

December Events Around Town

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MILES ATKINS
MAYOR

EDDIE DINGLER
WARD I COMMISSIONER

THURMAN HOUSTON
WARD II COMMISSIONER,
MAYOR PRO TEM

WARD III COMMISSIONER

LISA QUALLS
WARD IV COMMISSIONER

DAVID COBLE
AT-LARGE COMMISSIONER

BOBBY COMPTON
AT-LARGE COMMISSIONER

TOWN OFFICIALS

N. ERSKINE SMITH JR.
TOWN MANAGER

STEPHEN P. GAMBILL
TOWN ATTORNEY

JANET POPE
TOWN CLERK

With the calendar flipping to December the holiday season has officially arrived. Warm days have been replaced by cold nights, sandals and t-shirts exchanged for boots and coats. As 2015 comes to a close, there will be plenty of activities to celebrate this holiday season. During the coming weeks, the Town of Mooresville and Town partners will be offering several activities to celebrate the season:

Downtown Holiday Light Spectacular

This is an orchestrated light show featuring more than 115,000 lights set to music. From November 27 thru the end of December, the show takes place each night from 6 – 9:30 p.m. on the lawn beside Town Hall.

Celebrate the Holidays Downtown

For three consecutive Fridays in December celebrate the holidays in Downtown Mooresville. On December 4, 11 and 18, Downtown Mooresville will be festive with Christmas time celebrations! All along Main Street and Broad Street from 6 – 8 p.m. more than 35 businesses will be open to welcome guests with light refreshments and holiday cheer. Wagon rides will take place in front of the Christian Mission on Broad Street and Santa Claus himself will make an appearance.

Children's Holiday Party with Santa & Rudolph

Everyone is invited to meet Santa Claus and Rudolph on Sunday, December 6 from 9 – 11 a.m. at the Charles Mack Citizen Center, 215 North Main Street. Hot cocoa and snacks will be provided, and guests will have the opportunity for a free professional photo with Santa provided by Lunahzon Photography. For more information, call 704-662-3334.



Story Time with Mrs. Claus

The Mooresville Public Library invites children and adults of all ages to story time with Mrs. Claus. On Wednesday, December 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Youth Services Community Room, Mrs. Claus will tell several timeless Christmas classics. For more information, call 704-664-2927.

Create Christmas Ornaments

Come to the Mooresville Public Library to create festive Christmas ornaments using popsicle sticks and puzzle pieces. This event will be Friday, December 11 at 11 a.m. and is for children ages 3 – 5. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 704-663-1807.



IN THIS
ISSUE

2 FROM THE TOWN
MANAGER
Let's Prepare
for the Future

3 ACTIVITIES
New Utility
Billing Policy

4 EDUCATION
Be Prepared
Winter Safety



Let's Prepare for the Future



DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

BUSINESS OFFICE
704-663-3800

CHARLES MACK CITIZEN CENTER
704-662-3334

CULTURAL & RECREATION SERVICES
704-663-1026

EMPLOYMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES
704-799-4070

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY)
704-664-1338

GOLF COURSE
704-663-2539

LIBRARY
704-664-2927

PLANNING
704-662-7040

POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY)
704-664-3311

SANITATION
704-664-4278

SELMA BURKE CENTER
704-799-4035

TALBERT RECREATION CENTER
704-799-4281

WAR MEMORIAL CENTER
704-663-2670

WATER
704-663-3800

WINNIE HOOPER CENTER
704-663-0033

ZONING
704-662-7040

Can it really be December? What happened to the year? The old adage is true as the older you get the faster time flies. Activity in Mooresville continues on a fast pace.

The Board held their mid-year retreat in November. I reminded them in 2008 the Town was preparing to serve a population of over 35,000 by 2016. Those projections have proved correct as our 2015 population is just over 35,000. Based on current development activity and proposed projects, by 2020 the Town's population is expected to exceed 45,000. Currently, there are over 3,700 residential units being developed or reviewed by our Development Services staff. This growth, along with additional apartments, condominiums and townhomes can easily add 1,000 new residents per year.

The Town has to prepare now to serve a population of 45,000 by 2020. I can't imagine what Mooresville's population will be by 2030. With a growing population comes the increased need of Town services, programs and facilities. The goal is to maintain the current level of programs and services while slowly growing our workforce and budget.

We have already begun preliminary discussions for the budget the Town will adopt in June. There is a lot more discussion to come, but again we are preparing for the future and planning to serve a Town of 45,000 residents by 2020.

Town staff cannot do this alone. We'll need guidance from residents, as well as the elected officials and community leaders. Staff is hoping to work with the Board to develop a new strategic plan to help guide the Town in the future. I look forward to working with our Board to create this strategic plan for the Town's future.

At the December 7 Town Board meeting, Danny Beaver will join the Board to finish the Ward 3 unexpired term of late Commissioner Herring. Beaver has served on the Town Board before and I look forward to working with him again.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't comment on our week of Veterans Day celebrations we just concluded.

From benefit action centers, motorcycle rides, downtown parade and two captivating concerts, the week truly was a wonderful dedication and salute to all of our veterans. Let me personally say THANK YOU to all of the men and women of our armed forces, past and present, and also say thanks to all of our Town staff and elected officials who made the week possible.

As we prepare for the holiday season, my hope is that you can reflect on the Town of today and be thankful. Together let's embrace and prepare for the future. I hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

N. Erskine Smith, Jr., ICMA-CM, AICP
Town Manager

Reader Mail

Why does the Town enclose a payment envelope with my water bill when my payment is automatically drafted?

