

City Confidential

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

APRIL, 2004

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From the Mayor's Desk...

Get to know your city and your city council

Greetings from the city of Roxboro! I'm proud to introduce this premier edition of *City Confidential*, Roxboro's citizen newsletter. We've designed this newsletter to keep you informed about the happenings within your city government. This first issue contains information about some of the things your city council has been working on since being sworn in to office last December 2nd. We've also included answers to some questions we are frequently asked.

But first, you should



Mayor Steve Joyner and Family

know who represents your interests on the Roxboro city council, so we'll begin with some introductions.

Your city council consists of a mayor and 5 council members, each elected for two year terms.

I'm Steve Joyner and I'm serving my first term as your Mayor. I'm married to Lori and we are raising our 7 year old daughter, Emily.

Your council members are Henry Daniel, proprietor of Henry Daniel Clothier, who is also serving his first term. He has two children-name1 (#) and name2 (#) Council Member Daniel is Roxboro's Mayor Pro Tem.

James Allen is serving his 14th term on the city council and is married to Dot Cruz Allen. Council Member Allen has 2 children-name1 (#), name2 (#)

Merilyn Newell is serving her second term as a Council Member. She is Married to husband Doug Newell.

Mark Phillips is serving his first term on the city council. He is married to XXXX and has five daughters—name1 (#), name2 (#), name3 (#), name4 (#), name5 (#).

Sam Spencer is serving his 12th term on the city council. He has two children-name1 (#) and name2 (#).

Together we look forward to serving you and working together to make Roxboro the very best it can be.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and we welcome your input.

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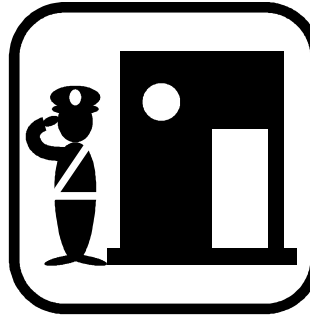
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Important contact information is on the back page of this newsletter
- City Hall hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- You can have your water bill automatically drafted from your bank account! Call 599-3116 for more information
- Got a problem you can't get resolved? Call the Mayor at 599-3116.

Roxboro's New police Station

This past March, Roxboro's city council approved two actions in regards to construction of a much needed police facility. The first action related to acquiring the former Tom's Auto commercial property located at the Lamar/Reams intersection. Secondly, council authorized architectural design of an 18,000 square foot police building. In doing so, the total cost of the project increased by \$400,000 to just under \$3.2 million. Fortunately the US Dept of

Agriculture (USDA) had uncommitted loan funds to assist in the financing of this project. The city has submitted loan requests from the USDA and requested a site assessment. A final answer to our request should be provided within the next 60 days. In constructing the police facility on the Tom's Auto site, the city will be able to accomplish two



important goals. First, the facility needs of our police department should be met for the next 30 years, and secondly, the city council took an important step towards improving a blighted area in our uptown, while preserving and adding to parking spaces in the uptown area. Completion of the project is expected within the next 18 to 24 months.

City Hall Renovations

Roxboro's city hall was constructed in 1963 to house 9 employees when Roxboro's population was 5,000 people. Roxboro's population has since grown to 9,000 people and city hall now houses 12 employees and the mayor. The \$2.3 million renovation proposal for city hall was to bring the building up to current building code requirements (such as handicap access) and to add an addition to provide for more office space. Additionally,

the electrical system was to be upgraded, a new heating and air conditioning system installed, and the building was to be re-roofed. In January, Roxboro city council decided only to replace the roof and the heating and air conditioning systems for a total project cost of \$417,000.

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\$417,000. While the council acknowledged the need to make major improvements to the building, the decision of the majority was to implement a phased approach to the renovation project by making urgent repairs first and consider further renovation at some point in the future. This decision was largely driven by the high costs associated with the entire renovation project. While all of the suggested improvements were not approved, the council has indicated a desire to revisit the space needs at some point in the future, when they judge it to be affordable.

A Word From Our Public Services Department...

It's spring and the city's Public Services department is gearing-up for this season's activities. With snow season ending, it's time to assess the damage done by snow and freezing water. When freezing water seeps into cracks in the street, it will refreeze and force the cracks open, making them larger and popping out the asphalt, thus creating a pothole (like the one Court Street). It's not practical to lay asphalt during the winter months because the minimum temperature required to bond to existing pavement is 300 de-

grees, which is difficult to maintain in cold temperatures. During the winter months the city uses "cold seal", a thick tar with fine gravel in it. Cold seal patches the hole, but is not meant to be a permanent fix. That's why you may see city staff patch a hole sometimes two or three times until the

TAKE NOTE
The Public Services department's primary working hours are from 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM, with a few staff available until 5:00 PM. If you have a public services problem after hours, on weekends, or holidays, call 507-0500 and give the Law Enforcement Center your information. The Staff at the LEC will page the on-call staff to assist you.

weather changes to allow for a hot asphalt mix to make permanent patches. Just this month the city council awarded a \$98,000 contract to repave areas on 11 streets within the city this summer, so be aware of our public service workers as you drive around town.

