

Glance Ahead- Upcoming City and Community Wide Activities

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

- **Municipal Service District Meeting**: Tuesday, March 19th-12:00 p.m.-City Hall
- **Historic Preservation Commission Meeting**: Wednesday, March 20th-5:30 p.m.-City Hall
- **City Employee Spring Luncheon**: Thursday, March 21st-11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. -WNBRC
- **Planning and Zoning Meeting**: Thursday, March 21st-5:30 p.m.-City Hall
- **Arbor Day Celebration**: Friday, March 22nd-11:00 a.m.-Martin Marietta Park

City Wide

- **Topping Off Ceremony**- TA Loving Company hosted a topping off ceremony this week to celebrate construction progress at Stanley White. The Board of Aldermen, Stanley White Recreation Center Advisory Committee, city staff, TA Loving representatives & contractor crews were invited to sign the last steel beam before it was hoisted into place by a crane. Afterwards, TA Loving treated us to lunch.



- **Community Clean Up** - Our first Community Cleanup was held this week along Pine Tree Drive. We gathered at WNBRC to distribute gloves, bags, trash pickers & safety vests. Public Works gave a safety message prior to the event. 23 people participated and 28 bags of litter were collected. The next cleanup is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10 at Oaks Road.



- **New Bern High School's Women's History Month Celebration** will take place on Monday, March 18th during normal class periods. Several City of New Bern employees were invited to speak including Brenda Blanco, Sonya Hayes, Captain Marquie Morrison-Brown, Trisha Fisher, and Kari Warren.
- **City 3 TV Broadcast Update** - After a couple of complaints from residents about low audio during live meeting broadcasts on City 3 TV, we met with Fuller's Music (our audio engineering contractor) and Swagit (our broadcast vendor) this week to conduct multiple tests of our audio system. We were able to determine that our audio signal being sent to the cable transmitter is strong, but the output of that audio signal to cable subscribers is weak. Our next step is to contact Optimum, share with them the data from these tests, and ask them to inspect our cable transmitter and explore boosting the signal at its output.

Comings, Goings and Such

- A warm welcome to the following new employee:
Christine Faragher, Office Assistant III – Parks and Recreation

[Department Items](#)

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES:

Land Use

The DRC meeting today had five items on the agenda. One is an expansion of the Coca-Cola site; they are intending to do a 10,000 Square foot expansion. The second item is the interior renovation and small addition for McDonald's. There will also be a change in the design of their parking lot. Their addition is around 150 square feet. The third is a rezoning on Amhurst. The Fourth is the Belle Oaks final subdivision submittal, which is 26 lots. The last submittal was a final subdivision for Chambray at Carolina Colours, which is 27 lots.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The 2019 and 2022 Substantial Amendment went on display on Friday, March 8, 2024. This week, on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, the Board of Aldermen called for a public hearing on the plans to be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024. The amendment will allow remaining funds from the bus shelter installment project to now be moved to the Pierce Park project for a half basketball court installation. This week, staff also received a report from Ryan Sadler of TRC Companies. Ryan stated that a Phase I ESA has commenced on the property addressed at 700 & 712 West Street, which comprises the former West Street School (F.R. Danyus School) and the school parking lot.

Historic Preservation

Staff prepared for and led the HPC's Historic Property Owners Support (HiP) Work Group meeting on Thursday. The Group is planning a public outreach event for the resident homeowners in Dryborough in May to help them learn what the Work Group can help them with, provide a short DIY demonstration, and show them a sample of the historic plaques we can provide them for their homes. The Work Group is working with Shop Class and one of the Work Group members to provide the demonstration and, if desired by the homeowners, a few more DIY workshops in the future. HiP's partners, including the Redevelopment Commission and the New Bern Preservation Foundation, will also be invited to make presentations or provide information at the event.

Staff have been preparing for the HPC Regular Meeting next Wednesday. There are 5 projects on the agenda: one new house to replace an approved demolition at 715 E. Front St., 3 house renovations and/or additions, and one storefront remodel for Studio M at 217 Middle St.

FINANCE

- All beer and wine license invoices for the period of May 2024 through April 2025 were mailed this week.

- Work continues on the budget preparation and revenue projections.

