



Town of Fletcher

PRIDE IN OUR PAST ~ FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

300 Old Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732
Telephone: 828-687-3985
Email: info@fletchernc.org
Website: www.fletchernc.org

July 2020

Town Council

Rod Whiteside, Mayor
Phone.....(828)545-8913

Sheila Franklin, Councilwoman
District #1.....(828)684-5676

Preston Blakely, Councilman
District #2.....(828)230-2838

Bob Davy, Mayor Pro-Tem
District #3.....(828)687-0313

Eddie Henderson, Councilman
District #4.....(828)231-4811

Town Phone Numbers

Town Manager.....(828)687-3985

Town Fax.....(828)687-7133

Police/Fire Emergency.....911

Police Dispatch.....(828)697-4911

Police Non-emerg..(828)687-7922

Parks & Rec.....(828)687-0751

Public Works.....(828)654-9208

Town Meetings

Town Council Agenda Meeting

1st Monday of month at 6:00 pm

Town Council Regular Meeting

2nd Monday of month at 6:00 pm

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm

All meetings are held at the Town Hall located at 300 Old Cane Creek Road in Fletcher.

The Town of Fletcher Newsletter is published for residents of the Town and reports on issues and events that affect our community. Past issues of our newsletter can be found on our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/>.

You are encouraged to contact us with your questions and comments by e-mailing info@fletchernc.org. Also, please visit our web site at www.fletchernc.org for additional Town information.

If you would prefer to receive an online version of our newsletter rather than a hard copy, please contact us at info@fletchernc.org.

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News from the June Town Council Meeting

- The Town Council took action on the following matters:
 - * Approved a property tax release from the Henderson County Tax Office.
 - * Set a Public Hearing for July 13, 2020 to consider CD# 2020-02, a Conditional District application from Graycliff Capital for a 198-unit residential development on Rutledge Road.
 - * Approved Budget Amendment #2 to the fiscal year 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance for resurfacing expenditures on Wilkie Way and Running Briar Road.
- Bob Williford, of Henderson County Chamber of Commerce, presented a request for \$1,500 to help fund a Shop & Dine Henderson County advertising campaign to help boost our local economy. Town Council approved the request.
- A Public Hearing was held regarding the fiscal year 2020-2021 proposed Town budget. Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, presented the Budget Ordinance which proposed Town General Fund revenue and expenditures of \$7,623,492 with an Ad Valorem tax rate of \$0.34 per \$100 of property valuation at a 99% tax collection rate. The \$0.34 tax rate remains unchanged from previous years. The identified FY 20/21 Budget goals included: (1) maintaining existing Town service levels with the addition of potentially one new position; (2) determining a contribution which the Town could make to help fund the construction of a new Library facility; (3) continuing to dedicate 8.5¢ of the tax levy toward year five of the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan; and (4) continuing to work with developer partners to determine concrete plans for development of the Town Center Project. The fiscal year 2020-2021 Budget Message can be found on our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Budget-Message.-FY-2020-2021.pdf>.
- Mark Biberdorf provided an update on the creation of a Facebook page to be used for general Town information. He shared that plans are to create a Facebook page which would supplement the Parks & Recreation and the Police Department pages. The Town page would basically be one-way communication about Town services, events, and possible emergency communications rather than serving as a forum for public comments or questions. Comments or questions would be directed to the "Contact Us" section of the Town's website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/> or e-mailed to info@fletchernc.org. Our goal is to have the Facebook page live by July 1st, at the latest.
- Mark Biberdorf provided an update on Carolina Truffieres' interest in leasing or purchasing a portion of the Town owned property near Meritor. They would like to re-engage with the Town to discuss different options for truffle farming on the property. Town Council asked Mr. Biberdorf to draft a 10-year lease for discussion at the next Council meeting.
- A statement issued by the Mayor and Town Council in response to the death of George Floyd was read aloud by Mayor Rod Whiteside.

