

## Glance Ahead- Upcoming City and Community Wide Activities

Events listed below are either a city event or a special event permit was issued:

- **Reiki in the Park:** Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>-9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Union Point Park
- **Community Development Block Grant Public Needs Hearing:** Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>-Development Services
- **Board of Alderman Meeting:** Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>-6 p.m.-City Hall
- **Fire-Rescue Open House & Truck Pull:** Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>-10 a.m. to 2 p.m.-1401 Neuse Boulevard Fire House

## City Wide

Election Update – The City Manager invited Susan Williams with the Craven County Board of Elections to make a presentation at an upcoming meeting to discuss our options. She was unable to commit to a presentation, but provided the following information:

### **ELECTION RUNOFF METHOD OF ELECTION**

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| • Estimated cost for the October 2025 Election                                | \$52,550        |
| • Estimated cost for a runoff November 2025<br>(2 races-one being the Mayor): | \$42,550        |
| • Total estimate cost for 2025  | <u>\$95,100</u> |
| • Estimated cost for even year elections                                      | \$52,550        |

October 2026/November 2026 (November would be \$0)

*(Note: If a runoff were conducted in an even year, there will be conflicts with early voting for a November general election.)*

### **PLURALITY METHOD OF ELECTION**

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| • Total estimated cost for a November 2025 Election only<br>(odd years)                                | \$52,550 |
| • Total estimated cost for a November 2026 Election only<br>(moved to even years with other elections) | ZERO=\$0 |

Two controlled burns in adjacent counties brought smoke into New Bern earlier this week. We forewarned our social media followers by sharing information directly from the the US Forest Service.

The City Manager, Assistant Manager, several Aldermen, and several city departments participated in the annual Black History Month Parade, held on Saturday, February 17, 2024.

The Mayor, Alderman Brinson, City Manager, and MPO Administrator attended the announcement of Breeze Airlines coming to New Bern.

The Board of Adjustment met on Thursday, February 22 to discuss a Special Use Permit request for Lake Tyler Phases two & three by y Stars and Stripes 4F, LLC The request was approved with the following conditions: four buildings to be removed from

the application with consent of the applicant, and if applicant chooses to install greenways or trails, a fence would be installed in the northern quadrant of the property.

## Comings, Goings, and Such

A warm welcome to the following new employees:

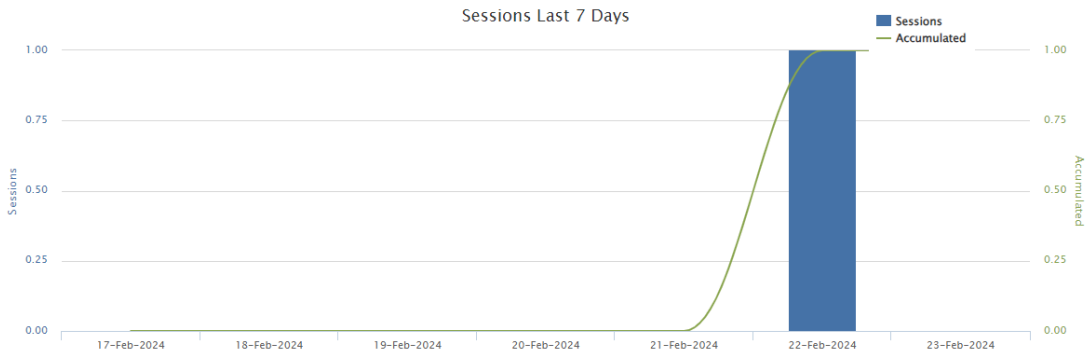
- Authur Moore, Equipment Operator I (Public Works)
- Katelynn Harris, Police Officer
- Stuart Murchison-Robb, Police Officer



## Department Items

### ELECTRIC UTILITY:

- Red Bear EV Charging Site – Service was restored on 2/22/24 after a software failure caused a forced outage.



\*The Department of Public Utilities participated in the Black History Month Parade this past Saturday!



## **FINANCE**

- Staff completed an unclaimed funds audit and documents were submitted to Treasury.
- Staff are preparing invoices for Beer and Wine Licenses, which will be mailed mid to late March.
- Budget staff are working on revenue projections, compiling the budget requests, and budget highlights in preparation for the upcoming budget committee meetings.
- Department Heads submitted their final budget requests to the Finance Department this week. The City Manager and budget Committee will early march with the various departments regarding their requests.

