

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 Facebook: FletcherNC.Gov Website: www.fletchernc.org

January 2022

Happy New Year!

Town Council

Preston Blakely, Mayor Phone.....(828)230-2838

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

Vacant, Council Member District #2.....

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

Trevor Lance, Councilman
District #4.....(828)606-8990
Town Phone Numbers

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. For additional Town information, please visit our website at www.fletchernc.org or visit our Facebook page located at https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov/.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

News from the December 13th Town Council Meeting

- Newly elected Councilmembers Shelia Franklin and Trevor Lance were sworn in by Town Clerk Christine Thompson.
- Town Councilwoman Shelia Franklin commented that Councilman Bob Davy will have a nomination for the District 2 vacant Council seat at the January Council meeting.
- Town Council approved property tax releases from the Henderson County Tax Office.
- Council reappointed Spencer Stevens to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board to serve another three-year term which will expire in December 2024.
- A Fletcher Elementary School student gave a presentation and sought funding to assist in the school's purchase of sun shades for their playground. The matter will be considered by Council during the March budget meeting.
- A Public Hearing was held to consider incentives for Project Smile as presented by Brittany Brady of Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development. An existing industry in Henderson County wants to consolidate three of their locations into one location where they can expand. The project, if approved, would invest \$11.5 million over 24 months and add 96 additional employees between 2022-2025 with an average wage of \$41,850. Town Council approved the participation of the Town of Fletcher in the proposed incentive package.
- The Public Hearing scheduled for this meeting to discuss the approval of an economic development agreement and purchase and sale agreement for the Fletcher Town Center project was continued to the January Council meeting.
- Jabbo Pressley, Public Works Director, recommended the following Powell Bill street improvements be considered: street resurfacing of Glensprings Drive, Barrington Court, and Hedgewood Court; and culvert pipe replacement on Belmont Drive. At the January Council meeting, McGill Associates will provide an estimated cost to complete these four projects. Town Council approved the project list.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, explained that the passage of Senate Bill 300, Criminal Justice Reform, requires local governments to remove any criminal penalties for violation of ten specific areas in local code of ordinances. It also requires some additional wording changes for ordinances which do allow for criminal penalties and for the manner in which new ordinances with criminal penalties can be introduced. He explained that Staff reviewed our existing ordinances and we do have a six sections that are not in compliance with the guidelines of this new bill. For these sections, Staff recommended that civil penalties replace the criminal penalties. Council approved the recommendation.
- Mark Biberdorf shared a proposed budget schedule for fiscal year 2022-2023 with a target date of June 13, 2022, for a public hearing on the upcoming proposed budget.

Holiday Observances

<u>December</u>: Fletcher Town Hall will be closed December 23rd and 24th for the Christmas holiday and Friday, December 31st in observance of New Year's Day. The changes to the trash and recycling schedules are shown on the following page.



<u>January</u>: On Monday, January 17th Fletcher Town Hall will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No trash or recycling routes will be impacted.

Planning Board/ZBA At-Large Seat Vacancy

The Town of Fletcher is seeking to fill a vacancy on the Planning Board & Zoning Board of Adjustment. (*Members serve dual roles on the one Board*). Functions of the Planning Board include recommendations to the Town Council on applications related to Rezoning, Conditional Rezoning, Special Use Permits, and text amendments to the Town's Land Development Code. The Board also reviews preliminary plats for major subdivisions as well as design review for projects in the "Heart of Fletcher" Overlay. Functions of the Zoning Board of Adjustment include quasi-judicial hearings regarding applications for variances and appeals on zoning matters.

An "At-large" seat may be filled by anyone who resides in the Town limits, and is not specific to a particular Council district. The Board typically meets once per month, on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 PM. Anyone interested in applying may access the application at this link: https://www.fletchernc.org/town-government/town-committees/board-openings/ OR by contacting either the Town Clerk or Planning Director at (828) 687-3985. Applications will be accepted through January 31, 2022. The Town Council is responsible for appointments to all volunteer Boards. Applicants would need to be available to attend a Council meeting as part of the process if requested.

New Town of Fletcher Mayor Sworn In

Former Mayor Rod Whiteside administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Mayor Preston Blakely on December 6th in Town Council Chambers. The December Agenda Meeting, also planned for the 6th, was unexpectedly cancelled but



nevertheless, several family members, friends and Fletcher residents were present to support our incoming Mayor.