FIRE-RESCUE

Incidents (42)	Child Passenger Safety Seat Installs (2)
Investigations (0)	Fire & Life Safety Events (2)
Inspections (46)	Mutual Aid Calls (0)
Home Safety Visits (5)	CO Detector Installs (1)
Education (334 people)	Smoke Detector Installs (2)
Detector Battery Installs (6)	Training (661)

Note:

- Several Instructors attended Live Burn Qualification Training in Pamlico.
- We held the 4th Annual NBFR Truck Pull and raised more than \$9,000 for hopeforharrison.nc to increase awareness of Muscular Dystrophy. Congratulations to Cherry Point Fire Department (Open Division) and Light It Up (Women's Division) who were our First-Place winners!
- Chief Locklear was the guest speaker at the NB Chamber of Commerce meeting.



Upcoming Events:

- 3/15/2024 Career Day at Creekside Elementary School.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Information provided in Comings, Goings, and Such

PARKS & RECREATION:

Parks & Recreation announced its lineup of **Movies in the Park** for this year!

Lawson Creek Park – Construction has started on the new shelter at Jack's Island.

Seth West Parrott Park – Repaired cracks in the pickleball court.

Ft. Totten and Monk Mallard Shelters – Installed sod at both shelters.

Special Event Applications – 5 this week.

Burials – 1 this week.

POLICE



On Tuesday, March 12th, the New Bern Police Department, in collaboration with the NC Department of Justice and Navy Federal Credit Union, hosted the following trainings at the New Bern West Recreation Center:

- **Financial Scams***
- **Internet Safety**

*Participants received valuable information on how to protect themselves and loved ones from this type of deception.

Coffee with a Cop was held on March 13th, 2024, at the Ghent Sandwich Shop and Bellator Roasting Company.

The New Bern Police Department recognized **National K9 Veterans Day** on March 13th with a special social media post featuring photos of all of the department’s K9s. That same day, the



Daughters of the American Revolution stopped by with a special certificate and some Scooby snacks for the K9s.

Ward	Crime Type	Date/Time	Status
1	Larceny-All Other	3/3/2024 9:53	Further Investigation
	Larceny-Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories	3/3/2024 11:06	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	3/4/2024 13:14	Closed/Cleared
	Larceny-All Other	3/6/2024 11:20	Inactive
	Assault, Aggravated	3/9/2024 9:35	Closed/Cleared
2	Larceny-Shoplifting	3/3/2024 12:28	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	3/3/2024 12:29	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	3/4/2024 14:57	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	3/7/2024 11:43	Further Investigation
	Assault, Aggravated	3/7/2024 17:32	Closed/Cleared
	Larceny-All Other	3/8/2024 10:33	Closed/Cleared
3	Assault, Aggravated	3/6/2024 22:03	Closed/Cleared
4	Larceny-All Other	03/05/2024 07:08:32	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	03/07/2024 13:23:04	Closed/Cleared
6	Burglary / B&E	03/04/2024 12:05:24	Closed/Leads Exhausted

Tip 411 Reports: Last 7 Days: 1 Tip Last 30 Days: 9 Tips Tips Received This Year: 23 Tips

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Traffic Crash (No Injury)	2	1	1	0	3	6	13
Traffic Crash (With Injury)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Traffic Crash (Unknown Injury)	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Traffic Stops	47	31	0	16	26	16	136
Noise Complaints	1	2	0	1	6	0	10

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Heavy Equipment Crew performed tree trimming along City rights-of-ways and swept along curbed streets throughout the City of New Bern.
- Public Buildings Crew currently restoring the Planters Ridge Community Sign and has completed restoration of the City of New Bern Yard Waste Facility and Cedar Grove Cemetery signage; Civil War Monument Sign pending mounting bracket and location to install; and performed many tasks for maintenance/repairs to City buildings, equipment, and/or grounds (City Hall, Finance/UBO/CAPS, Fire Headquarters, Parks & Recreation (Lawson Creek Park/West New Bern Recreation), Police Department Headquarters, and Police Department Satellite Office).
- 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:

RDC staff also met with North Carolina Housing Finance Agency this week to discuss becoming a member of their Community Partner Loan pool. This membership would essentially allow the RDC to work directly with citizens in assisting with financing options for housing in the redevelopment zone. The membership would come with the potential of up to \$50k in administrative funding for the RDC to use for further development.