Why Does Roxboro Have Three Fire Stations?

In 1997, the city of Roxboro asked a consultant to provide direction for reducing the ISO (Insurance Services Office) fire rating for the city, which results in reduced property insurance rates. Several sites were evaluated for a new main fire station uptown. No suitable sites were identified that would serve all of Roxboro, specifically the north and south ends of the city. So, a three station concept was researched. Some of the issues examined were response

times, station location to benefit future growth areas, and call volume. On important issue was the future transportation improvement plan. Each of the current stations will be able to access future roads easily to reach other areas quickly. With the current distribution of personnel, fire engines, and station locations, Roxboro's fire department

maintains a response time of less than three minutes within the city, well below the national average. With the current distribution of fire protection equipment and personnel, the citizens are getting the most value for their tax dollar. The Roxboro Fire Department welcomes your comments and questions. You can reach us at 599-9222.



Your Waste Water Treatment Facility

Construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was completed in 1964. Included in the construction of the plant, the first pump station was completed and is now known as the Southside station. Before the plant's construction, collected wastewater

Our goals are to serve the citizens of our community and to strive to meet and exceed our permit requirements

was dumped directly into a nearby stream, not an uncommon practice in North Carolina. The plant was designed to treat 4 million gallons of waste per day and was upgraded to 5 million gallons in 1985. Currently, we treat an average of 2.5 million gal-

lons per day. Our collection system (circa 1920's) continues to grow and deliver more wastewater to the plant for treatment. Treated water is discharged into Marlowe Creek and there are stringent requirements as to what can be discharged. Our plant goals are to serve the citizens of our community and to strive to meet and exceed our permit requirements and to make water quality a top priority.

Planning and Development Update

Many people do not have a clear understanding of what the City's Planning & Development department does. Generally, we are involved in many aspects of community growth. Our duties go beyond reviewing development plans. We are also charged with ordinance enforcement designed to protect public health, safety (zoning), watershed protection, minimum housing code, unsafe structure provisions, nuisance abatement (tall weeds, trash/junk), etc. We are also involved in activities associated with neighborhood preservation and revitalization.

Recently, Roxboro was awarded a \$600,000 Community Development Block Grant from the State to revitalize an area of Nichols Avenue. This project involves the reconstruction of 550 feet of deteriorating street with 26 foot wide street with curb and gutter to serve 9 dwellings, water improvements—500 feet of water line to serve 8 dwellings, relocation of 1 household, and rehabilitation

We strive to make Roxboro a better place to live.

of 6 dwellings. A Local option project, Green Street, consists of installing 840 feet of water lines to serve 19 dwellings and the clearance of 2 units. The Planning and Development department strives to make Roxboro a better place to live. We are located in the Roxboro city hall and we're available to assist you Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

City of Roxboro

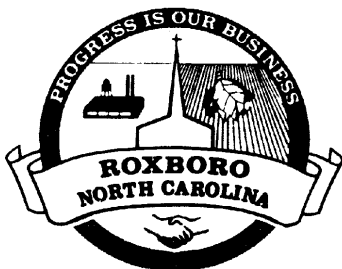
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Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

*Progress is
Our Business*

**We're on the
Web! [www.
roxboronc.org](http://www.roxboronc.org)**



Important Information You May Need

The Clearing House. Do you know who to call to request city services or to report problems with things like garbage pickup, street repairs, water main leaks? Call the city of Roxboro Clearing House at 599-5658 and talk to Tony Dixon. He'll be happy to help you!

Water Service. To get your water turned on or off, call the city's finance department at 599-3116.

Questions About Your Water Bill. If you have questions about your bill, call Pamela Daye, Shelia Pyles, or Wanda Blalock at 599-3116. Water bills are due on the 5th of each month.

Garbage Collection. Residential garbage collec-

tion is provided to city residents at no charge. Commercial garbage pickup (dumpster service) can be arranged for a fee and is billed on your monthly water bill.



Permits and Zoning Requests. If you need information about our city building ordinances or zoning/Board of Adjustment requests, contact Julie Kelly with the Planning and Development department at 599-3116.

City Council Meetings. Roxboro's city council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Roxboro city hall. We want your input! Attend a meeting to watch or sign up for the citizen comment period at the beginning of each meeting. To get on the agenda, contact City Clerk Cheryl Barnett at least 1 week ahead of time at 599-3116. We hope to see you there.

Non-Emergency Police and Fire Contacts. If you need to contact the police department about a non-emergency matter (stray dogs, suspected criminal activity, etc), call 599-8345. The fire department can be reached at 599-9222. Emergency service is always available by dialing 911.