Property Tax Reminders

- > 2021 tax payments must be received in our office by 1/5/22 or have a USPS postmark on or before 1/5/22 to avoid a 2% late payment charge, to be added on 1/6/22. You may pay online at www.fletchernc.org/departments/finance/property-taxes/ if you know your "Roll Number". Call us at 828-687-3985 to obtain your roll number. Beyond paying on our website, you can mail your payment to Town Hall at 300 Old Cane Creek Road, pay in person at the Town Hall with cash/check/money order, or place your check/money order in our drop box 24 hours/7 days a week located in the Town Hall south side parking lot.
- > After 1/5/22, please utilize the online "Pay Balances" option on our website to view the *current tax amount* due, since interest is added each month until paid in full.
- > Remember to list your personal and business personal property taxes plus any real estate changes >\$100 by 1/31/22 with the Henderson Co. Tax Assessor's Office.
- > Applications for property tax relief are being accepted by the Henderson Co. Tax Accessor's Office until 6/1/22.

PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

December Pickup Schedule Changes

Trash and recycling pickup scheduled for December 23rd will be picked up December 22nd. Trash and recycling pickup scheduled for December 24th will be picked up December 27th. Trash and recycling scheduled for pick up on December 31st will be picked up December 30th.

"Last Call" for Leaf Pickup

Bagged leaf pickup will continue through December and then will conclude until early April. Call 828-654-9208 24-hours/7-days a week to leave a voice message, visit https://www.fletchernc.org/leaf-brush-pickup/, or call Town Hall at 828-687-3985 to make a pickup request. Don't forget to make your request soon.

Christmas Tree Pickup



The Town will pick up and dispose of your live Christmas trees after the holiday and through the month of January. All decorations must be removed from the tree and we do not accept artificial trees. Please utilize one of the three contact methods listed in the above "Leaf Pickup" article to make your Christmas tree pickup request.

2022 Recycling Schedules Available

2022 Recycling Schedules are available for pickup at Fletcher Town Hall or by requesting one by e-mail. Please send your e-mail request to info@fletchernc.org and include your home address, so we will know which recycling route to e-mail you.

From the Office of the Chief:

As we begin year 2022, I want to first thank the community of Fletcher for the kind reception during my first year as chief and for the support you have not only demonstrated towards me personally, but to all members of the police department.

As we look around our world we can find many things that might concern us, as it relates to the future. Certainly the consequences of the pandemic and economic woes may come to mind. But my desire for the police department is to remain focused on maintaining and reinforcing the positive aspects of our community. The Town of Fletcher is full of wonderful residents and businesses. Our goal is to never take that for granted, but to continuously provide a high quality of service and safety for the community, today and into whatever the future may bring.

If you have ideas or feedback about the Fletcher Police Department and how we can best serve your community, I welcome your call. I can be reached at: 828-687-7922.

Until then, on behalf of the men and women of the Fletcher Police Department, I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and I wish everyone a Happy 2022.



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

828-687-0751 <u>www.facebook.com/FletcherParksandRecreation/</u>



Hunter Subaru Polar Bear 5k

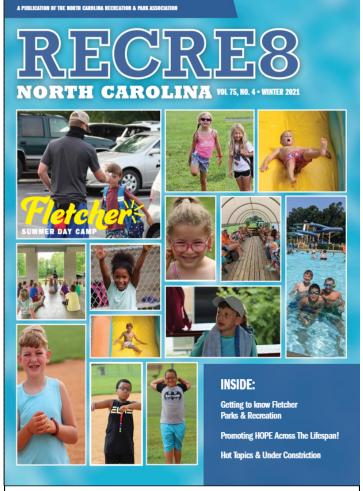
Calling all runners (and walkers)!! The Town of Fletcher will kick off 2022 with a winter fun event! Registration is open until January 24th for the first 100 participants with no registrations being accepted on event day. All participants will receive a winter knit "beanie" and a hot chocolate filled mug. Prizes will be awarded to the fastest time in each age group.

"Early Bear" Registration - \$25 Dec. 10th - Jan. 2nd
"Regular Bear" Registration - \$30 Jan. 3rd - Jan. 16th
"Hibernating Bear" Registration - \$35 Jan. 17th - Jan. 24th

Register now at fletcherparks.recdesk.com

All event proceeds will support the Fletcher Parks Development Fund.