Water/sewer bills are mailed to each resident by a bill processing company. In the past, the company we used could not tell how customers paid their bill each month, whether it was by automatic withdrawal, online or in-person at Town Hall. Therefore, payment envelopes were included with every water bill. Just a few months ago we changed our billing company and now have the ability to remove payment envelopes for accounts with automatic draft. If you are enrolled for automatic bank draft and receive an envelope with your bill, please notify our Business Office.

Town Voice
c/o Public Information Office
P.O. Box 878
Mooresville, NC 28115
comments@ci.mooresville.nc.us

New Utility Billing Policy

Beginning January 1, 2016, the Town will begin a new cycle for the collection of utility payments. This new cycle will include notable changes to the current cycle. These changes are:

- Payment will be due for water/sewer bills on the 20th of each month instead of the 10th.
- Any bill not paid by the 25th will be assessed a 5% penalty.
- Bills not paid by the 11th day of the following month will have the service disconnected.
- All disconnections will occur between the 11th - 18th of each month.
- The Town will no longer grant extensions.
- There will no longer be second notices sent for nonpayment of a bill.

The biggest benefit to residents of the new billing cycle will be residents will have 10 more days to pay their utility bill.

“This policy gives our residential customers added flexibility for paying their water bill,” Town Manager Erskine Smith said. “It makes the bill collection process simpler and reduces the amount of mailings going out.”

The first payment for residents under the new billing cycle will be January 20, 2016. For more information, call 704-663-3800.



Recycling Calendars During December, sanitation staff will be distributing 2016 recycling calendars and information cards to participants of the curbside recycling program. Since recycling collection occurs every two weeks, the calendars help homeowners identify which week (blue or green) is the correct collection week for their households.

News in Brief

Music on Main - December 19 & January 2 Mark your calendars for the Music on Main Indoor Concert Series. In December, the Town will host The Impressions on Saturday, December 19. This group has been performing more than five decades with their soulful rhythm & blues sound. This concert will feature the group IMAGE as an opening act, and be held at Mooresville High School.



On Saturday, January 2, Majesty Rose comes to the stage. You may recognize the name as a contestant on season 13 of American Idol. Originally from Goldsboro, NC, this young performer brings an Alternative/Pop sound for audiences of all ages. This concert will be at the Joe V. Knox Auditorium of the Charles Mack Citizen Center.

Seating may be secured online at www.MooresvilleRecreation.org, by calling 704-663-7026, or at the Recreation Administrative Office at 418 Carpenter Avenue. Performances begin at 6:30 p.m. Seating is \$20 for general admission and \$40 with V.I.P. meet & greet passes.

Mooresville Community Children's Theatre The Mooresville Community Children's Theatre will hold open auditions for their Winter "Play with a Purpose" and musical production of "The Princess & The Magic Pea." Auditions will be held Sunday, December 6, from 2 - 5 p.m., and Tuesday, December 8, from 7 - 9 p.m. and are open to youth ages 6-18.



Cost to audition is FREE. If cast, however, there is a \$75 participation fee with scholarships available. All auditions will be at The Charles Mack Citizen Center.

Visit www.MooresvilleChildrensTheatre.org for more information.

Holiday Schedule Town offices & facilities will be closed for the Christmas holiday on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25. Thursday customers can expect an EARLIER than usual pick-up on Christmas Eve. Also, Town offices & facilities will be closed for the New Year holiday on Friday, January 1. There will be no changes in sanitation and recycling collection.

Food for Fines During the month of December, library patrons can bring canned food to donate to the Mooresville Soup Kitchen, and the Mooresville Public Library will waive \$1 in fines for each item up to a total of \$10. Food cannot be past the expiration date. For more information, contact Circulation Services at 704-663-1101.

Be Prepared: Winter Safety

The risk of fire increases during the winter months as heaters, furnaces, stoves and candles are used to provide warmth. Mooresville Fire-Rescue wishes to remind everyone of a few tips to follow to ensure a safe winter season:

- 1) Keep all lit candles away from decorations and items that can burn. Battery operated candles are a safer alternative to having open flames in your home.
- 2) Most lights are for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- 3) Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant.
- 4) Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- 5) Replace any string of lights that have broken

cords or loose bulb connections. Also, connect no more than three strands of mini light sets.

- 6) Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- 7) Stay in the kitchen while cooking. Prepare meals to be ready before guests arrive, and do not get distracted while cooking.
- 8) Never run a vehicle inside a garage.
- 9) Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- 10) Do not heat your home with a gas oven.

Consider these statistics:

- 40% of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- 45% of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

DECEMBER 10
WATER BILLS DUE

DECEMBER 10
PLANNING BOARD
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

DECEMBER 19
MUSIC ON MAIN
MHS @ 6:30 P.M.

DECEMBER 24 & 25
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

DECEMBER 29
WATER SERVICE
DISCONNECTED FOR
NON-PAYMENT

JANUARY 1
NEW YEARS DAY HOLIDAY
TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

Stormwater: What to Know About Pet Waste

A common pollutant that can be carried by stormwater runoff is pet waste. Pet waste carries disease-causing bacteria and viruses that can cause illness in humans. When not properly disposed, pet waste can be carried into storm drains and ultimately to our lakes, rivers, and streams.

There are a couple easy steps everyone can do to prevent this from happening. First, scoop the waste using protective gloves. Second, put the waste in a plastic bag and seal it. Finally, throw the waste and gloves in the trash. These simple steps will keep waste from being washed away into surface water sources.

To learn more about what you can do to keep our water supplies clean, contact Rylee Hernandez, Stormwater Program Specialist, at 704-663-7282, or by e-mail at rhernandez@ci.moorestville.nc.us.