NC DOT Update

(Bob Davy, Mayor Pro-Tem, attended a meeting of The Metropolitan Planning Organization and Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee and shared this update.)

NC DOT is currently facing a serious budget shortfall due to weather related clean-up/repairs, higher than budgeted project costs, and the COVID Stay-at-Home order negatively impacting their revenue sources due to lower consumer driving and vehicle purchases. DOT is currently addressing this budget shortfall in several ways:

- (1) DOT projects that were not already funded will be postponed or delayed and there will be no new projects or contracts issued:
 - I-26 from Asheville to Airport Road has been funded.
 - I-26 from Airport Road to Hwy 64 has been funded.
 - Hwy 64 from Hwy 25 that was going to be six lanes instead of eight lanes has not been funded. It is expected that this project will be pushed into the future.
 - The Sweeten Creek Road widening project, to 4 lanes, has been pushed back to 2024.
 - The project on Old Airport Road is expected to be completed in September 2020.
- (2) DOT is delaying contracts and reducing their staff of contactors and temporary employees.
- (3) Some programs are being suspended, such as the wildflower planting program, litter sweep, and mowing along roadways.
- (4) Other activities are being reduced such as the repair and patching of road pavement, repairing guard rails along roads, and reducing the number of additional installs of requested traffic signals.

Because DOT does maintain some roads within our Town, you may notice some of these changes.

Town Board Vacancies

The Town of Fletcher is currently seeking to fill two Board vacancies. The **Historic Resources Commission** endeavors to preserve historic districts and landmarks within Henderson County. These important elements of our culture, history, or architectural history are preserved for the education, pleasure, and enrichment of County residents and beyond. The Town of Fletcher will appoint an individual to represent Fletcher on this Commission with final appointment given by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners. The Fletcher **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**, as appointed by our Town Council, makes decisions concerning recreation in our Town. If you wish to help make Fletcher a great place to play and live or for more information about this Board, please contact Greg Walker at 828-687-0751. Applications for these 2 positions can be found at <https://www.fletchernc.org/town-government/town-committees/board-openings/>.



July 4th Holiday

Fletcher Town Hall will be closed Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

July 4th Holiday Schedule

Trash and recycling scheduled to be picked up on Friday, July 3rd will instead be picked up on Monday, July 6th due to the holiday.

Reminders

Public Works employees are mowing, trimming and doing other road maintenance projects on our Town streets. Please observe posted signs that they are working in a particular area and drive cautiously. Thank you!

When mowing your lawn, please remember to mow, blow, and dispose of yard clippings in appropriate ways. Clippings should not be swept into streets or drainage sewers where they can clog storm drains and produce rainwater backups.

Public Works also does not pick up grass clippings. If you wish to dispose of leaves or grass clippings, the Henderson County Transfer station at 191 Transfer Station Drive in Hendersonville will accept these materials, but there is a disposal fee. You may reach them at 828-697-4505 for more information.

Public Hearing Notice

Rutledge Road Development Proposal

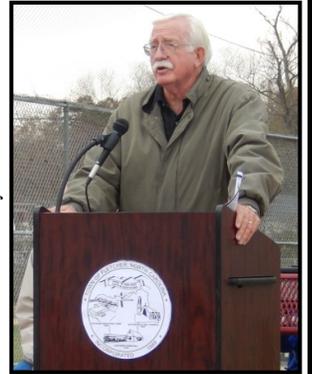
During the July 13, 2020 Town Council Meeting, a public hearing will be held regarding CD Application #2020-02, a proposal from Graycliff Capital for a 198-unit multifamily residential development on Rutledge Road adjacent to Rutledge Lake RV Park. The meeting will be at 6:00 pm in Town Council Chambers at 300 Old Cane Creek Road.

On May 19th, the Fletcher Planning Board voted 6-1 to recommend that Council deny the application and leave the current zoning of R-2 in place. The current R-2 district does not allow for multifamily residential development. The developer is seeking a Conditional District of R-3 in order to allow the proposed development.

