A Message from the Manager – James Gantt

New Year…New Decade…New Progress

As a year comes to a close, it is customary to look back and reflect on all that has happened. 2019 has been a great year in Burgaw. Though there are always challenges, we strive to turn the challenges into opportunities. A few things from 2019… (1) Completion of Osgood Canal Stormwater Project, (2) Purchase of a Grapple Truck for Weekly Debris Pickup, (3) Hiring a New Parks & Recreation Director, (4) Hiring of New Planning Director, (5) Addition of New Parks & Recreation Activities and Events, (6) Development of a New Town Website, (7) Paving of 1.6 Miles of Town Streets, (8) Updating Disaster Preparedness Plan, (9) Creation of an Emergency Operations Center, (10) Established Capital Reserve Fund for Downtown Revitalization, (11) Creation of Façade Grant Program, (12) Purchased and Placed into Service a New Fire Truck, (13) Implemented Employee Longevity Pay to Recognize Employees for Their Years of Service, (14) Purchased New Planning, Parks & Recreation and Police Vehicles, (15) Continued to Improve our Water and Sewer Infrastructure, (16) Upgraded Audio/Video System at the Depot, (17) Appointed a Deputy Finance Officer, (18) Completed Full Renovation of the Old Jail/Pender County Tourism Building from Damage Due to Hurricane Florence, (19) Hired an Assistant Police Chief and K9 Officer, (20) Developed New Weekly Newsletter, and (21) Continued Development and Growth of Our Beautiful Town.

Now that 2020 is officially here, we are making plans to have another wonderful year in our town. Town Staff is currently preparing for our budget preparation season and will be working with Commissioners to set goals, objectives, and priorities for the upcoming year. One main goal of 2020 is to continue working to improve our storm drainage system. This is a long and expensive task, but we are committed and working with State and Federal Partners for grant funding in order to complete additional projects. We are excited and ready for another productive year in Burgaw. Happy New Year!
We also worked this week to get the Burgaw Incubator Kitchen prepared for commercial cleaning beginning on January 6th. The Burgaw Incubator Kitchen will be closed on January 6th, 7th, & 8th in order to conducting cleaning of the hood system and adjacent equipment. Once completed, the kitchen will resume as normal for scheduled visits and use.

Are you ready to “Get Fit” in 2020? Make sure to check out our fitness classes on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings inside the Burgaw Community House. Fitness classes being offered to the community include Dance-2-Fit, Melt (Dance/Yoga Combo), All Levels Yoga, and Yin Yoga. Fitness classes are free to the public and vary in time. Make sure to save a copy of our monthly fitness calendar in order to join in on the fun!

The Parks & Recreation Department worked with CivicRec this week to get our online portal updated to match the new website. Residents can check out the site using burgawnc.gov and by visiting our facility rentals page. All rentals can be handled online or by visiting us at Town Hall Monday-Friday. Contact Cody Suggs at (910)-300-6401 for further questions.
Police Department - Jim Hock, Police Chief

- Congratulations to everyone who made the Blueberry Drop a success. It was great to see so many families in Burgaw for the festivities. The Police Department with support from the Pender County Sheriff's Office was on hand to address any safety or security issues. Thankfully, there was no major issues reported or observed.

- On Thursday, January 2nd, members of the police department had training on a new portion of our reporting software. Quartermaster will assist us with a single location to maintain training records, assigned equipment, employee information, and numerous other categories of information.

- On Friday, the PD assisted the fire department with interviews for their vacant Operator/Driver position.

- All of the Burgaw Officers, full-time as well as part-time, have completed all 2019 In-Service training that is required by the State of North Carolina. The state compliance report is being completed and will submitted to Criminal Justice Standards Division of the Department of Justice for review.

Fire Department - Jim Taylor, Fire Chief

- The Department had four members take Engine 15 to the New Year’s Eve Blueberry Drop. The kids had a great time seeing the firefighter’s riding space on the engine!

- The BFD finished 2019 with 723 calls for service. This was our third consecutive year with over 700 calls!

- Our first officer’s meeting for the new year was held where we focused on planning, training, and operational preparedness for 2020.

Pedestrian safety at Crosswalks has been a topic of concern in the Town of Burgaw. By NC General Statute 20-173, any driver of a vehicle upon a highway shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing a highway within a clearly marked crosswalk or within any unmarked crosswalk at or near an intersection. Please stay alert to those who are walking in our town, especially those utilizing our beautiful Osgood Canal Greenway and Urban Trail.

Volunteer Firefighters Needed

Burgaw Fire Department is seeking community members to become volunteer firefighters. Excellent training and benefits! Please come by the fire station or call 259-7494 for more information.
Our Town
Weekly Update

Public Works Department - Alan Moore, Director

- Creekside development’s 20 new construction homes slowed some due to rain and the holidays. There have not been any major issues with this development and I expect progress to be in high gear again today.

- Other new residential constructions are also progressing well. One has major delays due to rain but I expect that to pick back up as soon as a few dry days can allow a crane access.

- Kelly Thomas is approved to pour concrete for his latest storage unit on Hwy 53. He is also needing some dry weather to get trucks to the pad.

- O’Reilly Auto Parts has passed all of their trade’s inspections and their construction final. They are now working on requirements for a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy while they complete their storm water requirements.

- Fat Daddy’s Pizza up-fits are well underway. Some changes are being considered due to sidewalk elevations.

- Burgaw Now continues making good progress on several of their downtown projects.

- Cape Fear Community College has completed their slab work for science room up-fits while students were on Christmas break.

- Cape Fear Community College’s proposed shelter is being re-designed in another location due to clearance.

- Pender Memorial Hospital up-fits to their De-Con room are nearing completion.

- Duke Energy is working on some requested lighting for the Hwy 53 East Shopping Center, Hardees and Walmart sidewalk. They are also getting us updated estimates on relocation of primary transmission lines on Wright Street. These lines are mainly passing through for the grid and the couple of tics could easily be fed form the rear of the buildings.

Public Works has started taking Christmas decorations down around town this week and will continue throughout next week.

- Tuesday we worked to clean up downtown and assisted with the set-up of the Blueberry Drop. Thursday we worked up cleaning up after the festivities.

- We replaced a leaking meter setter at a business on HWY 117 on Monday. We also worked to repair the pump at the lift station on Penderlea Highway Thursday.

- Monday we fixed a sewer backup issue on Ashe Street.

- The yard debris/white good team has been out this week playing catch up from the Christmas and New Year holiday.

Inspections Department - Louis Hesse

- Our Town
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Facility Rental Reservations Now Submitted Online

Visit our website for more information!

If you need assistance, or do not have access to a computer, please come by Town Hall and we will be happy to assist you with your reservation!

Cody Suggs
Parks & Recreation Director
300-6401

Public Works On-call Person This Week is: Charles Hall

REMINDER: This phone is only answered after hours, 4:30PM - 7:30AM and is for water and sewer emergencies only. Unless Public Works has been giving prior notice we cannot turn your water on due to non-payment shut off.

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Cody Suggs
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2020 Recycling Calendars Now Available Online & at Town Hall!

January 8
Recycling Pick-up: West Side

Town of Burgaw • www.burgawnc.gov • 109 North Walker Street, Burgaw, NC • 910-259-2151 • mail@burgawnc.gov
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE
Tourism Development Authority (TDA)
COMMUNITY BUSINESS WORKSHOP
Wednesday, January 29, 2020
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Burgaw Train Depot
115 S. Dickerson Street

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss ways to promote tourism in collaboration with local businesses. All interested parties are invited to attend.