

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOLDSBORO CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

WORK SESSION

The City Council of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, met in a Work Session in the Large Conference Room, City Hall Addition, 200 North Center Street, at 5:00 p.m. on September 3, 2024.

Call to Order. Mayor Gaylor called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Charles Gaylor, IV, Presiding
Mayor Pro Tem Brandi Matthews
Councilwoman Hiawatha Jones
Councilman Chris Boyette
Councilwoman Jamie Taylor
Councilwoman Beverly Weeks

Also Present: Matthew Livingston, Interim City Manager
Ron Lawrence, City Attorney
Holly Jones, Deputy City Clerk

Absent: Councilman Rod White

Adoption of the Agenda. Mayor Gaylor asked that *Item E. Crossroads Strategies Agreement* on the Consent Agenda be moved to Items Requiring Individual Action. Upon motion of Councilwoman Weeks, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, and unanimously carried, Council adopted the agenda as amended.

Since Mr. Darnay Barefoot with the Wayne County ABC Board was not yet present, Mayor Gaylor asked Mr. Nick Rose to present the Planning Commission Report first.

Appointed Committee Reports

Work session item b. Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment. Nick Rose, Chair, spoke concerning the Planning Department, and the amount of time it takes for projects to push through. He also mentioned concern over the current lack of regulations surrounding vape shops.

Mayor Gaylor and the Council thanked Mr. Rose for his time and his candor.

Old Business.

Work session item a. ABC Commission Presentation. Darnay Barefoot, Wayne County ABC Board General Manager, presented the January – June 2024 quarterly distribution check to Mayor Gaylor, in the amount of \$97,650. He also provided a graph, attached as *Exhibit A*. Mr. Barefoot provided an update on new stores being built and stores that are being renovated.

Mayor Gaylor thanked Mr. Barefoot for all that he does, and let him know the City would continue to support his efforts.

Appointed Committee Reports (cont.)

Work session item c. Mayors Committee for Persons with Disabilities. Wanda Becton, Chair, shared the presentation attached as *Exhibit B*, updating Council on upcoming events and where additional handicap signage/spaces are to be added on Center Street.

Mayor Gaylor thanked Ms. Becton for her presentation and her time, stating that little things do not substitute for big wins, but keeping things on the radar helps make them happen.

Mayor Pro Tem Matthews asked how everyone could donate to the all inclusive playground. Felecia Williams, Community Relations Director, stated that anyone wanting to donate could write a check to the City, and put ‘All Inclusive Playground’ on the subject line; there is a line item set aside for that purpose.

Work session item d. Recreation Advisory Commission. Anthony Slater, Co-Chair, stated that they began by looking at the structure of the commission to find out why they were having trouble getting quorum for meetings; looking at commitment, effective communication, and accountability. He stated that he will call members to ensure they will be attending meetings, or find out why they are not coming, and they start each meeting within five minutes of its designated start time.

Mr. Slater continued, stating they were starting a scholarship fund for next fiscal year to help families send children to the Parks and Recreation programs. He also stated that they were working on a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to see what is needed and where throughout the City. The Master Plan will help plan out placement for greenways and parks; the best location for the New Herman Park Center, if it needs to be moved; and will determine if new pools are needed or if the current ones can continue to be maintained.

Mayor Gaylor asked what the process was for the Master Plan, and how we move forward. Matt Livingston, Interim City Manager, stated that we were 10 years behind on a Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which has inhibited the ability to get funding for projects, but now we are working on that.

Councilwoman Weeks asked if there was a 501(c)(3) for people to donate to, so that the donation would be tax deductible. Felicia Brown, Parks and Recreation Director, stated they did not have a 501(c)(3), but there is a designated line item for when donations are made. Mayor Gaylor stated that people can make tax deductible donations through the City.

Mayor Gaylor thanked Mr. Slater for his time.

New Business.

Work session item e. Nuisance Abatement Process Overview. Police Chief Mike West shared the presentation attached as *Exhibit C*, stating that additional resources may be needed in order to assist with nuisance abatement. He also stated that some of the City Ordinances in Chapter 96 could be antiquated; they need to be reviewed, and changes may be brought soon to update the chapter.

Mayor Gaylor asked at what point they would go after the business license vs. criminal proceedings. Chief West stated it would depend on the circumstances when they went in. Ron Lawrence, City Attorney, stated it would also depend on if it was a business or residence; it could be seized under State law Chapter 19, and Code Enforcement could demolish the home if there are funds appropriated.