## **FIRE-RESCUE**

Incidents (40)	Child Passenger Safety Seat Installs (2)
Investigations (2)	Fire & Life Safety Events (0)
Inspections (51)	Mutual Aid Calls (1)
Home Safety Visits (1)	CO Detector Installs (1)
Education (6 people)	Smoke Detector Installs (2)
Detector Battery Installs (0)	Training (455)

The annual Fire Truck Pull will be held on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> at headquarters. The Fire Truck Pull begins at 9 a.m. and Open House will begin at 10 a.m. Events and activities will be offered throughout the day.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

Information provided in Comings, Goings and Such

## **PARKS & RECREATION:**

### **Union Point Park**

A large tree was removed on Wednesday and Thursday with no issues. The park is back open. The tree had previously been struck by lightning multiple times and was deemed hazardous.

### **Monk Mallard Park**

New shelters have been completed.

### **Fort Totten Park**

New shelters have been completed.

### **Stanley White Recreation Center**

Roof trusses in the gym were installed this week.

**Special Event Applications** – 4 this week.

**Burials** – 3 this week.

**POLICE**

- The Department debuted a new recruitment video in its efforts to recruit a multi-talented & diverse workforce. The video is running on City 3 TV, in our Video on Demand portal on our website, on the New Bern Police Department webpage, it is posted on YouTube at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2O4\\_z9e4dY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2O4_z9e4dY) and the police department will also use it on social media.
- The Department is working with Craven County Crime Stoppers to alert the public to scams. This week, they shared CCCS’ video on the latest telephone scams plaguing New Bern & Craven County.
- The Department assisted the State Bureau of Investigation and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children earlier this week and arrested a New Bern man suspected of internet crimes against children.

Ward	Crime Type	Date/Time	Status
1	Larceny-Theft from Motor Vehicle	2/12/2024 20:36	Further Investigation
2	Larceny-All Other	2/13/2024 13:24	Closed/Cleared
	Assault, Aggravated	2/13/2024 17:18	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	2/13/2024 17:18	Further Investigation
	Sex Offense-Forcible Fondling	2/14/2024 17:00	Further Investigation
	Burglary / B&E	2/16/2024 18:48	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	2/16/2024 18:48	Further Investigation
4	Larceny-All Other	2/16/2024 11:41	Further Investigation
6	Larceny-All Other	2/14/2024 18:21	Further Investigation

Tip 411 Reports: Last 7 Days: 1 Tip Last 30 Days: 8 Tips Tips Received This Year: 16 Tips

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
<b>Traffic Crash (No Injury)</b>	6	2	0	0	2	5	15
<b>Traffic Crash (With Injury)</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Traffic Crash (Unknown Injury)</b>	1	0	0	0	1	2	4
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	26	21	0	8	19	10	84
<b>Noise Complaints</b>	1	2	0	2	1	1	7

## **PUBLIC WORKS:**

- Asphalt Crew is performing the final round of loose-leaf collection services throughout the City of New Bern. Loose-leaf season ends as of February 29, 2024.
- Heavy Equipment Crew continues street sweeper operations along curbed streets throughout the City of New Bern.
- Public Buildings Crew performed many tasks for maintenance/repairs to City buildings, equipment, and/or grounds (Cedar Grove Cemetery, City Hall, City Warehouse, Fire Headquarters, Development Services, Human Resources, Police 911 Communications, Police Headquarters, Police Satellite Office, Public Works Facility, Utility Billing Office, and West New Bern Recreation).
- Solid Waste Litter Crew continues to monitor/remove litter along City rights-of-ways throughout City of New Bern and from City's leased parking lots downtown; and continues to remove litter along US Highway 70 Bypass between Pembroke & South Glenburnie Road exits, within city limits, as part of the City's participation in the NCDOT's Adopt-A-Highway Program.
- Stormwater Crew continues to perform normal maintenance with cleaning/clearing of city-maintained inlets, outlets, and outfalls throughout the City of New Bern.

