

TownVoice

Library Unveils Summer Reading 2016

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MILES ATKINS
MAYOR

EDDIE DINGLER
WARD I COMMISSIONER

THURMAN HOUSTON
WARD II COMMISSIONER,
MAYOR PRO TEM

DANNY BEAVER
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



Readers of all ages are invited to participate in this year's Summer Reading Program and help us to achieve our goal of two million pages! Children and families will enjoy "On Your Mark, Get Set... Read!"

If staying active is your goal this summer, join us for library boot camp. Enjoy a fun workout with warm ups, water breaks and information on staying healthy. You'll even have a chance to play live action games to see what tasks you can perform in under a minute!

What's the buzz? Learn about bees, get a taste of honey and see a real beehive up close. As always, there will be a variety of fun-filled story times and craft activities throughout the summer. Children of all ages are welcome to attend these events.

Teens are invited to participate in "Get in the Game. Read!" Have fun with cool activities such as weekly movies and popcorn, yoga and meditation, and to see a nutritionist!

Adults will delight in "Exercise Your Mind. Read!" and have the opportunity to learn about beekeeping, attend our adult coloring club or Zentangle drawing class, and participate in yoga and meditation.

Readers of all ages are encouraged to join the Summer Reading Club and collect prizes along the way. Registration begins Wednesday, June 1. Celebrate the Summer Reading Kickoff with My Animal Guy, a one hour interactive wildlife presentation, Saturday June 4 at 11 a.m. See first-hand animals and listen to trainers share interesting and fascinating facts about animals and their roles in nature.

Teens are invited to kick it off with relay games and a scavenger hunt starting at 11am and adults can relish in our Know It All Fair by attending the different stations to learn about fitness and exercise, yoga, nutrition, farming, job employability and many more!

For more information about summer reading, visit www.MooresvilleLibrary.org or call 704-664-2927.



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May Brings Beginning of FY17 Budget



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

As spring approaches, we transition from winter to blue skies and warmer temperatures. Around town, citizens begin working in their yards just as trees, bushes and plants begin to bloom. Spring is indeed a time for renewal by getting rid of the the old and starting fresh.

For local governments in North Carolina this is the last quarter of the year. Town staff prepare for the end of the year by evaluating projects and deadlines to ensure everything is completed by June 30. Not only is the town finishing up the year, but the staff and Board are preparing for the New Year beginning in July.

In May, I will be presenting the proposed FY17 budget to the Town Board. The Board will hold workshops on May 17 and 19 to review the proposed budget. They will then make recommendations for me to present the final budget at the Town Board meeting on June 6. The budget will be online and copies will be available at the Library and Town Hall for public viewing and input. Finally, a public hearing for the budget will likely be held at the June 20 Town Board meeting.

Government budgets and the services and programs they provide are not the same everywhere. Let me provide you a brief summary...

Iredell County taxes pay primarily for three items; schools, health and social services, and the judicial system (jail, court, sheriff's office, etc.). This is an over simplification, but the vast majority of expense payments cover these three major services. Their total budget currently is \$185 million.

As a resident of the Town of Mooresville, your taxes provide for the following services: (The numbers are rounded and based on the current FY16 budget)

1. Public Safety (fire and police services) = \$17 million
2. Public Works (road/sidewalk construction, repair and maintenance), Sanitation (trash, recycling and debris removal), Fleet, Traffic, Building and Grounds, and Development Services (Planning, Zoning and Development) = \$11 million

3. Recreation and Culture (Library, Community Centers, Golf Course, Charles Mack Citizen Center, Museum and Art Depot) = \$11 million

4. General Town Government (Administration, Town Board and Town Manager, Finance, Public Information, Legal, IT, Human Resources, and Economic Development Incentives) = \$19 million

Since 2003 the Town has borrowed money for recreation and parks, street improvements, a new public operations center, three fire stations, an expanded Library, an addition to Town Hall and purchased a cable/internet system (MI-Connection) for a total of \$173.5 million dollars.

We are always looking for ways to reduce the tax burden on all of the residents. Our Finance Department has restructured our debt from the original amount of \$173.5M to approximately \$126M. The Town hasn't raised property taxes since 2008, and I'm hopeful we can continue that trend. Staff is constantly being creative, exploring new uses of technology, and ways to increase organizational efficiency.

As the flowers begin to bloom and the weather warms remember for your local government one year is ending and another year is beginning. Each year provides a fresh opportunity to be creative, try new ideas and continue to strive for excellence. Continuing a high level of service to you, the citizens, while maintaining a steady tax rate is a crucial goal during the budget process. Happy New "fiscal" Year!

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

Please send any questions or suggestions for a future issue to the address below:

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



Summer Concerts

The Music on Main Summer Concert Series is back with FREE outdoor concerts from May to October. All concerts will be on the Town Hall Lawn except the July 3 concert, which will be at the Lowe's YMCA. The summer lineup includes:

May 6 - Liverpool (Beatles Tribute)

Liverpool is a five man band playing more songs than other Beatles tribute bands. The group is known for great harmonies and you will be singing to the first song you hear!

June 3 - Darrell Harwood (Country)

Opening Act - Coddlecreek

A native of China Grove, Darrell Harwood brings a must see, high energy country party. This show features classic country favorites and modern hits any country music fan is sure to love.