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, the Town is encouraging the public to submit written comments **PRIOR** to the July 13th meeting date. If you have already submitted a written comment, you do not need to submit a new comment. Staff has compiled all previously submitted input and will provide Council a summary during the public hearing, and it will be added to the official record. Anyone wishing to give input in person during the public hearing will be able to do so. However, please keep in mind as of this writing we do not yet know the official State guidelines regarding limits on mass gatherings in July. The Town will post updates regarding the meeting logistics on our website at www.fletchernc.org closer to the meeting date and we appreciate your understanding as we navigate these uncertain times. Please contact Planning Director, Eric Rufa, at (828)687-3985 or by email at e.rufa@fletchernc.org if you have questions or comments.

Remembering Former Mayor William “Bill” Moore (1944 - 2020)

Mayor William “Bill” Moore served the Town of Fletcher “tirelessly and diligently” for twenty-two years. He was first elected to Town Council in November 1995 and then elected as Mayor in 1999 and held that office until December 2017. Mayor Moore’s kind, friendly, humble spirit served him and the residents of Fletcher well. He served as a leader and advocate for the growth and advancement of the Town of Fletcher. His sense of humor, common sense, and patience made him a stabilizing presence on the Fletcher Town Council for over two decades.



In January 2018, the Town of Fletcher honored Mayor Moore by renaming Fletcher Community Park to "Bill Moore Community Park". As a life long Fletcher resident, he was a strong champion of Fletcher Park and served as the first president of the Recreation Commission. He was a staple at most all Park events and an eager participant at the Town’s annual memorial golf tournament.

In February 2018, Mayor Rod Whiteside and Fletcher Town Council proclaimed February 12th as “Bill Moore Day” in the Town of Fletcher to honor and thank “Bill” for his dedication and service to the Governing Board of the Town of Fletcher. He was supportive of the Town moving forward, but always at an affordable pace. There is no doubt that Mayor Moore’s leadership and diligent efforts had a large hand in making Fletcher what it is today. He will be missed.

Funeral services for Mayor Moore were held June 19, 2020 at Patty’s Chapel Cemetery in Fletcher. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Bill Moore Community Park in memory of Mayor Moore may do so through the Town of Fletcher Park Development Fund.



2016 Town of Fletcher Christmas Parade



2014 Robert M. Parris Memorial Golf Tournament
Mark Biberdorf, Mayor Moore, Hugh Clark, Bob Davy

New Executive Order Effective June 26, 2020 at 5:00 pm Requires Face Coverings

Governor Cooper recently issued Executive Order # 147, effective June 26th at 5:00 pm, which extends "Safer At Home Phase 2" until July 17th at 5:00 pm. This latest Executive Order leaves current Phase 2 restrictions in place for another three weeks and continues:

Certain businesses being open with restrictions and following state health guidelines, including: restaurants, child care businesses, overnight and day camps, personal care, grooming, massage, tattoo businesses, and indoor and outdoor pools. Remaining closed are: public playgrounds, bars and nightclubs, movie theaters, museums, bowling alleys, amusement parks, arcades, skating rinks, bingo parlors, and other gaming establishments. The following facilities that operate within an indoor space remain closed: martial arts facilities, dance studios, trampoline and rock-climbing facilities, roller skating rinks, ice skating rinks, and basketball courts. People may gather together for social purposes, using the mass gathering limit of 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. Visitation in skilled nursing homes and combination homes remains restricted except for certain compassionate care situations.

This latest Order also requires people to wear face coverings in public spaces, whether inside or outside, where physical distancing of 6 feet is not possible, with some exceptions and with some enforcement. If you need a face mask, see our June newsletter at <https://www.fletchernc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/June-2020-newsletter.pdf> for some suggestions. Face covering questions/answers regarding this new Executive Order can be found at <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO-147-FAQ.pdf>. This latest Executive Order can be viewed at <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO147-Phase-2-Extension.pdf>.



