CITIZENS NEWSLETTER



June-September 2025

MAYOR **CHARLES GAYLOR**





Hiawatha Jones District 1

Goldsboro City Council

Chris Boyette District 2

Jamie Taylor Brandi Matthews Beverly Weeks **District 3**

District 4





Roderick White District 6

Greetings fellow Goldsboro residents,

Goldsboro's strength lies in its people — in the hard work, resilience, and community spirit that define our city. As we approach the upcoming budget year, we must take a thoughtful look at our financial needs and priorities to repair our weaknesses and ensure that Goldsboro continues to thrive.

Our commitment remains strong: investing in infrastructure, public safety, tutoring programs, recreational activities for our youth, and economic development while maintaining fiscal responsibility. However, like many cities, we face financial challenges that require careful planning and collaboration. Balancing the budget means making strategic decisions and prioritizing needs as we build a budget to shape the future of our city.

I encourage all residents to stay informed and engaged in the budgeting process. Together, we can build a Goldsboro that strengthens neighborhoods, supports businesses, and ensures a high quality of life for all.

It is an exciting time to be part of Goldsboro. We are seeing expansions in our manufacturing and industrial areas. More housing is being built. Dilapidated housing is being addressed. Commercial activity is growing. While many of our peer communities across the nation are enduring population declines and losses of major

employers, we are holding steady and adding to our local economic base. We have to make wise decisions now to keep this responsible, sustainable trend of growth and development in place.

District 5

Let's work together to make smart, strategic investments in our city's future. Thank you for being part of this important conversation.

Mayor Charles Gaylor

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS*

June 2 | June 16 | July 14 | August 4 | August 18 September 8 | September 22

Council meets at 5:30 p.m. *Subject to change with public notice.

UPCOMING SANITATION CHANGES

Juneteenth | Thursday, June 19

Thursday routes will be serviced Wednesday, June 18.

Independence Day | Friday, July 4

Friday routes will be serviced Wednesday, July 2.

Labor Day | Monday, September 1

Monday routes will be serviced Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Goldsboro City Council Selects Matthew Livingston as City Manager

The Goldsboro City Council has selected Matthew Livingston as the new city manager. Livingston, who has served as interim city manager since February 2024, originally joined the City of Goldsboro in June 2022 as assistant city manager.

After careful consideration and a unanimous vote, the City Council offered Livingston a three-year contract, which includes an annual salary of \$202,490.

The Council hired consulting group Developmental Associates to conduct the search for candidates. Developmental Associates is led by president and cofounder Steve Straus who has over 20 years' experience conducting executive searches.

"I was impressed with how thoughtfully the Council took on this process. They clearly wanted to make the best decision for the citizens and the City," Straus said. "Mr. Livingston had a lot on this plate managing the City and the budget while going through an intensive process. He performed admirably!"

Mayor Charles Gaylor said he looks forward to continuing to work with Livingston.

"He has been a fantastic colleague thus far, and I have nothing but the highest expectations for him looking forward," Gaylor said. "The City of Goldsboro is in a very important stage of its history where we are simultaneously reimagining our parks and recreation system, updating our comprehensive land use plan and embarking on the creation of a business development plan. We have a leader who is ready to balance all these initiatives without losing sight of the needs of every person and every neighborhood that makes Goldsboro strong."



Mayor Charles Gaylor administered the oath of office to City Manager Matt Livingston Monday, April 21. Livingston joined the city in June 2022 as assistant city manager.

local government, having served as town manager in Rolesville, Wallace and Ayden, and as the executive director of the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments.

"I look forward to continuing to serve the City of Goldsboro. It's an exciting time to be in Goldsboro as we navigate our way to a greater tomorrow for everyone," Livingston said. "I see a bright future ahead. There are many opportunities for growth and positive change and that will happen as we continue to work together as one team. We will succeed in what we set out to do with help from the community and all our stakeholders. I wish to thank the Mayor and City Council for their support, trust and faith in me and city staff over the last 14 months during my time as Interim City Manager. It is time to put our best foot forward as we proclaim a new chapter for the city of Goldsboro and work towards a common future vision inclusive of all."

