

Roxboro Bulletin

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From the Mayor's Desk...

Working today towards a better tomorrow

Greetings again from the City of Roxboro!

We continue to achieve the goals laid out in our recently updated strategic plan. Inside this issue of the *Roxboro Bulletin* you will find updates on spending reductions, efforts to improve housing, and efforts to improve customer service through the use of technology. These are just three programs we are implementing to achieve the goals your city council has established with your help.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

I'm excited about the direction our city is headed, but we continue to desperately need your input and feedback about our future. We still have difficulty filling some appointed board positions and currently have a need for appointees to our Human Relations Commission and to the Roxboro Housing Authority. It's a great way to get involved and make Roxboro the best it can be. If you are interested in an appointment to

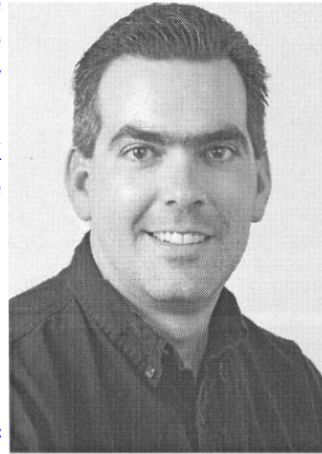
one of these boards, please contact City Hall at 599-3116 and ask to speak to the city clerk.

NEW JOBS

I hope you have learned of the wonderful economic development prospect who recently chose Roxboro for a new manufacturing facility that will provide almost 300 jobs in our community. This is great news and is the first success to come out of our efforts to improve economic development through more coordinated activities among multiple groups.

NEW POLICE STATION

I'm sure you've noticed the tremendous progress on Roxboro's new police station, a state of the art facility that will serve this community for the next 50 years or more. I



Roxboro Mayor
Steve Joyner

look forward to dedicating this facility in the coming weeks and hope you will take time to attend the ceremony and take a tour of the building. After all it belongs to you!

CITY ELECTIONS

As a reminder, please make plans to vote in the city elections this Fall. No matter who you vote for, it's important that you make your voice heard and participate in our democracy. Your right to voice your opinion was paid for by the lives of many people and our future depends on your participation.

- Steve

Roxboro's Rental Registration Program November 30 Deadline Fast Approaching

Acting upon input received from citizens during the City's Strategic Planning Process, the Roxboro City Council adopted a citywide ordinance requiring owners of rental properties *used for residential occupancy* to register their properties by November 30, 2007. Deteriorated and dilapidated dwellings negatively impact families, neighborhoods, business/industries, city services, and the community's marketability.

The purpose of the registration program is to: (1) allow the City to develop a database with the location

and ownership of residential rental properties, (2) inspect



residential rental properties for compliance with the City's Minimum Housing Code and streamline the code enforcement process; and (3) to aid the City in

communicating with rental property owners.

For your convenience, a rental registration form, copy of the City's Minimum Housing Code, etc. is available at City Hall, the Person County Public Library and can also be downloaded from the City's website. **There is no fee associated with rental registration.**

Please feel free to stop by City Hall or call the City's Planning and Development Department if you have any questions regarding the rental registration program.

City Taxpayers To Save \$125,000 Annually From Garbage Collection Changes

For the past several years the City has contracted with Waste Industries for the collection of residential garbage. During the budget process for 2007-2008 the city conducted a cost analysis of the residential garbage collection process and determined the City of Roxboro could collect the garbage for less than the City was paying Waste Industries,

our contracted service provider.

The result is a more than \$125,000.00 savings per year for city taxpayers. The savings is the equivalent of two pennies on the tax rate. The garbage collection contract with

Waste Industries expires at the end of November and the City will begin collecting garbage with our own employees at the end of the

current contract. The collection method will remain the same, weekly curbside collection with rollout containers. The day your garbage is collected is not going to change. The only change you will notice is improved service and a different color garbage truck. The change over to the City collection should be seamless, but if you have any problems with your garbage collection, please call Tony Dixon at The City Clearinghouse, 336 -599-5658.

"The collection method will remain the same, weekly curbside collection with rollout containers"

Strategic Planning Update

In February 2006 the Roxboro City Council adopted a strategic plan for the City of Roxboro. The adoption

of the Plan was the culmination of several months of intense discussion and debate including council, city

employees and citizen focus groups. Staff from the UNC School of Government facilitated the entire planning process. The purpose of the strategic plan was to identify a set of goals that were vital to the long-term success of Roxboro.

“Staff from the UNC School of Government facilitated the entire planning process”



Ground breaking ceremony of the Police Station

Strategic Planning Goals established 2006 & 2007

The Goals originally adopted in 2006 are as follows, with one goal added in 2007

- Increase the Tax Base, not tax rate
- Forecast and Plan for Growth Patterns and Needs
- Institute Customer Service Practices Throughout City Services
- Undertake City Beautification Efforts
- Enhance Housing Stock and Mix
- Provide Support for City Employees
- Encourage Economic Development
- Encourage Diversity in City Government and Across the Community

Since its inception a great deal of emphasis as well as resources has been allocated towards accomplishing these goals. In particular, a number of projects have been initiated to strengthen the City's water and sewer system to prepare to future growth, additional emphasis has been

placed on enforcing the City's Minimum Housing Code and new software as recently been acquired to enhance customer service. Some of the new benefits of the software include the ability to take online payments for things like water and privilege licenses. The new software will also in-

clude an online system whereby a citizen can submit a complaint (a pothole for example) or make a request for City services such as scheduling a pick up of appliances or furniture.

