

## Glance Ahead- Upcoming City and Community Wide Activities

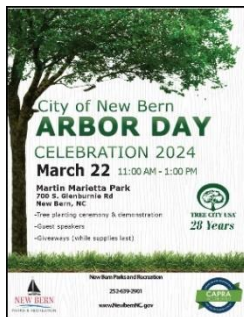
Events listed below are either a city event or a special event permit was issued:

- **Easter Egg Hunt: Rescheduled** for Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. due to weather-Lawson Creek Park
- **Board of Alderman Meeting:** Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.-City Hall
- **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting:** Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> -11:00 a.m.-Development Services
- **Board of Adjustment Meeting:** Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.-City Hall
- **Twilight Easter Egg Hunt:** Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 7:20 p.m.(dusk)-Martin Marietta Park
- **Good Friday Holiday:** Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> -City offices will be closed.



## City Wide

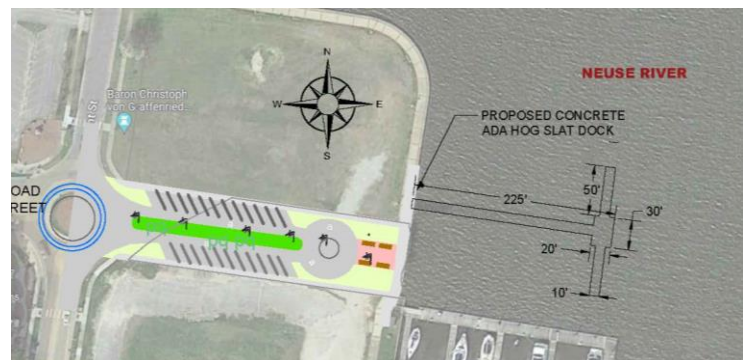
- **City Employee Spring Luncheon**  
All City employees were celebrated and appreciated at our annual Spring luncheon this past Thursday. The event was held at the West New Bern Recreation Center with lunch provided by The Flame. Several Board members were in attendance, along with more than 300 City employees. Certificates were awarded for longevity and retirements.



- Today, the City Manager and Asst. City Manager attended New Bern’s **Arbor Day Celebration** hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department. The event included tree plantings and sapling giveaways. The City recently received the Tree City USA award for the 28<sup>th</sup> year!

## Proposed Broad Street Pier Project

- We will be giving an update on this proposed project at the April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. We have met with Craven County representatives to discuss this project. Staff have also been working with the Wildlife Resources Commission on potential designs.



## ARPA Project Update

### **Ward 1**

- McCotter House (Wellness Center Project) – RDC – Pending Governing Board review on March 26, 2024.
- Hancock Street Culvert – Consultants designed the project. Bidding will go out in the near future.
- Electronic Speed Limit Signs - Completed
- Riverwalk Fence Upgrade - Completed
- Middle & Broad Light and Crosswalk – Contract Signed/Estimated Completion 10/24
- Questers Headstone Restoration Training - Completed

### **Ward 2**

- McCotter House (Wellness Center Project) – RDC – Pending Governing Board review on March 26, 2024.
- Red Robin/Trent Road Ditch - Completed
- Trent Road Bank Stabilization - Completed
- Sidewalks – Pembroke – Pending Alderman Royal
- Pembroke Overpass Traffic Light – Contract Signed / In DOT Design Phase

### **Ward 3**

- Electronic Speed Limit Signs - Completed
- Police K9 - Completed
- Fireman's Museum - Completed
- SCBA (10 for Fire-Rescue) - Completed
- Storage Building (Fire-Rescue) - Completed
- RDC – 3 Houses - Completed
- Crimestoppers - Completed

### **Ward 4**

- Racetrack Road Bank Culvert – Completed
- Racetrack Road Improvements – In process; estimated completion by mid-April

### **Ward 5**

- McCotter House (Wellness Center Project) – RDC – Pending Governing Board review on March 26, 2024.
- East Rose Culvert – Estimated to start force main around mid-April.
- North Hills Stormwater Related Projects – In design phase; currently working with DOT.