Livingston has more than 27 years of experience in

LGC Approves \$6.7 Million Financing Package

The Local Government Commission recently approved the City of Goldsboro's \$6.7 million financing package. This money will pay for much-needed vehicle and equipment upgrades. This is a significant victory for the city and a testament to the progress our organization has made in the last two and a half years.

"The State Auditor told us that we had given him the best answer regarding finances he has heard in his sixty days on the job. He praised Goldsboro for the tremendous strides we have made in front of dozens of other professional staff, other communities and whomever else was on the webinar," City Manager Matt Livingston said. "Comments like this validate the hard work and sacrifices of many in the city, particularly those in Finance. It really has been a team effort with many sacrifices having been made."

Annual Water Line Flushing Program Underway

As of Wednesday, May 7, the City of Goldsboro Water Treatment Plant temporarily stopped adding ammonia to its water treatment disinfecting process, transitioning to chlorine-only disinfection for six weeks. They will resume adding ammonia to the water treatment process on Wednesday, June 18.

Our water treatment plant typically uses chloramine, a disinfectant formed by mixing chlorine and ammonia, to treat drinking water. Chloramine is more stable than chlorine, providing a longer-lasting disinfectant effect as water travels through pipes to customers.

To promote optimal disinfection throughout the water distribution system, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality recommends public water systems using chloramine disinfection switch to chlorine-only disinfection for a minimum of three consecutive weeks every year. This switch to chlorineonly disinfection can sometimes produce a temporary chlorine taste and odor.

The City of Goldsboro also conducts flushing of the water distribution system during this period as part of an annual unidirectional flushing program. System flushing began Monday, May 12. This flushing may cause some temporary discoloration in the water. The water is safe. Short periods of flushing may be necessary to clear up any discoloration in the home. However, as a precaution, customers may want to check to see if their water is discolored before laundering white clothes.

If you have any questions, please call 919-735-3329.



The City of Goldsboro's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is available online. Scan the QR code below or visit www.goldsboronc.gov.



City of Goldsboro Seeks Input on Housing and Development Priorities

The City of Goldsboro is working to identify community development priorities, fair and affordable housing needs, and factors that shape equal access to housing for incorporation into the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

We encourage you to share this opportunity with your networks and community to ensure that we have diverse perspectives and voices represented in our survey. We value and welcome input from individuals of all backgrounds.

To participate in the survey, visit **https://www. surveymonkey.com/r/TVSPNBD** or scan the QR code below. Your assistance will inform and help shape community development, affordable housing, and fair housing policies in the City of Goldsboro for years to come.



Please share your input by June 15.



Goldsboro Fire Department Maintains Class 2 ISO Rating

State Fire Marshal Brian Taylor recently announced that the Goldsboro Fire Department has received an ISO rating of 2 after the completion of a routine inspection. The inspection, conducted by officials with the Office of State Fire



Marshal (OSFM), is required on a regular basis as part of the North Carolina Response Rating System (NCRRS). Among other things, the routine inspections look for proper staffing levels, sufficient equipment, proper maintenance of equipment, communications capabilities and availability of a water source.

The NCRRS rating system ranges from one (highest) to 10 (not recognized as a certified fire department by the state), with most rural departments falling into the 9S category. While lower ratings do not necessarily indicate poor service, a higher rating does suggest that a department is overall better equipped to respond to fires in its district. Higher ratings can also significantly lower homeowners' insurance rates in that fire district.

State Fire Marshal Brian Taylor congratulates Goldsboro Fire Chief Ron Stempien for the commendable performance of the Goldsboro Fire Department and the dedicated efforts of its team. "The residents of Goldsboro fire district(s) can take comfort in knowing this highly capable team of firefighters from the Goldsboro Fire Department is safeguarding them and their belongings in the event of an emergency," Taylor said.

OSFM inspections are designed to assess various aspects of fire departments, including equipment, training, and emergency response capabilities, contributing to the overall effectiveness of fire services in North Carolina. State law mandates inspections by OSFM officials for departments serving districts with 100,000 people or fewer.