Councilwoman Taylor asked how we would pursue the situation when people were living in a home without water. Attorney Lawrence stated that Code Enforcement could contact County Attorney Andrew Neal, and he could contact the appropriate parties with the Health Department.

Councilwoman Taylor asked what the typical time frame was for response. Chief West stated that it would typically be 30-60 days, but it has gone over that. Attorney Lawrence stated that Chapter 19 did not have dates built in, since investigations had to be allowed enough time to gather evidence.

Mayor Pro Tem Matthews asked how they could support clean-up efforts if a property did not meet abatement criteria. Chief West stated that conversations could be had to give them the chance to clean-up before things reached the point of needing abatement. Mayor Pro Tem Matthews asked to be involved in any conversations in District 4.

Councilman Boyette asked if Council could be kept in the loop regarding which businesses were a hot spot, perhaps once month in the managers weekly reports. Mayor Gaylor stated that he would not want to release any names publicly if only conversations were being held, but they may be able to find a threshold that meets the objectives.

Mayor Gaylor thanked Chief West, and stated they appreciated his time.

Work session item f. Council Code of Ethics Policy Discussion. The item was presented by Mayor Gaylor.

Council's Code of Ethics is codified in the Code of Ordinances in Chapter 31, Officials and Employees. The Code of Ethics Ordinance was adopted as part of the 70's code and revised in 1991 and 2018. The Resolution Adopting a Code of Ethics for the City of Goldsboro was adopted on September 20, 2010. The resolution was adopted due to the North Carolina General Assembly ratifying House Bill 1452 in 2009, requiring local governing boards to adopt a resolution or policy containing a code of ethics to guide actions by the governing board.

The mayor and city clerk have been working to take the existing Code of Ethics and update the resolution into policy format to bring transparency to policies and make access to policies easier for Council and citizens. The mayor requests that Council review the ordinance and resolution and provide feedback regarding other provisions needed to bring the current Code of Ethics into current standards. Also attached for review is the current NC General Statue related to Closed Session.

It was recommended that Council review the attached documents and contact the City Clerk with recommended revisions on the ordinance and resolution as soon as possible.

Mayor Gaylor stated there had been some things frustrating the purpose of Closed Session, and we have a new Council that may or may not be aware. He emphasized that Council was not voting tonight, but Council was reminded that the document existed, and asked them to look it over to see if anything should be added or updated. Mayor Gaylor asked for Council to email the Clerks, Manager, or himself over the next couple of weeks with any ideas, comments, or suggestions.

Mayor Gaylor suggested adding that Council annually sign statements acknowledging their internal code of ethics to accompany the ethics course and statement already required of them. He reiterated they would not be voting on anything tonight, but he would like to vote on an update in the next couple of meetings.

Ron Lawrence, City Attorney, reiterated that what happens in Closed Session should stay in Closed Session; the information will become public, but if let out too soon, it frustrates the reason for going into Closed Session, and there is no reason to go into Closed session.

Items Requiring Individual Action.

Item E. Crossroads Strategies Agreement. The item was presented by Mayor Gaylor.

The Roosevelt Group currently provides advocacy and consulting services to the City of Goldsboro and Wayne County governments. The City of Goldsboro has in consultation with the County and Friends of Seymour made the decision to change consultants to support the relationship the City has with Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and state and federal legislators.

Crossroads Strategies (CRS) is a bipartisan, multi-disciplinary federal relations, advocacy, and advisory firm based in Washington DC. Founded in 2010 by longtime advocacy industry veterans, CRS offers a comprehensive suite of services ranging from congressional affairs to agency and regulatory lobbying.

The City Council approved an agreement with Crossroads Strategies for advocacy and consulting services on March 4, 2024 which was effective through June 30, 2024.

Crossroads Strategies will advise the City, County and Friends of Seymour on legislative issues impacting Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. They will also work with federal agencies on behalf of the City.

The terms of this Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2024, and remain in effect through June 30, 2025. The City of Goldsboro and County of Wayne will pay Crossroads Strategies a monthly retainer of \$15,000 (\$7,500 each). Crossroads Strategies shall send invoices approximately quarterly at the beginning of each quarter to the City of Goldsboro and the County of Wayne in the amount of \$22,500.00 due from each entity covering time periods as follows: 7/1/24 - 9/30/24, 10/1/24 - 12/31/24, 1/1/25 - 3/30/25, and 4/1/25 - 6/30/25.

