



Town of Zebulon

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Election Results

This being an election year it is important to report the outcome of the election of 2011. This year there were three seats to be filled and there were five fine candidates that ran for those three seats.

There were three incumbents and two new comers to the race. The new comers were Annie Jean Moore and Glenn York. Annie Jean really wasn't a new comer, in that, she served as a member of the Planning Board for nine years and is currently an alternate on the Board of Adjustment. Mr. York was appointed to the Parks & Recreation Board this past July and has been an active member on that Board. The incumbents were R. Dale Beck, Don Bumgarner and Curtis Strickland.

It was a tight race, with the votes being close, the election results were that R. Dale Beck, Don Bumgarner and Curtis Strickland were all re-elected to the Board of Commissioners.

Thank you to everyone who came out and voted.

18 years of Successful Budgeting and Counting

The annual audit of the Town's financial statements and activities as of June 30, 2011 was completed in September by the firm of Joyce & Company, CPA from Cary, NC. The auditors have given the Town's records a "clean" report, meaning that they believe the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the activities of the Town. As part of their audit, they also reviewed the federal and state grants awarded to the Town to make sure the Town remains in compliance with the terms of these grants.

During Fiscal Year 2011, General Fund revenues totaled \$7,469,962, which exceeded the budgeted projections by approximately 8%. Property tax collection rates were higher than projected, an increase in consumer spending led to growth in sales tax revenues, and the opening of the Community Center has generated additional funds from programs. General Fund expenditures came in under budget by 4.5% and totaled \$7,058,272. Savings were realized in the areas of capital projects, contract services, and maintenance costs.

As of June 30, 2011, the Town of Zebulon's General Fund had a total fund balance of \$7,023,439, of which \$635,366 is restricted by external agencies for certain uses. The remaining balance of \$6,388,073 is either committed or assigned by the Board to a specific use or can be used for any purpose. This balance represents 79 percent of the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2012, which is well above the minimum policy level of 50 percent.

A copy of the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is available at Town Hall or on the Town's website under the Finance Department.

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From the Fireside.....

Winter & Holiday Fire Safety

As the cool wind starts blowing in, reminding us that fall and winter is here, we immediately start thinking of warmth. Fire in one form or another, helps us to fill that need. It's time to have your heating system checked, your chimney inspected, clean your portable heaters and get prepared for winter. Your best defense against a fire in your home is a smoke detector. As simple and inexpensive as they are, they can save your life! Check your detectors to be sure they are operating properly. When you are asleep, they are awake, standing by to sound the alarm if smoke is detected, long before you may be aware of it. Always keep combustible items at least three feet from any open flame or heat source (kerosene or electrical heaters, gas logs, etc.)

Winter holidays are a time for our families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Chose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candies away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands on mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- One-quarter of home decoration fires happen in December.
- More than half of the December home decoration fires are started by candles.
- Half of the holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.
- Practice fire safety constantly so you won't become a fire statistic!

We welcome any questions that you may have regarding fire safety. Stop by the fire station at 113 E. Vance St. or call us at 919-269-6487.

Holiday Shopping Tips

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your driver license or identification card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, or bus stops.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Consider shopping with someone rather than going alone.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, con artists may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- Park in a well lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk. Move to and from your vehicle with confidence and "purpose". Have keys ready before getting to your car so you do not have to search for them while standing near it.

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- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.
- Report suspicious people or activity to law enforcement immediately!

Home Safety Tips While Away

- Valuable items, such as televisions, stereos, and computers should be inscribed with an identifying number unique to its owner (do not use your entire social security number).
- Create an up-to-date home inventory including make, model, serial numbers, other detailed descriptions, and photographs of items of value (including jewelry). This inventory should be kept somewhere safe, out of the house.
- At least two light timers should be set to turn the lights and TV on and off in a logical sequence when away for an extended time period to give the appearance that someone is home.
- The motion detector or other alarm system (if you have one) should be activated when you leave home.
- Mail and newspaper deliveries should be stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up when you are away from home for a period of time.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to tend the yard, shovel the snow, and watch your home when you are away or have a trusted friend or relative house sit in your absence.
- Make sure all doors and windows are locked when you leave, even if you have an alarm system.

Contact the Police Department 919-823-1818 to request extra patrols of your residence while you are out of town.

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TAKE A STAND AGAINST LITTERING

The Town of Zebulon is urging residents to help eliminate unsightly littering and illegal dumping along our streets by reporting such incidents and utilizing proper methods of waste disposal.

Swat-a-Litterbug

Residents who see a person littering should report the license plate number of the offending vehicle to the NCDOT's Office of Beautifications Programs at 1-877-DOT-4YOU (1-877-368-4968). The NCDOT will then notify the vehicle owner of the littering offense; inform the vehicle owner of the penalties for littering; and urge the litterbug to stop littering.

Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping is the dumping of any waste on any property without the consent of the owner. Most illegal dumping is done to avoid paying disposal fees at landfills or failure to take the time and effort to dispose of items properly.