The Plan is a living document that will need continuous updating to accu-

Strategic Planning Update Continued

rately reflect changes in conditions and priorities. In April 2007, the first update to the plan was initiated. Once again, citizen and staff focus groups were utilized to gauge what, if any, changes had occurred over the past year.

Using that new information, City Council made a determination to add a new goal for 2007:

- Encourage Diversity in City Government and Across the Community

A copy of the entire Strategic Plan is available online at www.cityofroxboro.com. A link is located on the homepage.

“The Plan is a living document”



Roxboro Police Department Staff at the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the Police Station

Looking to the future for the Citizens of Roxboro

Our Mission Statement

To create an inviting environment with opportunities that will add value to the community of Roxboro.

Adopted February 2006 by Roxboro's City Council:

Mayor Pro Tem Samuel Spencer
Wallace Burke
James Allen
Henry Daniel
Mark Phillips

Our Vision For Roxboro

A community that is...

- safe
- healthy
- scenic, quaint, vibrant
- family-oriented and well-educated

Where citizens...

- own more of the homes in which they live
- locate here by choice

- have all the opportunities they need for shopping, restaurants, jobs, entertainment, and fun/recreation

And everyone...

- is and feels informed, appreciated, acknowledged, and invited to be actively involved with one another and the community

New Technology Investments Feature More Web Services To Propel Roxboro Into The Future

The Roxboro City Council recently approved the purchase of new technology. The City will convert to new accounting software on January 1, 2008.

This software investment also includes community calendar, document storage, on-line requests for City services and citizen complaint tracking, and on-line payments.

The Community Calendar is now available! Special events such as Christmas parades, concerts, Personality Festival and other civic events can be posted on the Community Calendar which can be accessed directly from the City of Roxboro's webpage <http://www.cityofroxboro.com>. Tourists and citizens will have one central calendar which lists all of the major events happening in Person County. The Community Calendar also include links to the websites of various event sponsors for more detailed information on each event. All events sponsored by the City of Roxboro, Person County, Person County Schools, Piedmont Community College, Person County Arts Council, Roxboro Area Chamber of Commerce,

the Person County Tourism Development Authority and the Recreation Arts and Parks Department and will be included. Citizens can also complete an online request form to add their civic and community events to the Community Calendar.

Citizens will also be able to view many public documents online. The City can store documents online such



as agendas, minutes of City Council meetings, ordinances, financial statements, employment applications, licenses, and many other documents which can easily be accessed from the City's website.

Beginning October 1, 2007, citizens will be able to request many City services on-line including pothole repairs, dumpster services, water hookups, and nuisance complaints. Online requests for services and complaints will be sent directly to the appropriate City Departments and employees. The City will be able to

respond to requests for service directly to citizens by e-mail. City departments can view or print reports of all outstanding work orders or requests for service. The system will also send a reminder by e-mail to city employees if work orders are not completed within a certain time period. This service will be expanded to include online applications for permits and licenses and other City services.

Beginning January 1, 2008, the City of Roxboro will accept online payments for many City services including water, sewer and garbage bills, privilege licenses, parking tickets and fishing permits. Payments can be made using MasterCard or VISA credit or debit cards. Payments will be made on a secure website. Citizens will need to enter their name, address, amount to be paid, account number and credit card number to make payments.

Citizens will also be able to pay water bills in person at the Roxboro Municipal Building using MasterCard or VISA. The City will not accept American Express, Discover or any other credit cards. All personal and credit card information will be confidential.



City of Roxboro, NC

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Progress is Our Business

We Want to Hear From You!

How Can You Speak Directly to Roxboro's Governing Body?

The Roxboro City Council meets in regular session the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm in Council Chambers in City Hall.

You can make a request by calling the City Clerk at 599-3116. Please call seven days prior to a meeting to be placed on the agenda.

A citizen comment period occurs at the beginning of every regularly scheduled meeting

of the Roxboro City Council. If you have a concern you wish the council to hear, then sign-up any time prior to the meeting. A sign-up sheet is provided at the meeting in front of the City Clerk's seat for this purpose. Those who sign-up for the citizen comment period are asked to limit your comments to 5 minutes.

Public Hearings: The Roxboro City Council regularly schedules public hearings on a variety of topics. If you wish to speak during a public hearing, simply attend the meeting and raise your hand to be

recognized at the appropriate time. In order to address the council during a public hearing, the Mayor must first recognize the individual or organization wishing to speak during the public hearing.

You'll find lots of information about our city government on the web, including the minutes of the Roxboro City Council meetings from 2006 to present.

Visit our web site at www.cityofroxboro.com