
To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Mike McLaurin, Town Manager
Date: April 21, 2023
Subject: Manager's Report: Week Ending April 21, 2023



The next Manager's Report is scheduled for Friday, May 5, 2023.

Upcoming Events

- Friday Flicks: Friday, April 28, from 6-10 p.m. at Crooked Creek Park.
- Spring Litter Sweep: Saturday, April 29, from 7:30-11 a.m. Register at <https://bit.ly/4093ofc>.

Administration

- Prepared the agenda package for the April 25 meeting.
- Hosted Facebook Live on Thursday, April 20. Mayor Cohn and the Town Manager were joined by NCDOT Division Engineer Brett Canipe. This was the first live stream using the upgraded live-streaming equipment.
- Mayor Cohn, Mayor Pro Tem Barber, the Town Manager, Planning Director, and Communications Director attended the grand opening of the new Food for Families facility on Tuesday, April 18.
- Hosted the UC Communications Group's quarterly meeting. Each quarter, the communications professionals/PIOs from around Union County meet to discuss what's happening in the county and how we can help each other support our communities.
- Staff worked with our security contractor to upgrade two of the cameras on the outside of the Town Hall.
- Staff is working on property and liability and workers' compensation insurance renewals for FY23/24.
- An offer was extended for a Maintenance Technician position.
- The compensation study salary survey was completed. Staff held a meeting with the consultant to discuss the preliminary data and results.
- Staff is continuing to recruit and interview candidates for Maintenance Technician positions.

Finance and Tax

- Overall Collection is 99.4% (tax revenue budget: 104.61% collected and stormwater revenue budget: 101.22% collected).
- Staff met with all departments to review the third quarter financial results.

Parks and Recreation

- The Mayor's Tree Education Initiative has begun and will wrap up next week. In total, we'll have visited six schools, planted 12 trees, and sent trees home with hundreds of students.
- Staff continues to plan for July-December programming. Parks & Recreation is open to program suggestions, but the suggestions will need to be made soon so staff has time to plan.
- Field rental applications for the July-December timeframe are being accepted. Anyone interested should complete an application online.

Planning

- ZT 2023-0070 Perfect Spa: A UDO text amendment was unanimously approved by the Planning Board on April 18. This amendment is scheduled for a public hearing before the Town Council on May 9.
- Williams Pond has resubmitted for round two of site plan review.
- The Shoppes at Hanfield Phase II has resubmitted for round two of site plan review (Sherwin Williams building).
- The Shoppes at Hanfield Phase III has submitted for a zoning map amendment for a proposed Chick-fil-A (SF-1 to GBD) and is scheduled to be heard by the Planning Board on May 16.
- Roger's Road Daycare has submitted for a conditional rezoning and will be heard by the Planning Board on May 16.
- Staff continues to monitor the County meetings for information and action on the sewer situation, as this impacts our day-to-day functions.
- 125 Plyler Road: A substandard mobile home has been demolished at no cost to the Town due to Code Enforcement efforts.
- Staff continues to participate in weekly legislative sessions with planners from across the state to discuss and track several bills that are concerning and impacting municipalities directly.
- Staff continues to see a lot of commercial inquiries for new projects and for redevelopment along the 74 Corridor and Old Monroe Road.
- Staff participated in the County's technical review committee meeting this week to work closer with the County and ensure we are providing comments to the development community that does not conflict.

Engineering

- No significant updates at this time.

Public Works

- Solid Waste:
 - Call volume has been creeping back up over the last few weeks.
 - The Town will add more than 50 new service locations this month.
- Parks:
 - The season has started, and the crew is hard at work daily preparing for the events each evening.
 - Staff is working on several repairs of park equipment because of misuse by the public. This is costly and takes a sizable amount of time to complete.
- Streets & Drainage:
 - A large stormwater pipe and ditch project was completed.
- Buildings/Grounds:
 - Grounds maintenance has started for the year at all town facilities.
- Other
 - Public works is still down 16% (3 positions) of its overall workforce, even after new employees have been added recently.
 - Staff is working on long-term projects related to the Town Hall, a Public Works Facility, park upgrades, and town-wide signage.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

- Staff is working hard to purchase all requested items from the approved surplus-funded recipients.
- All surplus items for this fiscal year have been accounted for.
- There will be an ARPA update at the April 25 Council meeting.