The City and County will reimburse Crossroads Strategies for all reasonable expenses associated with the above services, the expenditure of which shall be pre-approved.

The deliverables of the agreement are listed in the attached agreement.

Henry Smith and Ken Gerrard, representing Friends of Seymour, will be the primary points of contact. Recurring updates and regular access to Crossroads Strategies will be provided to City and County leadership.

Staff recommended Council adopt the following Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement with Crossroads Strategies.

Matthew Livingston, Interim City Manager, pointed out that the contract does require a bi-weekly phone call and written reports as needed, since City Council wanted to see the contact and communication spelled out more. Ron Lawrence, City Attorney, confirmed that the terms lined out in the letter presented would be transposed into the City's form and format to be executed.

Councilwoman Weeks made a motion to approve the terms of the agreement as presented, the motion was seconded by Councilman Boyette and unanimously carried. Council adopted the following entitled Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-93 “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH CROSSROADS STRATEGIES”

Closed Session.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Weeks, seconded by Councilman Boyette, and unanimously carried, Council went into Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter.

After the Closed Session was held, Council came out of Closed Session, and proceeded to Council Chambers to begin the Regular Meeting in Open Session.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, met in Regular Session in Council Chambers, City Hall, 214 North Center Street, at 7:09 p.m. on September 3, 2024.

Mayor Gaylor called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Father David Wyly, Police Chaplain, provided the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed, led by the Boy Scouts of America, Troop #8, from New Hope Methodist Church.

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Charles Gaylor, IV, Presiding
Mayor Pro Tem Brandi Matthews

Councilwoman Hiawatha Jones
Councilman Chris Boyette
Councilwoman Jamie Taylor
Councilwoman Beverly Weeks

Also Present: Matthew Livingston, Interim City Manager
Ron Lawrence, City Attorney
Holly Jones, Deputy City Clerk

Absent: Councilman Rod White

Presentations.

Item A. Employees and Supervisor of the Year. Matthew Livingston, Interim City Manager, presented the following awards:

The Supervisor of the Year Award: Matthew Langley. Matthew Langley is the Distribution Operations Manager for the Distribution and Collections Division of the Public Works Department. He always strives to improve the Division as a whole, which has been even more apparent in his accomplishments in recent months. His can-do attitude, steadfast dedication, and determination, enable his team to resolve every challenge; ensuring customer needs are met, while improving procedures and saving thousands of dollars.

Matthew approaches every task from a customer-first perspective, scheduling repairs to limit the negative impact on local businesses. In the last three months his team has completed a total of 119 work orders. In addition to routine maintenance, Matthew has played a key leadership role in the William Street widening and the Mt. Olive Pickle projects, actively participating in meetings to ensure the success of projects.

In November, Matthew took the lead to repair a significant sewer manhole failure. He coordinated getting bypass pumps set up, preventing sewage from backing up into resident's homes and averting a sanitary sewer overflow. The manhole was replaced without incident; saving the City approximately \$30K in contractor costs, and building confidence in staff.

Matthew recently obtained his A-Distribution certification, allowing him to officially become the City's Water Distribution Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC). He is scheduled to take the Cross-Connection exam, which will complete his water distribution certifications. Matthew also successfully completed his Associate Degree from Liberty University.

Mathew's keen attention to detail and service mindset set him apart; he is a 100% committed and dedicated team player, who answers every call without fail. Matthew's work ethic and accomplishments reflect well upon himself and the City of Goldsboro.

Director Rick Fletcher stated that Matthew makes Public Works shine. He thanked him for everything he does; stating he is a valued member of the team, and they would be lost without him.

The Employee of the Year Award: Hakiem Johnson. On February 8th, 2024, while on foot patrol in the downtown area, Police Support Technician Hakiem Johnson was alert, cognizant, and situationally aware of his surroundings. He observed and reported a working structure fire in the 100 block of South Center Street. Hakiem radioed the fire into Wayne County Communications and immediately began to notify and evacuate residents of the affected structure and apartments. He also assisted in the evacuation of animals by catching them as the residents tossed them from the second floor of the structure. In total, 5 residents and 2 pets were successfully evacuated.

Hakiem's situational awareness and quick thinking prevented further damage and potential loss of life, and enabled our fellow First Responders with the Fire Department to respond quickly and suppress the fire before the structure became fully engulfed in flames. His actions and early warning stopped the fire from potentially spreading to neighboring attached structures, which could have been catastrophic for many other residents and business owners.