On Wednesday, the commission held its regular business meeting and had a productive conversation that reviewed the current projects of the commission and discussed next steps for the commission to keep the momentum going. On Thursday evening, RDC

staff presented with Development Services staff for New Bern 101. The participants seemed very interested in the work that the RDC does, and multiple individuals shared a desire to be involved.

Walt Bellamy Update:

The Commission gave staff direction at Wednesday's meeting to develop an interest list for potential purchasers to use. This would be a linked google form on the RDC website that would allow staff and citizens to work together without having to submit a request to purchase until they have everything ready (finances, contracts, etc.) The staff will work with the City Clerk and the City PIO to develop this and post it as soon as possible.

Wellness Update:

The staff along with several members of the Health and Wellness project team presented at Tuesday's board of Aldermen meeting. The presentation was very well received, and all items required for the conveyance request for the convenience clinic have been submitted to the City Clerk for the March 26th meeting.

Looking ahead:

Monday, March 18th, Merrill Flood from ECU will be visiting the RDC. Mr. Flood has done several projects with New Bern in the past and this visit will focus directly on possible opportunities for partnership in the future. Additionally, per directive from the commission, staff will learn from Mr. Flood about the recent workforce housing project completed by Greenville NC in the hopes of bringing their experience and expertise to the New Bern redevelopment commission.

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 Meadows Street, Justin Drive, Beaufort Street, Greensboro Street, Haywood Place, Batts Hill Road, Degraffenreid Avenue, Forest Oak Drive, Pasteur Street and Montford Drive.

Significant Ward Related Items**Ward 1**

- This week City staff removed all of the salvageable equipment and materials from the old sewer pump station that sits on the bank of Lawson Creek. The contractor is scheduled to complete demolition of the old pump station next week.
- The Hurricane Florence FEMA CAT D Trent River Stormwater Project is out for bid as of March 14, 2024.

- Asphalt Crew repaired water/sewer cuts at 1421 Rhem Avenue, 21 & 24 Batts Hill Road, and 839 Pasteur Street; and repaired potholes at 507 Linden Street, B Street & National Avenue, and 1211 E Street.
- Public Buildings Crew completed washing/waxing the Blue Angel Jet at Lawson Creek Park; completed City Hall recent wind damage repairs; and installation complete for the City Finance/CAPS/UBO building, 606 Fort Totten Drive.
- Solid Waste Litter Crew continues to monitor/remove trash near downtown consolidated trash dumpsters.
- Stormwater Crew returned an old section of storm piping to a swale at the Queen Street end of Pasteur Street pending Water Resources to delete old service line in the invert of the swale.

Ward 2

- Heavy Equipment Crew repaired road shoulders within the Pembroke Community; and mowed/trimmed right-of-way along Pinetree Drive.
- Asphalt Crew repaired water/sewer cut at 2308 Aycock Avenue; repaired potholes at 1702 McKinley Avenue and West New Bern Recreation Center; and repaired stormwater cut at 1st Avenue & Broad Street.

Ward 3

- Contractor completed street repair for City this week on Tesie Trail, Brices Crossing.

Ward 4

- The Racetrack Road Improvements Project continues, culvert replacements completed and asphalt work to begin next week.
- Asphalt Crew repaired water/sewer cuts at 1203 Fulcher Lane.
- Heavy Equipment Crew performed tree trimming along City right-of-way to assist with the Racetrack Road Improvements Project.
- Public Buildings completed restoration of public bench along Elizabeth Avenue.

Ward 5

- This week water resources staff worked with staff from the public works department to replace an old sewer service that was running through a drainage culvert on Beaufort Street.
- Asphalt Crew performed large street repair at 207 Beech Street; repaired water/sewer cuts on Glenburnie Drive at City of New Bern Waste Treatment Plant; and at NCDOT yard on South Glenburnie Road; and repaired potholes at Main Street & Eubanks Street.
- Heavy Equipment Crew mowed abatement on Bloomfield Street
- Stormwater Crew assisted Water Resources to make repairs to drainage culvert on Beaufort Street due to service install issue; and cleared beaver dam downstream of the Jack Smith Creek Wetlands.

Ward 6

- Stormwater Crew assisted Water Resources with facilitating the cleanup of a leaking grease tank at 1822 South Glenburnie Road.