### **Ward 6**

- Electronic Speed Limit Signs - Completed
- Cemetery Shelter – Construction in progress 3/18/24
- Union Point Park – Stormwater upgrades - Completed.
- Sidewalk Gaps – No Update available from Public Works

- Neighborhood Sign improvements - Completed.
- Police K9 - Completed

## Comings, Goings and Such

- The City of New Bern coordinated participation in the upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Annual **Craven Works Job Fair** which will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at the Riverfront Convention Center.
- No new hires this past week

## Department Items

### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES:**

#### **HPC Regular Meeting**

Eight of the nine HPC members were present, with one excused, for the regular meeting. There were 4 hearings, and all 4 applications were approved. They were:

- 506 Craven St. for a remodel to the rear of this house that dates back to the 1770s, and a new driveway.
- 217 Hancock St. for a two-story addition to the rear of this house that also dates back to the 1770s.
- 207 Pollock St., an 1890s Queen Anne Victorian house, to allow removal of a two-story external wood stairway and replace that with a new interior stairway and a kitchen expansion.
- 217 Middle St. for a storefront remodel for the stained-glass shop to separate the store entrance from the residential entrance leaving the rest of this ca. 1912 building unchanged.

#### **Land Use**

The City Planner, Fire Chief, and the Deputy Fire Chief attended the quarterly meeting of the Croatan Area Fire shed Partnership on Tuesday, March 19. The federal and state forest services are the lead agencies and there are at least 10 other local county and municipal agencies in the informal partnership. At this meeting, it was announced that the project, initiated through this partnership, conducts "rapid risk assessments" of all the parcels in and near the north and eastern sides of the Croatan National Forest. These assessments have begun and involve a total of about 16,000 parcels. The parcel owners will receive a letter informing them of this in the next few weeks. The assessment is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2024. Other discussions at the meeting included the priority areas for upcoming and future control burns and shrub cleanout, and a request for letters of support for the application for \$5M grant from the Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program for prescribed burns, training, community education, assessments, and other activities.

## Planning and Zoning Board Meeting

At its meeting on March 21, 2024, the board recommended denying a requested rezoning for the parcels at 624 Hancock/413 Queen from C4 to C5A. They also recommended incorporating an additional parcel into the Central Retail Core.

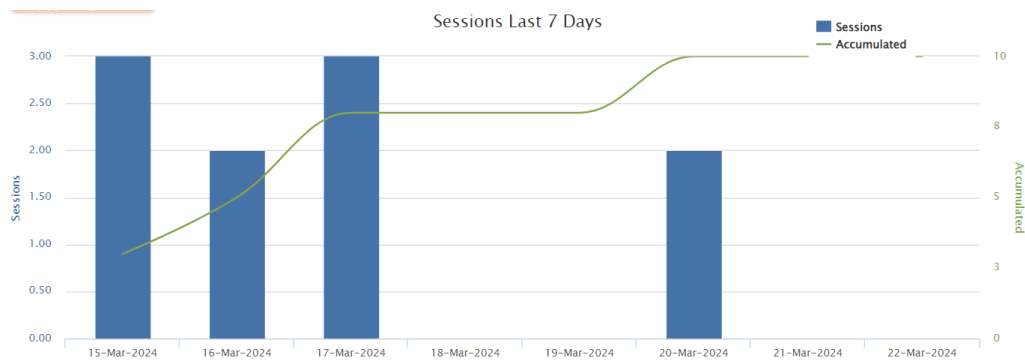
Attendance for the meeting is as follows: Kyle Dearing, Margie Dunn, Sonny Aluzzo, and Brad Jefferson.

## Resiliency

The City Manager and Development Services staff met with two representatives from the State for an introduction to the new FEMA Community Disaster Resilience Zones program. They had met with the Craven County staff the day before and this was the first chance for them to hear what kind of projects we would like to do in the future in the CDRZ areas to help our community be more resilient to disasters in the future.

## ELECTRIC UTILITY

Red Bear EV Charging – Ten (10) charging sessions occurred in the past 7 days.



## FINANCE

- The Finance Director has been working with the LGC, Davenport, and Womble Bond Dickinson regarding the financing for the 212 Kale Road property. Depending on the current combined enterprise revenue bond covenant, the financing will either be in the form of an installment purchase agreement or a revenue bond.
- Staff is planning department training and preparing the communication, instructions, and resource documents for year-end processes.
- Staff attended the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) Critical Compliance Information webinar relating to the electric infrastructure grant.
- The Budget Committee met with the Garage to review the vehicle replacement requests submitted for the FY25 budget.