Hakiem's actions are a direct reflection of his professionalism and his desire to serve not only the Goldsboro Police Department but the community as a whole. Hakiem's work ethic and situational awareness reflect well on himself and the City of Goldsboro.

Hakiem thanked everyone that came out to support him, especially his girlfriend Kim St Louis. As photos were being taken, he got down on one knee and proposed! Mayor Gaylor and the Council congratulated them both.

The Employee of the Year Award: Michael Braswell. Michael Braswell is performing the duties of a Senior Maintenance Technician, training four Maintenance Technicians, filling the role of a supervisor, and he performs Superintendent duties when needed. Michael also strives to improve his knowledge and skill set, recently completing certification for Facilities and Grounds Manager through the American Public Works Association.

Michael has spearheaded numerous large projects including the re-installation of street light poles and rewiring food truck poles at The Hub, saving the city several thousand dollars. He was also responsible for leading the Building and

Grounds Maintenance crews in preparation for the Main Street USA Conference. Michael's leadership and assistance led to the changing of 168 banners on Center Street and in the John Street parking lot, 26 window/door coverings installed at Goldsboro Union Station, hanging a new sign at The Hub, and numerous other improvements to ensure Downtown Goldsboro shined; all accomplished in a 2-week timeframe.

Michael is a volunteer on the ART Steering Committee, providing guidance on the installation process of the artwork for both the artist and the City. As a volunteer with the Arts Council, he has assisted in numerous projects helping to improve the aesthetics of our downtown.

Michael is a consummate team player, a benefit to Building and Grounds, Public Works, and the City of Goldsboro. He has a deep desire to improve the aesthetics, distinction, and reputation of the City of Goldsboro. Michael's work ethic and accomplishments reflect well on himself and the City of Goldsboro.

Supervisor Bill Peter stated it is an honor and privilege to work with Michael, and congratulated him.

Item B. Suicide Prevention Awareness Proclamation. Read by Mayor Gaylor. the Goldsboro City Council proclaimed SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS in the City of Goldsboro, and called upon all citizens to create hope through action, and encouraged all residents to take the time to understand the importance of mental health education and recognize that taking care of ourselves and others includes taking care of mental health.

Mayor Gaylor presented the proclamation to Melissa Reese, Community Liaison Coordinator, and Victoria Jackson, Regional VP, from Trillium Health Resources. Ms. Jackson spoke about suicide prevention and the resources Trillium provides, and provided informational handouts, attached as *Exhibit D*.

Item C. Latino Heritage Month Proclamation. Read by Mayor Gaylor. The Goldsboro City Council proclaimed September 15 - October 15, 2024 as LATINO HERITAGE MONTH in Goldsboro, North Carolina and extended best wishes to all of our communities as they hold appropriate ceremonies to commemorate this observance.

Mayor Gaylor presented the proclamation to Andrea Freile and other representatives of the community. Ms. Freile stated that Latinos are not an individualistic Community, they are a collaborative community. She also thanked Council for including in the proclamation the section stating, "we work endlessly to create a more socially-inclusive and diverse society with equality for all populations," and thanked them for letting them come to the meeting tonight.

Ceremonial Documents.

Item D. Constitution Week Proclamation. Read by Mayor Gaylor. The Goldsboro City Council commemorated the official recognition being given to this magnificent document on its anniversary and proclaimed the week of September 17 – 23, 2024 as CONSTITUTION WEEK in Goldsboro, North Carolina and asked our citizens to reaffirm the ideals that the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.

Public Comment Period. Mayor Gaylor opened the public comment period. The following people spoke:

1. Albert Van Kleeck, spoke concerning crime in his neighborhood, specifically drugs, prostitution, and gun violence. (Full comments are available on YouTube at 2:49:20)
2. Richard Taylor, spoke concerning the death of Jaydin Vann, asking for more to be done regarding the investigation. (Full comments are available on YouTube at 2:55:52)

No one else spoke and the public comment period was closed.

City Manager's Report. Matthew Livingston shared: A reminder that Thursday night is Taste of Wayne, and the kickoff to the Freedom Fest, and of course, Saturday is Freedom Fest; big events for the City of Goldsboro. At the administration level, departments put forth their best management practices. We're implementing those and will have a report on that in a month or so. Also, next meeting we should have a budget calendar for you to look at. Part of that is trying to figure out dates for our retreat. We're getting our capital improvement plan updated. Again, we're going to go before the LGC to get off the UAL list and we're asking for some money because we're going to have to do some borrowing. We're involved in the comprehensive transportation master plan and the bike ped plan now through the MPO; we'll be seeing a presentation on that in a few weeks. We've also started a pavement condition rating index study; we should be finished with that in about 30 days as well. All this ties into assessing what our needs are going forward in the upcoming budget years, and the Capital Improvement Plan.

