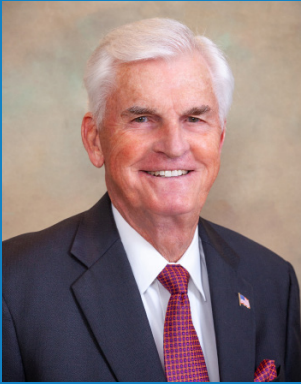


# CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

July – September 2023

**MAYOR  
DAVID HAM**



Hiawatha Jones  
District 1



Bill Broadway  
District 2



Brandi Matthews  
District 4



Charles Gaylor  
District 5



Greg Batts  
District 6

**Goldsboro City Council (The District 3 seat is vacant.)**

Greetings fellow Goldsboro residents,

I hope this summer newsletter finds you all doing well, enjoying your summer and, hopefully, getting in some family and/or vacation time.

Now is the perfect time to get out and enjoy all the city has to offer. Go swimming at the Peacock or Mina Weil pools. Play in the water at the splash pad at Bryan Multi-Sports Complex or during the Sprinkler Fun Days each Thursday at 3 p.m. through Aug. 17 in front of The HUB in Downtown Goldsboro. Head to the playground or ride the Kiwanis train at Herman Park. See a show at the Paramount Theatre or dance to live music at the Center Street Jam Summer Concert Series.

In addition to those activities, we are also getting ready for the upcoming NC Freedom Fest, set for Sept. 9 in Downtown Goldsboro. Freedom Fest is an annual event in honor of our military and first responders. This great event celebrates the bravery and sacrifices of the men and women who selflessly serve our country. The festival promises to be a memorable occasion filled with music, food, and entertainment. It's an opportunity for us to come together as a community and show our appreciation for those who put their lives on the line every day to protect us. You can visit [ncfreedomfest.org](http://ncfreedomfest.org) for more information.

I want to close with a word of thanks to Taj Polack, former District 3 councilmember and mayor pro tem. Taj, who was elected in 2019, resigned from City Council in June for personal reasons. He will certainly be missed. His forthright and articulate comments and opinions were always

provided professionally and sincerely. He advocated for all citizens of Goldsboro and wanted nothing more than the betterment of this city and the improvement of each man, woman and child. Taj was especially concerned for the Goldsboro City employees and continuously advocated for competitive wages and benefits.

The District 3 seat will remain vacant until the winner of the November 2023 election is sworn in. Councilmember Brandi Matthews was selected to serve as mayor pro tem.

Connect with us on

**nextdoor**

<http://bit.ly/goldsboronextdoor>

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS\*

August 7 | August 21 | September 5 | September 18

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

\*Subject to change with public notice.

## UPCOMING SANITATION CHANGES

**Labor Day | Monday, September 4**

Monday routes will be serviced Wednesday, Sept. 6.

# Fire Chiefs Ron Stempien & Brandon Holland Complete International Professional Designation Process

Fire Chief Ron Stempien and Assistant Fire Chief Brandon Holland have successfully completed the process that awards the professional designation of “Chief Fire Officer” (CFO). The Commission on Professional Credentialing® (CPC®) met in May to confer the designation. Chief Stempien and Chief Holland are among only 1,882 CFOs worldwide.

The voluntary designation program recognizes individuals who demonstrate excellence in seven measured components: experience, education, professional development, professional contributions, association membership, community involvement, and technical competence. In addition, all applicants are required to identify a future professional development plan.

The CFO designation program uses a comprehensive peer review model to evaluate candidates seeking the credential. The Commission on Professional Credentialing awards the designation only after an individual successfully meets all the organization’s stringent criteria.

Achieving this designation signifies Chief Stempien and Chief Holland’s career commitment to the fire and emergency services.

This professional designation is valid for three years. Maintaining the designation requires recipients to show continued growth in the areas of professional development, professional contributions, active association membership, and community involvement,



**Chief Ron Stempien and Assistant Chief Brandon Holland are two of only 1,882 Chief Fire Officers in the world.**

as well as adhere to a strict code of professional conduct.

The Commission on Professional Credentialing, an entity of the Center for Public Safety Excellence®, Inc. (CPSE®), administers the Designation Program. The CPC consists of individuals from academia, federal and local government, and the fire and emergency medical services profession. To learn more about CPC, visit [www.cpse.org/credentialing](http://www.cpse.org/credentialing).

