



Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 3

June, 2016

Highlights of What's Happening Around Town

www.townofblowingrock.com

Important Contact Information

Town Hall.....295-5200
Planning & Inspection.....295-5240
Water/Sewer/Garbage.....295-5200
Parks & Recreation.....295-5222

Non-Emergency

Police Administration.....295-5212
Fire Administration.....295-5220

After Hours/Weekend Water or Sewer

Emergency.....295-5210

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council

07/12/2016 6:00 p.m.

08/09/2016 6:00 p.m.

Planning Board

07/21/2016 5:30 p.m.

08/18/2016 5:30 p.m.

ABC Board

07/21/2016 3:00 p.m.

08/18/2016 3:00 p.m.

BRAAC

07/07/2016 5:30 p.m.

08/04/2016 5:30 p.m.

TDA

07/05/2016 3:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Art in the Park:

July 16 & August 13

(On Park Avenue Beside Town Hall)

Sunday Night Concert Series:

Memorial Park at 4:00 p.m.

July 17 & August 14

Farmers Market

Every Thursday

(On Park Avenue)

Movie in the Park

July 7th, July 21 and Aug. 4

8:30 p.m.—10:30 p.m.

New Public Works Facility Ribbon Cutting



Former Facility



New Facility

The newly constructed Public Works building located at 647 Cone Road is now open. The ribbon cutting ceremony was held for its opening on June 6, 2016. The new facility has many features including 6,000 square feet, 3 stall garage, equipment wash bay, generator, and office space. The employees are very happy with their new home.

Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Adopted Budget

Following budget work sessions and a public hearing, the Town of Blowing Rock Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget was adopted at the June 14, 2016 Town Council meeting. The Recommended Budget and the list of changes, which together constitutes the adopted budget, are available on the Town's website www.townofblowingrock.com.

The Fiscal Year 2016-2017 adopted budget totals \$9.3 million and includes \$7.3 million for general government activities, \$1.6 million for the water and sewer operations, and \$323,000 for capital projects. Included in the operating budget is debt service for the first implementation phase of the \$13 million general obligation bonds that were approved by an average of 77% of Town of Blowing Rock voters on November 4, 2014. Also included is debt service of \$329,000 to begin paying back \$4.6 million of the \$13 million borrowed this past spring to fund a host of projects for transportation (\$3 million), parks (\$440,000), water (\$471,000) and sewer (\$665,000).

The adopted tax rate includes an increase of 1.0 cent, resulting in a tax rate of 34.0 cents per \$100, an increase of 3.0%. This increase will result in an additional annual tax amount owed of \$50 per year for a home valued at \$500,000, or \$10 annually for each \$100,000 of assessed taxable value.

To help ensure the system is able to recover its costs and not be subsidized by tax revenues when absorbing debt service costs associated with the water and sewer capital improvements planned, a \$2.00 base increase for both water and sewer along with a \$0.25 increase in the per thousand gallon rate for gallons consumed greater than 5,000 per two month billing period are scheduled. These impacts are expected to increase a typical customer's bill by 5% beginning with July 2016 usage, billed in August 2016.

Farewell & Thank You to Retiring Town Clerk, Sharon Greene



Hilari Hubner

Sharon Greene

Town Clerk Sharon Greene retired on June 30, 2016 from the Town with over 30 years of service. A reception was held for her at Town Hall June 29. Congratulations Sharon! Enjoy your Retirement.

Replacing Sharon as Town Clerk/Tax Collector will be Hilari Hubner, a Blowing Rock native. Hilari has worked for the Town for 6 years in the Administrative Assistant/Account Clerk position and is looking forward to the new responsibilities of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector position.

2016 Pool Schedule

The Robbins Pool at Broyhill Park is open for the season. Individual and family pool passes are available. Below are the 2016 Swimming Pool schedule and fees. For questions regarding pool membership or swim lessons, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (828) 295-5222. The pool is scheduled to remain open until Monday, September 5, 2016.

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Swim Lessons

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Public Swim

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Adult Lap Swim & Exercise

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Swim Lessons

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Public Swim

Saturday

11:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Public Swim

Sunday

12:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Public Swim

Admission Fees :

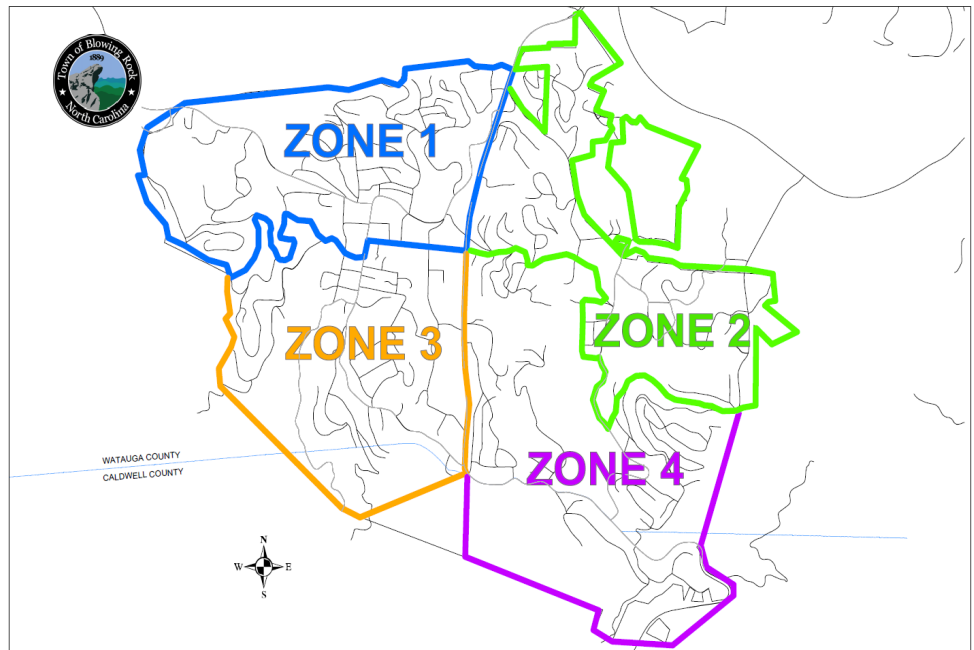
- Daily \$4.00
- Non-Taxpayers \$5.00 Daily
- Non Swimmer \$2.00 Daily

In our efforts to continuously improve service levels, we have developed a new zonal approach for brush collection. Our goal is to have this service provided in a more predictable manner for residents in a way that is more efficient for staff.

New Brush Collection Zone Program Starting August 1

The Town has been divided into four zones as shown in the map to the right. For reference purposes, the middle of the map where all the zones align is Valley Boulevard (321). Generally, residents in each zone can expect to have their curbside brush collected in the respective full week of each month. For example, Zone 1 will be collected in the first week of the month, Zone 2 in the second week of the month, etc. Please plan to have your brush out as early in your designated week as possible so all brush is not put out toward the end of your respective collection week and we can fully complete each zone in that zone's designated week.

The new zone based brush collection schedule will begin with the first week of August: zone 1 will be collected the week of August 1-5, zone 2 will be collected August 8-12, zone 3 will be collected August 15-19, and zone 4 will be collected August 22-26. In September, zone 1 will start collection the first full week of the month on September 5, zone 2 will start the week of September 12, etc.



For a full list of streets sorted alphabetically showing the scheduled weeks of collection, please visit www.townofblowingrock.com and there will be a link at the top of the website. If you have any questions, please contact Town Hall at (828) 295-5200.