## FIRE-RESCUE

Incidents (48)	Child Passenger Safety Seat Installs (2)
Investigations (3)	Fire & Life Safety Events (1)
Inspections (36)	Mutual Aid Calls (0)
Home Safety Visits (5)	CO Detector Installs (1)
Education (513 people)	Smoke Detector Installs (14)
Detector Battery Installs (8)	Training (429)

### Note:

- Hosted the Aerial Operator Certification course.
- Chief McConnell participated in Career Day at Creekside Elementary School.
- Chief McConnell and Chief Locklear attended the Croatan Area Wildland Meeting.

## HUMAN RESOURCES:

Information provided in Comings, Goings, and Such

## PARKS & RECREATION:

### Stanley White Recreation Center

- Gym concrete was poured on Wednesday 3/20
- All precast panels are set.
- All roof decking material has been installed.
- Suspended walking track structural steel will begin next week.

### Special Events

- Football spring training starts this weekend for Parks & Recreation!
- Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Vietnam Remembrance Day- Union Point Park – 9:00am to 5:00pm
- Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Latitude Church Good Friday Service- Martin Marietta Park – 3:00pm to 7:30pm

### Special Event Applications – 3 this week

### Burials – 1 this week

## POLICE

- On Monday, March 18, 2024, a Swearing-in Ceremony was held for Officer Heather Hughes and Officer Austin Smith at the City Hall Courthouse. In addition, police personnel attended a Women's History event at New Bern High School.
- On Tuesday March 19, 2024, police personnel attended Career Day at East Carolina University as well as Pruitt Health's Open House event.
- On Thursday 21, 2024, police personnel conducted presentations at New Bern 101.



# CITY MANAGER’S WEEKLY REPORT

March 22, 2024

- On Wednesday March 27, 2024, police personnel will attend the Craven NC Works Annual Job Fair.
- On Thursday March 28, 2024, police personnel will give a PD tour for Grover C Middle School’s Avid students.

Ward	Crime Type	Date/Time	Status
1	Larceny-All Other	03/12/2024 10:52:51	Closed/Cleared
	Larceny-All Other	03/12/2024 15:34:29	Further Investigation
2	Larceny-Shoplifting	03/11/2024 11:43:51	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	03/12/2024 22:32:13	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	03/13/2024 14:23:03	Further Investigation
	Assault, Aggravated	03/14/2024 00:47:03	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	03/14/2024 11:25:20	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	03/15/2024 08:16:31	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	03/15/2024 17:05:59	Further Investigation
4	Burglary / B&E	03/16/2024 09:56:09	Closed/Leads Exhausted
5	Assault, Aggravated	03/10/2024 03:44:37	Closed/Cleared
	Larceny-All Other	03/15/2024 11:36:55	Closed/Cleared

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
<b>Traffic Crash (No Injury)</b>	2	1	0	2	2	5	12
<b>Traffic Crash (With Injury)</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Traffic Crash (Unknown Injury)</b>	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	29	40	0	15	27	8	119
<b>Noise Complaints</b>	2	1	2	5	1	1	12

## PUBLIC WORKS:

- Heavy Equipment Crew performed tree trimming along City rights-of-ways; swept along curbed streets throughout the City of New Bern; and accepted delivery of the new Street Sweeper this week, which will begin cleaning streets once employee operations training completed.



- The Public Works Department staged barricades, signage, and safety cones in preparation of the forecasted rain event this weekend.
- Public Buildings Crew continues restoring the Planters Ridge Community 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 (Finance (CAPS), Fire Headquarters, Information Technology, Parks & Recreation (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. Due to employee safety training, Monday, March 25, 2024, and the upcoming Good Friday holiday, March 29, 2024, the bulk-waste/yard-waste service routes will run behind as of Monday, 3/25/24, through Friday, 4/5/24. Trash and recycling cart services will run on schedule.
- 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:**

808 Bern St (PID 8-007-327), and 810 Bern St (PID 8-007-328) closed this week. The Commission's fund balance will receive a total of \$11,475 in proceeds.

Staff attended a town hall gathering this week at the Omega center. The discussion centered around getting community feedback on issues of housing, financial literacy, education, voting, and leadership.