Save the Date		
Wednesday, January 5 th	Yoga 2022 Town Hall Multipurpose Rm	6:15 pm
Saturday, January 29 th	Hunter Subaru Polar Bear 5K	9:00 am
Saturday, February 12 th	Father/Daughter Dance Calvary Episcopal Church	3:30 pm and 6:00 pm



Check it out.... Fletcher Parks & Rec Department made magazine headlines in the NC Recreation & Park Association publication!!

Read the article at:

https://emflipbooks.com/flipbooks/NCRPA/ RECRE8_NC/Winter2021/

* Town of Fletcher * Christmas in the Park

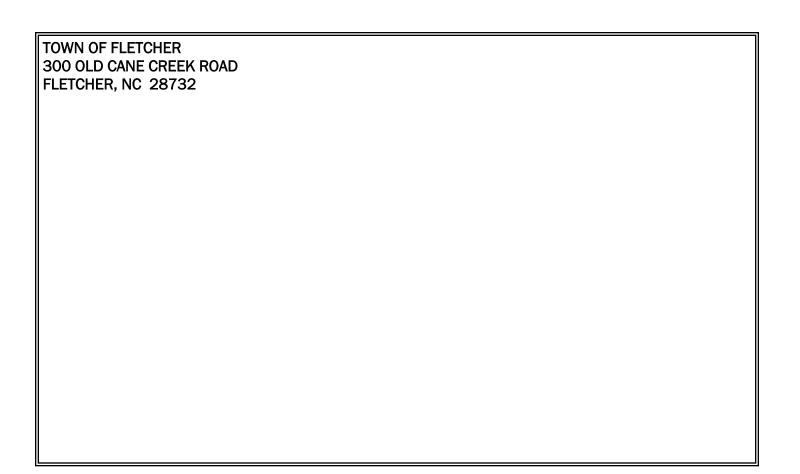
Thank You!

We would like to thank our sponsors for making "Christmas in the Park" a success!









828-687-1218 <u>Fletcher Library Opportunities</u> 20 L

20 Library Road, Fletcher, NC

HOURS: Monday 9am - 6pm; Tuesday - Thursday 9am - 5pm; Friday - Saturday 9am - 3pm

Holidays: We will be closed Friday, 12/31/21 and Saturday, January 1, 2022 and reopen on Monday, January 3rd.

Tech Time Appointments: Want to learn how to download an e-book or digital audiobook? Watch a movie for free using Hoopla or from NC Digital Library? Learn a new language using Transparent Language? Baffled by your new tablet or smartphone? One-on-one tech time, by appointment, is offered for free at Fletcher Library. Call the library or stop by to schedule an appointment.

Knitting for a Cause Donations: This group makes hats, scarves, gloves/mittens, and blankets for the Interfaith Assistance Ministry in Hendersonville to give to children and adults. If you have donations of yarn, knitting needles, or knitted or crocheted items, please call the library at 828-687-1218. Thanks to those who have already donated items.

Family Story Time: Will resume on Wednesday, January 5th, 2022 at 10:30am. Registration is required through https://hendersonpl.libcal.com/.

Lego Club: Thursday, January 6th (3:30-4:30pm) All ages are welcome to come out to the Fletcher Library on the 1st Thursday of the month for Lego Club. We will provide Legos to use while you are here. Please do not bring your own. We have Duplo blocks for younger children as well. We can't wait to see what you will create! Please be aware that all children under 11 must have an adult stay with them.

Knitting for a Cause Group: Saturday, January 8th (10am-12pm) Yarn and patterns are provided. Please bring your size 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8 circular or straight knitting needles if you have them. Have fun knitting or crocheting to help others!

Book Review Book Club: Thursday, January 13th (10:30-11:30am) Read what you want and bring it to the table for discussion. This group meets on the second Thursday of each month.

Writers Guild: Thursday, January 13th (1:30-3:30pm) All writers are invited to join a lively discussion about the guild's current projects related to publishing and the marketing of your work. Learn tricks and techniques from published authors and aspiring writers and reveal your own convictions. This group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Craft Day (All ages): Tuesday, January 18th (10:00am-4:00pm) Come and do a fun winter craft with us.