



AROUND THE ROCK

townofblowingrocknc.gov

Town Council

Summer Retreat Recap

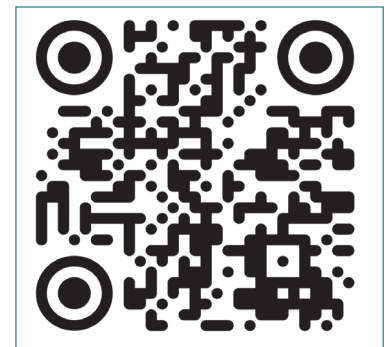


The Town Council held its Annual Summer Retreat Monday, June 25th in the Council Chambers in Town Hall to update, inform and make decisions about the upcoming operations of Blowing Rock.

Highlighted Discussion Topics:

- Blowing Rock Tourism Development Wayfinding Signage presentation given by Destination by Design - **Presentation Accepted.**
- Storm Water Fund/Utility Presentation by McGill Associates, Town Engineer - **Town Council requested further review by staff.**
- Memorial Park Project (PartF) - bathrooms bid summary - **Bid received will be considered at the July Town Council Meeting with project cost savings modifications to be examined by staff.**
- Food Trucks for Events Discussion - **food trucks will be at the 4th of July Festival as a trial run for future events.**
- Paid Parking Discussion - **parking enforcement will be increased in the immediate phase, with consideration of a paid parking plan in the future. Staff will continue to develop a plan for Town Council consideration.**
- Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory Committee - **discussed merging BRAAC with the Parks and Recreation Board - for future Town Council consideration.**
- Green Hill Communication Building - **A new communication building is to be purchased in the fall with enhancements to increase communications.**
- Comprehensive Plan - **see reverse for more details.**

You can watch the Summer Retreat in its entirety on our YouTube channel: [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search: "Town of Blowing Rock" or you can scan the QR code **to the right to be taken directly to our channel.**



Reminder: Now that hedges along town streets have had time to grow this year, please have your bushes and hedges cut back to at least 2 feet inside the edges of the street pavement. This will provide sufficient clearances for vehicles traveling town streets and avoid possible accidents. Thank you for assisting the Town in maintaining safe, unobstructed streets and roadways.

Important Numbers

Town Hall..... 828-295-5200
 Planning & Inspection .. 828-295-5240
 Parks & Recreation 828-295-5222

Non-Emergency

Police Administration ... 828-295-5212
 Fire Administration 828-548-2800

After Hours (Water & Sewer)

Emergency 828-295-5210
 Emergency Police & Fire 911

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council

(Second Tuesday of the month)
 July 11th at 6:00pm

BRAAC

(First Tuesday of the month)
 July 11th at 9:00am

Planning Board

(Third Thursday of the month)
 July 20th at 5:30pm

Upcoming Events

Symphony By the Lake

July 21st

Tour of Homes

July 28th

State of the Town

August 24th

BRAHM Gala August 26th

The Blowing Rock Art History Museum's Annual Gala is August 26th from 5:30-9:00pm taking place at Appalachian State University's beautiful Grand View Ballroom. The evening will include cocktails, dinner, live music, dancing, as well as both silent and live auctions to strengthen BRAHM's impactful exhibitions and educational programs. Tickets are \$300 per person and the attire is black tie (optional).



Blowing Rock Library Centennial Celebration

In celebration of 100 years of the Blowing Rock Community Library, the Library Association will host three events that will offer a chance for readers to meet three local award-winning authors. July 27th at 4:30pm the library will host Randy Johnson. August 16th at 4:30pm Bill Leslie will close out the centennial celebration events. These events are free and welcome to everyone. Contact the Library at 295-7000 for more information.

2023 Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show

For nearly a century the Charity Horse Show has been supporting education and worthy charities by preserving the traditions of horse sports in Blowing Rock. The next shows are Hunter-Jumper I: July 25th-July 30th and ending with Hunter-Jumper II: August 2nd-6th.

What's Happening Around the Rock?

Comprehensive Plan Update: Planning the Next Ten Years

Thank you to all who came out to our open house on Monday, June 19th at the Blowing Rock American Legion Hall! Participants were able to drop by anytime between noon and 7:00pm to learn about the Comprehensive Plan update and share their ideas about the future of the Town of Blowing Rock.

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

- Community-Based Vision for the Future
- Guide for Land Use, Redevelopment and Growth
- Guide for Capital Investments and Community Initiatives
- Compliance with NC Statutes (Ch.160D)

SCOPE OF WORK & PROJECT TIMELINE

- Task 1: Project Initiation (**April**)
- Task 2: Background Research (**May-June**)
- Task 3: Open House (**June 19**)
- Task 4: Prepare Draft of Comprehensive Plan (**July-October**)
- Task 5: Public Review of Draft Plan (**November**)
- Task 6: Plan Adoption (**Dec. 2023-Feb. 2024**)

If you missed the open house, you can view all the information presented on the comprehensive plan webpage at planblowingrock.com. There you will also find a survey, allowing you to viturally participate in Town planning.

2023-2024 Fiscal Year Town of Blowing Rock Budget

We are pleased to announce the approval of the 2024 Fiscal Year Budget!

Here are some highlights:

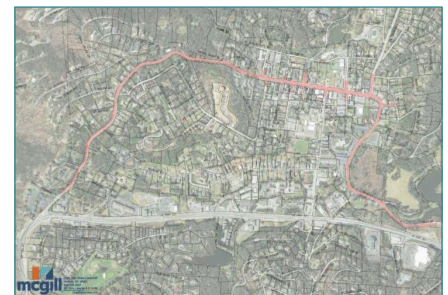
- The Town of Blowing Rock FY 2023-24 Adopted budget totals a combined \$16,827,445.
- The effective property tax rate for 2023 is .39 cents per \$100 valuation.
- There is an increase in water and sewer rates of 3.5% which will begin with the August 2023 Utility Billing.
- Staff Additions: addition of 3 new Firefighter/EMT positions and addition of 2 new Blowing Rock Academy positions.

You can view the budget in its entirety on our website (townofblowingrocknc.gov) or you can stop by Town Hall (1036 Main Street) for a printed copy. Please call Town Hall at (828) 295-5200 with any questions you may have on the adopted budget.

Main Street Water/Sewer Line Project

The Pre-construction Meeting will take place mid-July, then a notice to proceed will be established in mid-August.

- The project will begin on the south end of Main Street and move north up to Chestnut Drive.
- Then start north at Chetola and work south.
- The project will be scheduled in an effort for the downtown work to be completed during the winter and no night work will take place.
- Sidewalk installation in the Hill Street area is anticipated to complete the project in Spring to Summer 2024.



A project update website will be available during the project for up-to-date information as the project progresses.