July 3 - Rockie Lynne (Country)

Opening Acts - Dane Page & Glass Hammers

Rockie Lynne is a nationally acclaimed country music artist who has been featured on "Good Morning America" and Country Music Television. A native of Statesville, Lynne has toured the country and been part of USO trips to Afghanistan and Iraq.

August 5 - Hip Pocket (Beach/Variety)

Opening Act - Lakeside Drive

If you're looking for a fun and entertaining night with all the songs you love, Hip Pocket is it! Hip Pocket has been compared to the Band of Oz and Bill Deal & The Rhondels.

September 2 - Band of Oz (Beach)

The Band of Oz continues to be one of the most successful and recognized groups in the Southeast. Performing since the 1970's, this beach sensation group appeals to crowds of all ages.

October 7 - RadioJacks (Pop/Top 40)

RadioJacks is unique in the cover band world in that they only play current radio hits. RadioJacks bring top performances to every show and perform songs by Katy Perry, Maroon 5 and Justin Timberlake.

News in Brief

Race City Festival - May 14 On Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. staff from several Town departments will be providing information from our booth at the Race City Festival. Come visit and learn more about recreation summer camps, recycling & sanitation services, library programs, volunteer opportunities and commissions, and more.



National Public Works Week The week of May 15 - 21 will be recognized across the country as National Public Works Week. Instituted as a public education effort in 1960, National Public Works Week seeks to bring attention to the importance of public works in our community. Public Works for the Town of Moorsville includes Streets, Sanitation and Fleet Maintenance departments.

Budget Workshops - May 17 & 19 On Tuesday, May 17, and Thursday, May 19 Town staff and the Town Board will have budget workshops in preparation for the FY17 budget. These meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m., and be held in room 3211 at Town Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Festival of Food Trucks - May 21 The Moorsville Downtown Commission will host the monthly Festival of Food Trucks on the third Saturday of each month (April - October) from 5 - 8:30 p.m. North Main Street from Moore Avenue to Iredell Avenue will be closed for the events, so bring a chair, sample some delicious dishes, walk the streets and visit downtown merchants. For more information, call the Moorsville Downtown Commission at 704-662-3336.

Housing Strategy Open House - May 24 On Tuesday, May 24 the Town of Moorsville will host a third comprehensive housing strategy Open House. This drop-in event is from 5 - 7 p.m. at The Charles Mack Citizen Center. Residents are encouraged to provide comments and feedback on the Town's housing strategy initiative.

Holiday Closing - May 30 Town offices and facilities will be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Residential sanitation and recycling customers will experience a one day delay in collection during this holiday week.

May is Electrical Safety Month

May is National Electrical Safety month and Mooresville Fire-Rescue encourages you to get grounded in the basics of electrical safety.

According to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), electrical fires were involved in an estimated annual average of 47,820 reported home structure fires. These fires resulted in 455 civilian deaths with \$1.5 billion in property damage.

Review the electrical safety tips below and take action to reduce electrical fires:

- **When buying**, selling or remodeling a home, have it inspected by a qualified electrician.
- **If a fuse blows** or a circuit breaker trips often, find out why and correct the problem.

Replace fuses with the correct amp rating for the circuit they protect and never replace a fuse with a higher rated fuse.

- **Only plug** one heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, toaster, space heater, etc.) into a receptacle outlet at a time.
- **Replace** cracked or damaged electrical cords.
- **Avoid** pinching cords against walls or furniture or running them under carpets or across doorways. This can cause a fire.
- **Consider** having additional circuits or receptacles added by a qualified electrician.
- **If an appliance malfunctions**, unplug it before beginning any repair work. If the problem continues, call a qualified electrician.

For more information, contact Mooresville Fire-Rescue at 704-664-1338.

MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR

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

MAY 12
PLANNING BOARD
TOWN HALL @ 6:00 P.M.

MAY 14
RACE CITY FESTIVAL
DOWNTOWN MOORESVILLE
9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

MAY 16
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL @ 6:00 P.M.

MAY 17 & 19
BUDGET WORKSHOPS
TOWN HALL @ 6:00 P.M.

MAY 20
WATER BILLS DUE

MAY 24
HOUSING STRATEGY
OPEN HOUSE
CMCC @ 5 - 7 P.M.

Creating A Stormwater Friendly Lawn

Grass clippings are a source of nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus and, if allowed to enter storm drains, can become a source of stormwater pollution. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus in our surface waters can lead to excessive algae growth blocking sunlight and preventing other plants from growing.

When algae dies and decays it uses up oxygen in the water that fish and other aquatic plants need to survive. To prevent grass clippings from polluting stormwater runoff, residents can do a number of things. When mowing, sweep or blow grass clippings back onto your lawn. Grass clippings decompose quickly and can be an excellent natural source of fertilizer. This can reduce your annual fertilizer needs (and costs).

Also, allowing your grass to grow to the correct height for that type of grass and cutting no more than 1/3 of the grass height at a time can create a



more stormwater friendly lawn. Composting is another option residents can pursue if you do not wish to push them back into your lawn. Compost can be used as a fertilizer or as mulch around trees, shrubs or other plants.

If you wish for the Town's sanitation department to collect your grass clippings, place them above the curb at the edge of your property.

For more information, call Rylee Hernandez, Stormwater Program Specialist, at 704-799-4068.