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

828-687-0751 www.facebook.com/FletcherParksandRecreation/

FLETCHER CONNECTS



Our consultants from Traffic Planning and Design are busy preparing the draft bicycle and pedestrian projects for *Fletcher Connects: A Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the Town of Fletcher*. Community members that took part in our survey and attended our community meeting helped the team identify which projects are important to our community. We'll be asking for your help to rank the projects before we produce the planning document. Here's how you can help:

- **Learn about and rank the projects.** We'll have the projects ready for review on July 16, 2020. Make a note to check the Town's website at www.fletchernc.org for a link to the projects and ranking instructions. The Town of Fletcher will provide a robo call closer to the date to remind you to participate.
- **Join us for a live question-and-answer session.** We will host two live Q&A sessions with our consultant team on Thursday, July 23. We'll host one at 10:00 AM and another at 6:00 PM. Visit www.fletchernc.org on July 16 for instructions on how to take part in the live sessions.
- **Submit questions to the team.** If you can't join us for one of the live Q&A sessions, you are welcome to submit questions to the consulting team. Visit the Town's website www.fletchernc.org on July 16 for instructions on how to submit questions to the team.

Thank you for the input you have provided, and we look forward to hearing from you later in July!

Town of Fletcher Park Status

Due to NC pausing in Phase 2 until the Governor's Executive Order # 147 expires on July 17, 2020, our park status is:

- **Bill Moore Community Park is open**, except for:
 - The ballfields and the lacrosse field are available for public use, but currently no field rentals
 - The playground remains closed
 - The fitness pad remains closed
 - Face coverings are required when 6 feet social distancing is not possible, but exercising is exempt
 - The Steelcase Shelter is available for rental of 25 persons or less. Visit our website at <https://fletcherparks.recdesk.com/Community/Home> to reserve your date. If your future reservation is negatively impacted by an outdoor gathering limit change after July 17th, we will work with you to reserve a new date or refund your money.
 - The July 10th & 17th "Concerts in the Park" have been cancelled. We are working on an alternative -- watch our Facebook page.
- **Kate's Park and Kate's Shelter remain closed.** No rental reservations are being accepted for Kate's Shelter at this time.

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300 OLD CANE CREEK ROAD
FLETCHER, NC 28732

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Document Shred & Pill Drop Event Update

The Town of Fletcher, in conjunction with the Local Government Federal Credit Union, has rescheduled our free document shredding event for Saturday, September 12th from 9am to 12pm in the southside parking lot at Fletcher Town Hall. The Police Department will also be hosting a Pill Drop event to allow for the safe disposal of unused medications. More details will be provided as the event date draws closer.

Volunteers returning to Meals on Wheels

Staying-at-home has everyone missing friends, family, co-workers, and Meals on Wheels (MOW) clients. MOW is happy to report that along with some new safety protocol/training offered by the MOW department, they are now re-engaging volunteers! If you are ready to re-engage or volunteer for the first time, contact the MOW office at 828-693-6693 or via e-mail at mow@coahc.org.



The Library is currently closed to the public. Please visit www.hendersoncountync.gov/library or call 828-687-1218 for services updates and Summer Reading information.

2020 Town of Fletcher Property Taxes

Town of Fletcher 2020 real estate and personal property tax bills will be mailed in late July. If you do not receive a tax bill, but know you should, please contact us at 828-687-3985. Although it may seem odd, NC General Statute states that failure to receive a bill does not negate your obligation to pay your taxes. Taxes will be due September 1, 2020 and past due on January 6, 2021. Remember...you may pay your taxes in payments during this 5-month window, August to December, rather than paying in one lump-sum in January.



If you leave home, know your Ws!



WEAR
a cloth face covering.



WAIT
6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.



WASH
your hands often or use hand sanitizer.

@NCDHHS

#StayStrongNC