Anyone who observes a person illegally dumping should report it immediately by calling the Zebulon Police Department at 919-823-1818. With adequate information from an eyewitness, the Town can and will pursue prosecution.

For information about Zebulon's bulk waste pickup, visit www.townofzebulon.org or contact Public Works at 919-269-5285.

NCDOT GRANT ROADWAY PROJECTS UNDERWAY

Zebulon Public Works is currently managing two NCDOT Grant Roadway Projects:

- Boys and Girls Club Roadway Improvements funded by a \$150,000 NCDOT grant and balance of construction by the Boys and Girls Club through a local agreement.
- Hwy 96 (Arendell Ave) Roadway widening between Hendricks Drive and Pearces Road. The project is funded by a NCDOT/CAMPO grant of 80% of project cost with the remaining 20% from Town of Zebulon.

Turner Asphalt was awarded the construction contract for the Boys and Girls Club project, with construction that is currently underway. The goal is to have the Shepard School roadway widened (new turn lane) by mid-December in time for the opening of the facility. Due to the approaching winter months, the construction on Old Bunn Road, sidewalk and final overlay on Shepard School will begin in Spring 2012 with completion in mid-June 2012. Engineering construction administration is being handled by The Wooten Company.

Hwy 96 (Arendell Ave) Roadway widening project is still in the bidding phase. Construction will begin in March 2012 and be completed by July 2012. The improvements include an 11' wide turn lane, curb and gutter, sidewalk, storm drainage and roadway overlay. Engineering design was completed by The Wooten Company.



ZEBULON PUBLIC WORKS IMPLEMENTING STORMWATER PROGRAM

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With the recent designation of Town of Zebulon as a Phase II stormwater community by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, The Town of Zebulon began implementing a structured program based on six control measures stated below:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement
- Illicit Discharge Detection
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention for Municipal Facilities

Staff has been developing educational materials and activities to encourage public involvement in preventing stormwater pollution. If you would like to join a stormwater volunteer group, please call us at 919-269-5285.

The Town of Zebulon has entered into a local agreement with Wake County to administer construction site stormwater runoff and post construction stormwater management. The County will review and approve new development quantity and quality of stormwater leaving the newly developed site. Wake County will also ensure private stormwater devices/structures are properly maintained and meet original design requirements.

As part of our pollution prevention plans, Public Works staff has begun a systematic cleaning of the stormwater infrastructure throughout town. Cleaning the basins and repairing the structures prevents polluted matter from entering our natural creeks and Little River. Another method we are employing to remove and prevent pollution from the stormwater system is street sweeping. Street dust and dirt carries harmful chemicals into our waterways, affecting water quality and wildlife.

Together Wake County and Zebulon will work to investigate and inspect for illicit discharges

throughout the town. Through these measures, the Town of Zebulon hopes to have a positive impact on the stormwater in our community.

Santa's Workshop

Drop your children off for an afternoon with Santa's helpers. They will enjoy a fun filled day of games, crafts, and Christmas movies. Preregister by Friday, Nov. 25.

Ages 4-10.

Friday, December 2

Zebulon Community Center

4:00-9:00PM \$25 Resident \$35 Non-Resident

Pictures with Santa



Santa is taking a break from toy making to visit with the children of Zebulon. Free Photograph with Santa by Leslie Privette!

Friday, December 2

Town Municipal Complex

5:30-7:30 PM Free!

Operation North Pole

Santa's Helpers will be taking a break from toy making to make phone calls to Zebulon children on Tuesday, December 13th. Parents should call 919-823-0432 for more information.

Request forms are available at www.townofzebulon.org and should be submitted by Friday, December 10. FREE! Ages 3-7

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Meeting Schedule

Board of Commissioners

First Monday of each month at 7:00pm
(If you wish to address the Board
there is a public comment section at
the beginning of the meeting.)
Third Wednesday after the regular meeting
is a work session at 7:00pm

Public Hearings

Second Monday of each month at 7:00pm
(if necessary) No notice is needed if
you wish to speak at a public hearing

Planning Board

Second Monday meeting immediately
following the Joint Public Hearing
Fourth Monday of the month on an as
needed basis

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Third Monday of every month at 7:00pm

Board of Adjustment

Last Thursday of the month at 7:00pm
(if necessary)

Technical Review Committee

Last Tuesday of the month at 10:00am
(if necessary)

Appeal Hearing Board

Second Thursday in February, May, August
and November at 9:00am

Important Numbers

Town Manager	919/269-7455 ext 1801
Town Clerk	919/269-7455 ext 1800
Planning Department	919/269-7455 ext 1810
Finance Department	919/269-7455 ext 1804
Parks & Recreation	919/269-7455 ext 1815
Police Department (non-emergency)	919/269-7455 ext 1818
Community Center	919/823-0432
Public Works	919/269-5285
Fire Department (non-emergency)	919/269-6487
Water Billing (City of Raleigh)	919/890-3245
Fire, Police or EMS Emergency	911
General Information	919/269-7455 ext 1804
Fax Number	919/269-6200

All meetings are held in the Council
Chambers located on the second
floor of the Town Hall Building.