

# CITIZENS NEWSLETTER

July - September 2020

**MAYOR  
CHUCK ALLEN**



**Goldsboro City Council**

I hope this newsletter finds all our citizens doing well, especially during the times we are in right now. We are still battling the COVID-19 pandemic and just recently started relaxing some of the orders in place, but I want to remind everyone this virus has no friends and can attack any of us. I ask that everyone continue to practice good hygiene and social distancing, and wear a face mask as these practices should help us have fewer cases. These necessary precautions will keep us all safe.

The May 25 homicide of George Floyd has sparked protests in cities across the world, including here in Goldsboro. First, I want to thank the protest leaders for their part in keeping the demonstrations here peaceful. I also want to thank our police department and all the outside agencies who were there to help us during the protests. We have been working on race relations for the last couple of years, and, while in my heart I believe Goldsboro residents in general and the members of our police department are not racist, I do know there is still work to be done. We will start working on the next steps of how we can make it better and how we can do some things differently. We will have citizen input in this process.

Our first KC-46 Pegasus has arrived at Seymour Johnson AFB. The KC-46 replaces the KC-135 as the Air Force's refueling and transport aircraft. I am not sure when we will get more as they are behind in production, but you can believe the 916th is checking on the status daily, if not hourly. I would like to bid farewell and say thank you to Col. Donn Yates and his family for their service as he has retired from the Air Force. On July 2, Col. Kurt Helphinstine will take over the 4th Fighter Wing. We welcome him and his family to Goldsboro.

The 2020 U.S. Census is still underway. I want to encourage everyone to respond to the census if you haven't already. It is quick and easy to do, and the information gathered will help determine federal funding for resources throughout our city.

In closing, please know we are working hard here at city hall to make Goldsboro friendly, attractive and inclusive for all our citizens. If I can be of any service to you, please let me know. I can be reached at 919-580-4330.

With warmest regards,  
Mayor Chuck Allen

## UPCOMING SANITATION CHANGES

### **Independence Day | July 4**

Friday routes will be collected Wednesday, July 1.

### **Labor Day | Sept. 7**

Monday routes will be collected Wednesday, Sept. 9.

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS\*

July 13 | Aug. 3 | Aug. 17  
Sept. 8 | Sept. 21

Council meets at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

\*Subject to change with public notice.

# 17.5% Water and Sewer Rate Increase Approved in City's FY20-21 Budget

## Public Utilities

The increase will fund much-needed infrastructure improvements.

The Goldsboro City Council authorized a 17.5% water and sewer rate increase in the FY20-21 budget approved June 17. The 17.5% water and sewer rate increase is necessary to continue to provide safe, high quality drinking water and reliable sewer services to our customers. With the increase, a customer who uses 5,000 gallons of water inside the city would pay \$31.11 for water and the sewer bill would be \$36.55, for a total of \$67.66.

The last water and sewer rate increase was \$0.05 per 1,000 gallons in July 1, 2016, and prior to that it was 2011 for our customers. An increase is needed now to make necessary improvements to our aging infrastructure. Parts of the City's water and sewer systems date back to 1888 as one of North Carolina's first 12 community water systems. There is currently \$22.3 million in debt service from several projects, including phase I and II water treatment plant optimization, sewer bonds, sewer repairs, and the advanced metering infrastructure.

Projects over the next 10 years are estimated to cost over \$200 million as we look to rebuild our water treatment plant from the 1950s and meet new drinking water quality standards with new technologies. We also need to optimize treatment and replace equipment that is past its working life expectancy at the water reclamation facility and over 500 miles of collection and distribution pumping and piping systems.

With the 17.5% increase, we look to reinvest in our system, provide resilient service like we did during Hurricanes Matthew and Florence, and COVID-19, and rebuild our fund balance that has depleted with emergency and reactive maintenance.



## Respond to the 2020 Census online.

The 2020 Census is here, and it's your chance to shape your community's future. You can respond online using a mobile phone, tablet, or computer — even if you haven't received your census invitation.

### Responding is as easy as 1-2-3:

1. Visit [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020CENSUS.GOV) and click "Respond."
2. Complete the online form. Be sure to include everyone who lives in your household.
3. You're done!

Shape  
your future  
START HERE >

United States®  
Census  
2020

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# City's Yard and Bulk Waste Service Guidelines

## Public Works

Follow these guidelines for disposing of yard waste and bulky items.

### Leaves:

- Rake leaves into a pile within 6 feet of the street.
- Do NOT place leaves in the street, ditch or curb and gutters — they will clog our stormwater collection system and cause flooding.
- Do NOT place leaves over meter boxes, manhole covers or water valves.
- Do NOT mix leaves with garbage or they will not be picked up.