This week staff met with Mr. Merrill Flood from ECU and toured the RDC zone. The tour included site visits to all of the current and planned redevelopment projects. Mr. Merrill was impressed by the work being done with the resources available. He shared a great deal of knowledge and gave the staff a lot to research.

Additionally, County Commissioner Bea Smith and County Manager Jack Veit met with staff this week to discuss the potential of a county partnership. The conversation was robust and ended with some preliminary ideas that staff plans to share with the commission at the April meeting.

**Walt Bellamy Update:**

The final site survey is the last step that the developer is waiting on to close the project. The inspection for a certificate of occupancy is scheduled for the end of next week. At that time, the staff will process the last draw for this project and the houses will officially

be Redevelopment Commission owned. An agenda item will be presented at the April Business Meeting to discuss the sale process.

The Commission gave staff direction at March's business meeting to develop an interest list for potential purchasers to use. An appointment has been scheduled with the City's PIO to develop this form, and staff plans to post it as soon as possible.

## **Wellness Update:**

The staff along with several members of the Health and Wellness project team plan to present the conveyance request for the convenience clinic at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. All Commissioners are being contacted and requested to be present at this meeting to show support for this important action. Tuesday could represent the first executed development deal done by the 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 Fort Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Aycock Avenue, Justin Drive, Thurman Road, Country Club Road, and Old Airport Road.

## **Significant Ward Related Items**

### **Ward 1**

- This week demolition work continued on the old sewer pump station that sits on the bank of Lawson's Creek. All of the above grade structure was removed, and the contractor is continuing to work on removal of the remaining subgrade components.



BEFORE



AFTER

- Asphalt Crew repaired water/sewer cuts near 839 Pasteur Street, 1814 & 1816 Greensboro Street, and 21 Batts Hill Road; repaired potholes near 802 Lake Point Road, 1815 Edenton Street, 521 Ruth Avenue, and within Lawson Creek Park; and repaired many downtown lamp-post banner arms.
- Concrete Crew continues sidewalk repairs on Blades Avenue and North Avenue; replaced post for no parking sign near 1020 Pollock Street; replaced handicap parking signage at the Spray Park, George Street; painted parking spaces along



George Street; and repainted parking space on South Front Street & Middle Street.

- Heavy Equipment Crew trimmed trees along City rights-of-ways; grinded stump on George Street; and trimmed low hanging tree limbs along Neuse Blvd. right-of-way near Ft. Totten Drive to address visual obstructions.
- Solid Waste Litter Crew continues to monitor/remove trash near downtown consolidated trash dumpsters.
- Stormwater Division kicked off the Asset Inventory Assessment (AIA) Project in the downtown area for the City's stormwater infrastructure.

**Ward 2**

- This past Wednesday, City staff worked to repair an 8" sewer main that had been damaged by a boring contractor on Pinetree Drive. During the sewer repair, a 2" water main was damaged, which required a small-scale water outage to repair. Staff were able to complete the necessary repairs to both the sewer and water mains and return water service to all the impacted customers on Wednesday afternoon.
- Asphalt Crew continues assisting with Suttons Street Walkway Project. Stormwater Crew re-graded drainage ditch near Speight Park at Simmons Street & Dr. MLK; and cleaned/cleared drainageway at intersection of Trent Road & Simmons Street.

**Ward 3**

- Stormwater Crew repaired sinkhole on Old Airport Road at Boelyn's Branch; and cleaned flumes near 3706 Cerise Circle.

**Ward 4**

- The Racetrack Road Improvements Project continues asphalt work to begin next week.
- Heavy Equipment Crew performed tree trimming along City rights-of-ways.

**Ward 5**

- Asphalt Crew repaired potholes on Mourning Dove Trail, Stallings Parkway, Beaufort Street, and intersection of Clark Street & Beaufort Street; and performed street repair near 1312 Stallings Parkway.
- Heavy Equipment Crew performed tree trimming along City rights-of-ways; removed tree near 1400 Phillips Avenue; and mowed Redevelopment Commission lots & City-owned lots within the Duffyfield Community.

**Ward 6**

- Concrete Crew repaired potholes on Dukes Court, Yarmouth Road & Norwich Road, Yarmouth Road & Duchess Court; performed street repair on Berry Hill Road; replaced street-name sign/post at Red Robin Lane; and replaced post for keep-right sign near 612 McCarthy Blvd.