

LAKE WACCAMAW NEWS



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Town Board and Office Staff

- Ivan Wilson—Mayor
- Earl Harris—Mayor Pro Tem
- Lynn Cain—Commissioner
- Bob Crutchfield—Commissioner
- Daniel Hilburn—Commissioner
- Darren Currie—Town Manager
- Linda Noble—Town Clerk
- Janie Faulk—Customer Service Representative

TOWN ADOPTS 2008-09 FISCAL BUDGET

The Board of Commissioners have adopted the Fiscal Budget for 2008-2009. The budget this year is a very progressive budget with several large projects included.

Included in this years budget is an upgrade to the water meters for the town. The town will be replacing every residential meter from the manual read to a radio read system which will cut down on man power required to read the meters as well as fuel consumption in vehicles. The system will allow for more accurate readings and be a cost savings to the town in the form of manpower and gasoline.

Another project included is the full implementation of a SCADA telemetry system for the entire sewer system. The telemetry system

will monitor the lift stations and the treatment plant. This will reduce the amount of time spent checking each station every day. This system will send out a text message to the appropriate phones if an alarm goes off. It is important for the town to respond quickly to alarms to prevent spills. This tool will aid in that quick response. The system is also capable of tracking various data sets and can generate a number of useful reports for the town.

A third project is to redirect the lift station flows. The town is considering disconnecting station 17 from 11 and that will reduce the amount of flow to station 11 which will help prevent spills.

The tax rate will remain constant at \$0.20/\$100 in valuation. The only

increase in this year's budget is the Solid Waste fees. Due to a new state requirement, the local governments have to pay into the state \$2.00/ton for trash that originates within the city, town or county. This money will be used to set up a "clean up" fund for old abandoned landfills. Due to this increase, and the fact that fuel surcharges are being charged on each bill, the town will be going up \$2.00 per household from \$12.50 to \$14.50 per household to cover the increases given by Waste Management. All other items are remaining steady.

A copy of the budget is available at Town Hall for public inspection and it is on the town's website under "Annual Reports".

TOWN APPROVES SEWER AGREEMENT

The Town Board of Commissioners have approved a sewer agreement with the City of Whiteville to make a connection to the sewer line that is coming from Bolton and will convey sewer to Whiteville.

To accomplish this task, an upsize in the line had to occur to be able to have the capacity for the Town to connect. An engineering estimate of

\$1million was given to the towns. After many trips to Raleigh and various other meetings, the Town of Lake Waccamaw, City of Whiteville, and Columbus County were able to put together grants totaling \$800,000. The Lake and Whiteville will each contribute a match of \$100,000 each.

The Cape Fear Council of Governments have played an instrumental

role in trying to bring all the parties together and work to keep State granting agencies well informed of the groups intentions.

The Lake will be buying capacity from Whiteville for a one time cost of \$1.75/gallon and treatment cost of \$3.00/1,000gallons.

DID YOU KNOW

* The average cruise ship burns approximately 1 gallon of fuel to move just 6 inches?

Source:www.daytimer.com

* 2.5 million

In July 1776, the estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation. Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970* <<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/statab.html>>

* 304 million

The nation's population on this July Fourth. Source: Population clock <<http://www.census.gov/main/www/popclock.html>>

*Uncle Sam was first popularized during the War of 1812, when the term appeared on supply containers. Believe it or not, the U. S. Congress didn't adopt him as a national symbol until 1961.

Source:<http://encarta.msn.com>

SPEED LIMIT CHANGE ON BELLA COOLA

In case you have not noticed the signs, the speed limit has changed on Bella Coola Road.

This was done in an effort to slow traffic down due to the increased traffic in the residential neighbor-

hood both from additional residents and additional construction traffic. The Lake Waccamaw Police Department has been working this area to enforce the change. This change makes the entire town 35MPH with the exception of Hwy. 214.

The Board of Com-

missioners have requested the speed limit on Hwy. 214 be changed to 45 MPH from city limit sign to city limit sign. There are portions of this road that are 55 MPH and with the park and other development occurring, the Board feels it is necessary to slow traffic in that area of town.

SEWER PROBLEMS A CONCERN

The town needs your help. There seems to be an increase in the number of "wipes" that are entering the sewer system. The prepackaged wipes do not dissolve as toilet paper is designed to dissolve.

If you flush them down the toilet, it can cause several problems. One problem it may cause in your own system. If you have an

injector tank, parts of the wipes could get jammed in the pump causing the pump to fail or other problems may arise. The second problem is that if you are on a gravity line and it gets into the gravity lines, the wipes could get lodged in the lines or manholes and create a blockage for the town to have to find and remove.

If the wipes get to the plant, they get stuck on the bar screens at the plant

and causes additional maintenance to be done.

The last issue we need your help on is the grease issue. Please do not pour grease down the drains in your home. Place it in a container and dispose of it in the trash or recycle it if possible. Grease can cause significant problems in the sewer system over time.

Thanks for your help in these matters and if you have questions, please contact Town Hall.

FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANT

This month the Fire Department received notice that the Office of State Fire Marshal has awarded the Lake Waccamaw Fire and Rescue Department a grant in the amount of \$10,965.00. This grant is a dollar for dollar match so the Town is matching the grant with \$10,965 for a total of \$21,930.

The grant is for additional safety gear for the fire department. Also included are various items for response to hazardous material

spills or incidents.

These grants aid the department and allows them to continue to purchase state of the art equipment at a fraction of the cost to the town.



FIREDEPT. HOLDS ANNUAL HOTDOG SALE

The Lake Waccamaw Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department is sponsoring their annual Hotdog sale Saturday July 5, 2008 from 11:00am until. This is one of the fundraisers the Fire and Rescue Department does over the year to aid with the cost of operations of the department. Please keep this in mind and come and enjoy a hotdog on Saturday and help the local volunteer fire and rescue department.

Project Updates

I & I PROJECT -

This project will continue in the coming year. The town is applying for a planning grant to help determine other problem areas in the town's sewer system. We hope if this funding for the planning grant comes through, it will lead to funding for additional I&I project work.

Storm water Project

The project over in the Pecan Lane area is almost complete. There is one small portion that remains to be completed and that is the portion to

be done on the east side of Jefferson Road.

The total project is around 80-90% complete.

The remaining parts of the project consists of adding some additional storm water boxes in several locations along Lake Shore Drive. These boxes will act as filters to remove sediment as well as other pollutants that are in storm water and keep them from entering the lake.

Helpful Hints from Town Hall

House Numbers

Over the past two years, this has been mentioned before regarding house numbers being displayed. Folks, this is very important to have your homes properly marked with house numbers. It could mean a timely response to an emergency or not. If our emergency personnel must stop and count or look for house numbers, it means a slower response time. Remember, the ambulance or fire truck does not always go to the neighbors, it may come to your house.

NC DMV Mobile Unit

Don't forget that the Town now has a mobile driver's license unit that comes to the Town Hall twice a month. They can perform a variety of services including license renewal, tag renewal and administer various tests. The schedule for the rest of the year is as follows: July 11 & 18, Aug. 8 & 15, Sept. 5 & 12, Oct. 10 & 17, Nov. 7&14, Dec. 5&12. The hours are from 8AM to 4PM on these days.

PIER INSPECTIONS BEGINNING

Inspections will begin the end of June and first of July on the piers. The staff ran into some administrative issues that needed to be resolved before the town began inspections.

The town hall has had several calls regarding the piers and what the inspector will be inspecting. One thing that does need to be clarified, the town did adopt an ordinance on the inspections, however, the technical items in this article are from the North Carolina Building Code and not the Town of Lake Waccamaw.

On electrical, the main things will be that GFCI protection will be on the piers. All circuits will need to be protected. The wiring is important as well. Regular house wire will not pass inspection. All three wires must be insulated individually. Normal houses has two wires coated and one bare wire for the ground. All joints and splices

of any kind must be 12" above the walking platform. Wire and/or conduit must be supported properly. The wiring should also be a minimum of 2 ft. above the Datum Plane. These items are the major items the inspector will be addressing. These are not all inclusive and if you have any questions, please call town hall.

The structure part to be inspected will consist of looking at the structural integrity of the post, joist, decking boards, rafter/trusses as well as roofing material.

While the things that has been mentioned above are all important, they are not all inclusive. Depending on how the pier is designed and/or wired or built, there may be some issues that need to be done differently than they would in a conventional type setting. Due to this construction being over water, there are certain things that are not allowed as they would be on

dry land. Therefore, if you as a homeowner wish to begin working or remodeling your pier, I would suggest having your builder come by and speak with the inspector.

Billing for the pier inspections has changed. Originally, the town was going to bill it on the water bill, however, the staff ran into several issues that would cause problems with this method. The Board agreed to allow staff to bill the homeowner after the inspection is preformed. The bill will be for the entire amount of \$40 per residential pier. This amount covers a two year period. Commercial/HOA or public piers will be billed and inspected each year. The fee for that is \$40 per pier annually.

Once again, if you have questions regarding this issue, please contact town hall before you begin a project.

FIRE ALARM GRANT

The Lake Waccamaw Fire and Rescue Department has been awarded another round of fire alarms. These alarms are part of a Center for Disease Control (CDC) Grant given to the state and administered by local departments. There are certain qualifications to be met to be eligible. Elderly, homes with small children and homes with a person who has a disability are the three basic criteria.

If you have any questions or know of someone who may qualify, please contact the Fire Department at 646- 4441 and someone will answer your questions and determine if the person is qualified.

Town of Lake Waccamaw

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Phone: 910-646-3700
Fax: 910-646-3860
Email: lwtownmanager@embarqmail.com



Calendar of Events

Meetings

Planning Board Meeting—First Monday each Month
7PM at Town Hall

Town Board Meeting — Second Tuesday each Month
6PM at Town Hall

UPCOMING TOWN HOLIDAYS/EVENTS

****Fire Department Hotdog Sale July 5th- 11AM Until****

Fourth of July— July 4 (Town Offices Closed)

Labor Day - Sept.1 (Town Offices Closed)

Town of Lake Waccamaw
PO Box 145
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450

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