### Limbs:

- Limbs must be no larger than 12 inches in diameter and 6 feet long.
- Piles must be no more than 3 x 3 yards or approximately 3 feet wide x 3 feet high x 10 feet long.
- Larger limbs and stumps must be taken to the landfill by the resident.
- Contractors are responsible for the disposal of ALL debris they generate.

NOTE: All leaf and limb piles must be separated or they will NOT be picked up.

### Bulk Waste:

- Bulk pick up service is provided every Wednesday to all residential customers with an active water account, unless there is a holiday during the week.
- Items such as household furnishings, appliances, mattresses, box springs, lawn equipment and similar items too large or bulky to be placed in the garbage

rollout cart and not eligible for recycling or yard waste collection are considered bulk waste and must be scheduled for collection.

- Residents must call before Tuesday at noon to schedule a Wednesday pickup.
- Service is limited to six items per pickup, and all items must be free of food, clothing, trash and flammable materials such as gasoline.
- All building materials, construction debris, car parts, hazardous items, etc. are prohibited.
- Place bulk waste within 6 feet of the curb and at least 3 feet away from other collection items and obstacles such as mailboxes, phone poles, vehicles, etc. Do not place bulk waste in the rollout carts. Do not block the sidewalk.
- All scheduled items must be at the curb the night before the pickup.

## YOUR TOILET IS NOT A TRASH CAN

PLEASE REMEMBER NOT TO FLUSH ITEMS SUCH AS:



PAPER TOWELS



TAMPONS & PADS



COTTON BALLS & SWABS



HAIR



CLOTH RAGS



DENTAL FLOSS



WIPES



MEDICINE



DIAPERS



CONDOMS

**ONLY HUMAN WASTE AND TOILET PAPER SHOULD BE FLUSHED.**



Goldsboro's Public Utilities Department has a reminder for you: your toilet is not a trash can. Items such as wipes (even those labeled as flushable), napkins, gloves and cloth rags can all contribute to sanitary sewer backups and overflows, and cause damage to our pumps. Flushing these items is a violation of our Sewer Use Ordinance. Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed. All other items should be thrown in the trash. For more information, visit <https://www.wef.org/news-hub/wef-news/water-sector-request-flush-wisely/>.

# Goldsboro Parks and Recreation Events

## NC Freedom Fest

(All Ages) Join us to celebrate our active duty men and women of the armed forces at NC Freedom Fest on Saturday, Aug. 22 in Downtown Goldsboro. There will be live music featuring 90s hit-maker Edwin McCain and others, Wings of Wayne cook-off, a kids zone, car show, delicious food, and so much more! For details, visit [www.ncfreedomfest.org](http://www.ncfreedomfest.org).

Date: Saturday, Aug. 22

Time: 5–10 p.m.

Fee: Free entry; cost varies for food and activities

Location: Downtown Goldsboro

## Cruise the Neuse

(All Ages) This annual event, traditionally held in June, will be taking place Sept. 12. Take part in this exciting day paddling down the Neuse River with Goldsboro Parks and Recreation! The cost is \$15 per person (or, \$10 if you bring your own boat). This fee includes your entry fee, boat rental, T-shirt, hot dog and drink, and transportation to the launch site. All ages are welcome to participate, but registration is limited, so don't wait to sign up! More information, and registration can be located on our website at [goldsboroparksandrec.com/register](http://goldsboroparksandrec.com/register).

Date: Saturday, Sept. 12

Time: 9 a.m. – until

Fee: \$15 per person; \$10 for those who bring their own kayak or canoe. Sign up online at [www.goldsboroparksandrec.com](http://www.goldsboroparksandrec.com)!

Location: Neuse River

**DO NOT LITTER**  
PUT TRASH IN ITS PLACE.



## GOLDSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT **USE OF FORCE POLICY AND CALEA UPDATE**

Visit [goldsboronc.gov](http://goldsboronc.gov) to read an update from Police Chief Mike West.

## Got a question about City services?

### Ask our chatbot.

Text 919-580-4299 or visit [goldsboronc.gov](http://goldsboronc.gov) and click the speech bubbles at the bottom of the page.



ATTENTION GOLDSBORO RESIDENTS:

## BECOME INVOLVED IN CITY GOVERNMENT

*Apply to serve on a board or commission.*



The City of Goldsboro is currently soliciting residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions. These boards and commissions give residents an opportunity to become actively involved in their community by providing recommendations to the City Council.

Goldsboro residents who wish to be considered for appointment to one of the boards and commissions are invited to submit a completed application to the City Manager's Office. To access an application or for a listing of all City boards and commissions, visit <https://bit.ly/servecog>. You can also pick up an application at City Hall, 200 N. Center St. For more information, call 919-580-4330.