## **REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:**

### **Community Outreach:**

Last week, RDC met with representatives from the NCHFA, School of Government, and the state legislature regarding the funding options to sustain the redevelopment effort in New Bern.

Staff received an offer to purchase 913 Green Street (PID: PARCEL ID: 8-006-267). The staff has reached out to initiate the purchase process. The total assessed value of this parcel is \$6,000.00. The BCJ development LLC has offered \$4500.00 to purchase this parcel.

### **Walt Bellamy Update:**

Utilities, Water, and electricity have all been inspected and installed. This week landscaping and driveways were started. Staff received several more inquiries from interested parties for the purchase of these homes.

### **Wellness Update:**

The Wellness project team is preparing a presentation for the Board of Aldermen on March 12<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposed wellness center project.

**WATER RESOURCES:**

This week operations staff worked to install new connections, renew several old water and sewer services, and repair damaged services at various locations throughout the City, including Windy Trail, Simmons Street, Leaf Court, Rhem Avenue, Buckingham Road, King Street, Crooked Run, Aycock Avenue, and Commons Court.

**Significant Ward Related Items****Ward 1**

- An MSD Work session was held on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> to begin discussions on a variety of potential projects within the MSD.
- This week the contractor working on the construction of the new sewer pump station at the corner of South Front Street and Eden Street, completed the start-up and testing of the new generator for the pump station, which operated as designed. This completes all required testing for the new pump station, which will be ready to be put online in the next few weeks.
- Asphalt Crew patched gas line cut at Queen Anne Lane & Trent Road; and repaired water/sewer cuts at Country Club Road & Country Club Drive and 501 Queen Street.
- Concrete Crew installed concrete ring around meter bases at 221 South Front Street; began replacing sidewalk along Blades Avenue; completed driveway inspections at 1002, 1004 & 1006 Walt Bellamy Drive; replaced signposts for stop sign and street name sign at Walt Bellamy Drive & 1<sup>st</sup> Street; and repositioned 2-hour parking signs on lamp posts along South Front Street following work completed by Public Utilities Department.
- Heavy Equipment Crew trimmed Elm Tree at 212 Johnson Street; removed dead Pine Tree at Union Point Park; and removed broken Oak Tree/trimmed trees/swept gutters along Neuse Blvd. between Fort Totten Drive and Chattawka Lane.
- Solid Waste Litter Crew continues to monitor/remove trash near downtown consolidated trash dumpsters.

**Ward 2**

- Asphalt Crew began repairing water/sewer cuts along with general street/shoulder repair near 2204 Grace Avenue.
- Concrete Crew repaired water/sewer cut at 803 Pinetree Drive.
- Stormwater Crew removed beaver dams at rear of Carolina Avenue Apartments.

**Ward 3**

- Concrete Crew completed driveway inspections at 5013 & 5014 Cinnamon Run.

**Ward 4**

- The Racetrack Road Improvements Project is scheduled to begin the first week of March.

- Concrete Crew completed a driveway inspection at 4331 Elizabeth Avenue.
- Heavy Equipment Crew trimmed right-of-way at Neuse Blvd. & Pinecrest Avenue due to visual obstructions for motorists.

## **Ward 5**

- This week the contractor working at Northwest Interceptor Rehabilitation project completed the exterior manhole waterproofing. This completed all of the rehabilitation work for the project, allowing the full sewer flow to be returned to this section of sewer main.
- Asphalt Crew repaired potholes near 1801 Clark Avenue and in parking lot of the 911 Communications Center, Windy Trail; and repaired water/sewer cut at 3700 Dovefield Court.
- Heavy Equipment Crew trimmed/cleaned rights-of-ways and on City-owned lots within the Duffyfield Community.
- Stormwater Division removed fallen tree/cleaned drainageway at Glenburnie Park (before & after images shown below); and fence installation complete along rear area of Jack Creek Smith Wetlands to deter motorcyclists from entering this area from railroad tracks.

### **GLENBURNIE PARK**

BEFORE



AFTER



## **Ward 6**

- Asphalt Crew repaired water/sewer cuts at Jimmies Creek Drive & MLK Blvd.
- Stormwater Crew cleaned drainageways at rear of 1500 Princeton Lane and within the 4000 block of Yarmouth Road; and performed drainage maintenance along 1700 block on Racetrack Road.