy PBY-5 aircraft. The plane crashed one mile east of Burgaw in a small clearing in the woods off Highway 53.

A heavy thunderstorm was building over Burgaw that afternoon. Enroute from Miami to Philadelphia to pick up a new Navy plane, seven Brazilian Air Force Officers and one American Military Officer flew the aircraft into a cloud, exploded in mid-air and dove to the ground just outside of town. Officer Whitley immediately responded to the scene. All bodies in the wreckage were unrecognizable.

A military funeral with full honors was conducted on July 7, 1945 at 2:00 in the afternoon for the seven Brazilian officers at the New Bern National Cemetery. The American sailor machinist mate was identified as Dominic Nazzacaro. His final resting place is unknown.

Stay alert, informed and safe

We encourage our citizens to follow us on Facebook and our website for important updates. Town staff urges our citizens to sign up with CodeRED Emergency Notifications. This program is free and easy to sign up. You have the options to enter your phone numbers and/or email address to receive critical notifications from the town, such as severe weather alerts, important information, boil water advisories, etc. Sign up today by visiting our website at BurgawNC.gov, click “I want to” menu at the top of the homepage, then click “Sign up for CodeRED Emergency Notifications.” You may contact Town Hall at 259-2151 for questions or assistance.

Fire Department needs volunteers

The Burgaw Fire Department relies heavily on volunteers to assist in protecting and serving our community. The department is always seeking community members to become volunteer firefighters. Excellent training and benefits offered. Visit our website at www.burgawnc.gov for information about the department. Contact us at 259-7494 or come by the Fire Department located at 109 N. Walker Street if interested in joining.

Take a stroll through town

Did you know we have a Historical Downtown Burgaw Walking Tour? This self-guided tour will take you down the streets of Burgaw and showcase some of the historical residences and places in town. Stop by Town Hall to pick one up today and take a stroll through our beautiful town!
**Upcoming Recycling Pick-up Schedule**

- **September 16**
  West Side
- **September 23**
  East Side
- **September 30**
  West Side
- **October 7**
  East Side
- **October 14**
  West Side
- **October 21**
  East Side
- **October 28**
  West Side
- **November 4**
  East Side
- **November 11**
  West Side
- **November 18**
  East Side
- **November 25**
  West Side
- **December 2**
  East Side
- **December 9**
  West Side
- **December 16**
  East Side
- **December 23**
  West Side
- **December 30**
  East Side

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**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.

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**Slow Down In Our Town!**

Help us alert drivers to slow down in our town!

There are still a few yard signs available free to town residents and can be picked up anytime between Monday-Friday 8am-5pm at the Police Department, located at 109 N. Walker Street.

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**First Day of Fall**

September 22

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**Historic Burgaw Train Depot**

Prints by Ivey Hayes

Available for purchase at Town Hall

Get yours today for only $20!

Makes great gifts for your Burgaw friends and family!