Budget season is here and we want your input. Town Staff and the Town Board have started the municipal budget process for fiscal year 2020-2021, which begins July 1, 2020 and ends June 30, 2021. On Tuesday, February 11, 2020, during the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners meeting, the board will hold a public hearing for early citizen input regarding the upcoming municipal budget. The public hearings, as described to the right, will begin at 5:30 PM or thereabout. All citizens are encouraged to attend and share their input; written and oral comments are always welcome.

PUBLIC HEARING #1:
Consideration of Text Amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance
Recommend amending the Unified Development Ordinance to include text amendments related to Condition Use Permits amending the following sections: Section 3-10: Conditional Use Permits C. Procedures (b), Section 6-2: Definitions of Basic Terms deleting retail and adding Retail Store, Section 8-2: Table of Permitted Uses to change some uses from a conditional use permit to a use by right with standards, Section 8-4: Use Standards adding standards to reflect amendments to the Table of Permitted Uses (and removing reference lettering and alphabetizing), Section 8-5: Regulations for Conditional Uses amending standards to reflect amendments to the Table of Permitted Uses.

PUBLIC HEARING #2:
Early Citizen Input on FY 2020-2021 Budget
The Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing to receive public comment regarding the upcoming fiscal year 2020-2021 Municipal Budget.

Visit our NEW website at BurgawNC.gov
Downtown Façade Grant Program

In the FY 2019-20 budget, our Commissioners included an opportunity for property owners in the downtown district to improve the façades of their buildings. The revitalization of downtown commercial districts often begins with improvements to a single building or storefront. Even simple changes such as the removal of non-historic materials, repairs, or a new paint job that calls attention to the building’s original architectural details signal positive change and often stimulate similar improvements in neighboring buildings.

Façade improvement programs are incentive programs created to encourage property owners and businesses to improve the exterior appearance of their buildings and storefronts. Our program focuses on properties located within the Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) and provides the financial incentive of a matching grant. Time is running out for this year’s funds. More information about our Façade Grant Program may be obtained by contacting the Town of Burgaw Planning Department at (910) 663-3450 or by emailing planning@burgawnc.gov.

From the Office of Town Clerk – Kristin Wells

- Kim & I handled a few cemetery requests from citizens this week. We also discussed ways to organize and update our cemetery records for easier access in the future.

- James, Kim, and myself will be attending the Pender County Municipal Association Annual Meeting and Dinner Friday evening, January 31st at the Moore’s Creek Battleground. This year’s meeting is hosted by the Town of Atkinson. Plans are already underway for us to host the annual meeting in January 2021.

- Mayor & Commissioners: Please remember to submit your RSVPs for the Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Banquet and the Cape Fear Council of Governments’ Annual Business Meeting and Dinner. Please note both of these events will be held on February 27th, so please let me know which one you plan to attend.
Human Resources – Kimberly Rivenbark

- In early August 2018, the Town of Burgaw, along with another 196 towns and municipalities throughout North Carolina, were notified of the requirement to do an ADA Transition Plan pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulation. Hurricane Florence postponed a majority of the communities from moving forward with writing the ADA Transition Plan, but now the State is urging all communities to begin work. The CFR’s require all local governments with more than 50 full time and part time employees to have an ADA Coordinator along with a Policy Statement and Grievance Procedure in place to handle and prevent any discrimination of individuals with a disability. The CFR’s also require most local governments to perform a self-evaluation of all publicly owned buildings, property, and activities and create a transition plan in order to address any deficiencies. More information will follow in the February Board of Commissioners Agenda Packet.

Police Department – Jim Hock, Police Chief

- Captain Fuller attended K-9 Legal Issues training through the NC Justice Academy. This training addresses areas of concerns when dealing with a K-9 program in law enforcement.
- Officer Farren got certified this week as a Field Training Officer. The program assists training new officers when they are hired by the police department. Our FTO program is at least 12 weeks long and an new officer will have multiple training officers.
- Corporal Padgett and Officer Kennedy attended at two day training, ARIDE (Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement). ARIDE is import to the investigative process of driving while impaired investigations.

R U OKAY?

Let the Burgaw Police Department check on your loved one!

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 residences 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.

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.

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Commissioners’ Strategic Thinking Retreat

Thursday, February 27, 2020 | 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Friday, February 28, 2020 | 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Burgaw Municipal Building, 109 N. Walker Street

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the FY 2020-2021 budget. All interested parties are invited to attend.
This week the Parks & Recreation Department continued to make improvements to Harrell Memorial Park. Construction is still ongoing but is making excellent timing in order to get the park back open for residents to enjoy. Special thanks to the Rotary Club this week for dropping off our new mini library to be installed at the park. In all, the new park will feature a new play structure, ADA swing set, ADA spinner, new park benches, a miniature library, updates to the existing gazebo, and a new three bay swing set. Residents will be notified once dates are set for the Town to conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Updates to the Historic Train Depot also continued this week. The Train Depot over the last month has seen significant improvements in regards to new painting and the replacement of old wood boards. The main focus for this week was getting the conference room molding repaired around the ceiling. Improvements will continue next week around the dock and back area of the building.

The Parks & Recreation also worked this week to prepare for the Daddy-Daughter Dance occurring on February 15th at the Historic Train Depot. Tickets are on sale for $12.00 until 5:00pm Friday, January 31st, make sure to visit our website in order to save a few dollars. The event that evening will feature a DJ, food, photo booth, games, & more. Contact the Parks & Recreation if you have questions regarding the event.

Information was released yesterday regarding our Dodgeball Tournament on February 21st at Burgaw Middle School. Teams can sign up online or at Town Hall for $60.00 per team. Games will start at 6:00pm that evening and will be a double elimination format. This tournament will be open to ages 14 and up and teams must have at least 3 females per team. A copy of the tournament rules & regulations can be distributed by contacting the Parks & Recreation Department.

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 Department – Alan Moore, Director

- Roland and Jeremy repaired a leaking meter setter at a residence on Penderlea Highway. They also repaired a meter box on South Cowan Street. Monday, they were joined by Mark to repair a sewer lateral on South Campbell Street.
- Willis and Lucas continued tree trimming this week, focusing on the railroad right-of-way. They also cleaned up the walking trails and worked on removing stumps in Harrell Park.
- We installed 8 new meters in the Creekside subdivision on Tuesday.
- John, Robert and Ben did our monthly hot spot jetting on Monday, then worked with NCDOT on West Bridgers cleaning out ditches at the end of the week.
- Chuck, Mark and Jeremy will be finishing up class this Friday at the Burgaw Library.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE Phone Number

(910) 470-0457

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.

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.

Monitor your water usage by signing up for Eye On Water!

Eye on Water is a free service that comes with your water bill! It can help you track your water usage and alert you when a potential leak starts. Signing up is simple; use the link below and it will walk you through step by step on how to set up this service.

https://eyeonwater.com/signup