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## City of Goldsboro FY23-24 Budget

The Goldsboro City Council recently approved the FY2023-2024 budget. The \$76.6 million budget includes the following:

■ **Property tax increase:** The property tax rate increases by \$0.05 from \$.68 cents per \$100 valuation to \$0.73 per \$100 valuation. The property tax was increased in FY21-22 by 3 cents to help build the fund balance and was the first property tax increase since FY08-09. The property tax for the Downtown Municipal Service District remains the same at \$0.235 per \$100 valuation.

■ **Water/sewer rate increase:** The budget includes

a 4 percent water and sewer rate increase effective for billings on or after Aug. 1.

■ **Salary increases:** Full-time and permanent part-time employees will receive a 2 percent cost of living adjustment. A net bonus of \$400 (full-time) and \$200 (permanent part-time) for eligible employees is budgeted. A merit raise of 1 percent is also budgeted for all eligible full-time and permanent part-time employees.

The entire budget is available for review on the City’s website at [goldsboronc.gov.finance](http://goldsboronc.gov.finance).

# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 33rd Anniversary

Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law on July 26, 1990. The ADA is a civil rights law

that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications.

The Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities recognizes this landmark event and the important work done to promote equal opportunity for people with disabilities. For more information: [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov).



## Miss Lovelies Pageant Aug. 5, 1 p.m.

Special Olympics Wayne County is having their annual Wayne County Miss Lovelies Pageant. Contestants will have an evening gown, talent and questions portion. Come join us for the Miss Lovelies 2023 Pageant for Special Population girls. All proceeds for this event will be donated to the Special Olympics Wayne County.

## The Ultimate Variety Show Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Remember all the wonderful Variety shows we all grew up on in the 70s & 80s? Now is your chance to see them live and re-created by Las Vegas' number one impersonators of all time. All your favorite



legendary superstars come alive in An Evening with The Stars. The NBC Today show says "it's one of the most extraordinary shows we have ever seen." Sonny & Cher, Billy Joel, Elton John, Neil Diamond, Lionel Richie, Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles, Lady Gaga, Celine Dion, Rod Stewart, Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand, Andrea Bocelli, Frankie Valli, Tom Jones, and many, many more hosted by THE EDWARDS TWINS FROM LAS VEGAS. All live vocals. USA TODAY and THE BOSTON GLOBE raves "A Must see show" Each star sings their No. 1 hits as well as many of your favorite songs.



# Parks and Rec Provides Free Swimming Lessons for 25 Local Children



Thanks to the Learn to Swim Grant by Association of Aquatic Professionals (AOAP), Goldsboro Parks and Recreation was able to provide free swimming lessons to 10 kids. Thanks to AOAP's grant, there was a ripple effect in our community, and the following establishments offered their sponsorship with even more swimming lessons.

In memory of Gary L. Cox Jr., Worrell Contracting Co., Inc. made it possible for Parks and Rec to provide additional swimming lessons for 10 more kids.

Thanks to Communities In Schools, five more children received swimming lessons.

Thank you to everyone who made it possible for us to help a total of 25 kids learn how to swim and learn the importance of water safety.



Councilmember Brandi Matthews was recently sworn in as mayor pro tem. The City Council selected Matthews to serve in the role after the previous mayor pro tem, Taj Polack, submitted his resignation from the Council.

## 2023 GOLDSBORO PARKS & REC FALL YOUTH SPORTS

<b>BASEBALL</b> AGES 6 - 12	<b>\$60 PER PLAYER</b>	<b>SOCCER</b> AGES 3 - 14
<b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS</b>		
<b>FLAG FOOTBALL</b> AGES 4 - 8	<b>FIND ALL THE DETAILS &amp; MORE</b>	<b>T-BALL</b> AGES 3 - 6
<b>CITY RESIDENTS RECEIVE \$15 DISCOUNT</b>		

[WWW.GOLDSBOROPARKSANDREC.COM/REGISTER](http://WWW.GOLDSBOROPARKSANDREC.COM/REGISTER)

### PROUDLY CELEBRATING

# NNO 40 YEARS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2023

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Goldsboro Police and Wayne County Sheriff's Office invites YOU to this years National Night Out event.

## August 1st

### 6:00pm – 8:00pm

## Herman Park

## 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.