Mayor and Councilmembers' Comments.

Councilwoman Jones: Just a few reminders. We're all trying to be safe, there's a lot of criminal activity going on, and there are some things that we as citizens can do. It is getting darker, so think about filling up your gas tank before sunset, and have an extra charger with your cell phone. Try to make no visits at the ATM whenever it's dark, and ladies, if you're getting out of the car and you're alone, do not unlock your car until you're getting ready to get out, and then unlock your car and get out. And just stay safe. We want everybody safe and protected.

Councilman Boyette: Just a couple of brief things. I'd just like to say thank you to everyone that's reached out to me regarding my recent appointment by the League of Municipalities to their Legislative Policy Committee, and I appreciate all the thanks that I've received and well wishes in that regard. I look forward to advocating for our great City in that capacity. I'd also, as always, like to say thank you to all of our hard-working employees of this City and our public safety as well, everyone for everything that you do to keep us safe and keep our City operating.

Councilwoman Taylor: My comments tonight are going to address an issue that's very close to my heart, and that's the revitalization of the neglected and overlooked areas of District 3. When I ran for office, I made several pledges to the community; two of them were to ensure safer neighborhoods, and to tackle blight. To eliminate blighted properties, we must first identify them. We also need to recognize the factors in our neighborhoods that contribute to the unsafe environments. The residents of District 3 deserve the same quality of life as those in any other neighborhood or district in Goldsboro. Businesses that contribute to crime and unsafe conditions can be addressed, but only if we as citizens, and as a City, understand that just because something has been a certain way for a long period of time, doesn't mean it must remain that way; positive change is possible. I ask everyone familiar with my neighborhood and community to envision a future with less crime. Imagine streets where you can go for walks, walk your dog, or ride your bike without worrying about stray bullets. I firmly believe that if we all work together, we can make this vision a reality.

Mayor Pro Tem Matthews: Just a reminder to the district, I made a post about passing out popsicles this week. Piggly Wiggly on Lionel Street donated some popsicles to this initiative to offer some type fun thing for the kids since our pool was not open. The Fire Department graciously brought the sprinklers out; participation with really low, so I have a lot of popsicles. So, I have decided to do a Where's Waldo AKA kind of Councilwoman going throughout the neighborhoods this weekend. I'm passing out popsicles, and I have lots of them, so please follow the page, to see where I'll be, and ensure as we are reaching the end of the summer that you come and get a popsicle. As always, I love you District 4, and there is Gold and Goldsboro.

Councilwoman Weeks: First of all, I just want to encourage everybody to come out this weekend to participate in North Carolina Freedom Fest. It's gonna be an amazing family friendly time where we can honor our military personnel, their families, also our first responders. There will be vendors, car shows, food trucks; so come out, and let's get together as a community, and have a good time. The last thing I'd like to say is a statement; if you see something, say something. Just last week, because of pressure from concerned citizens in our community, law enforcement was able to do a sting at an establishment and rescue 2 sex workers, and reunite them with their families. It started with conversations, so I want to encourage you again; if you see something, say something. You can report it to Crime Stoppers, you can report it to our local law enforcement, and you can do that anonymously. You don't have to give your name, you don't have to give your phone number, you don't have to give your location; but if you see something, say something. Before I stepped on to Council, those two families wanted to say thank you, because they have been reunited with their daughters.

Mayor Gaylor: You've already heard five very passionate individuals speak about things that they want to see happen in their districts and for the City of Goldsboro; I could not agree more. I think that the citizens of the City of Goldsboro are hitting a point where they say we've had enough, and the communities are ready to take their streets back. Communities of all wealths, and colors, and demographics, are saying we're tired of not feeling like we can play in our front yard and our backyard. I'm so grateful because, sitting up here, you can do certain things to turn certain knobs and levers but, ultimately, the community has to be unified in what the community wants to see. This Thursday night, Taste of Wayne; hope those that are able to go have a safe time and enjoy it. Freedom Fest this weekend, big concert series, big car show, big event, go out try to enjoy it; no cost associated. It's a fantastic festival.

City Attorney Ron Lawrence also asked to say a few words: Earlier tonight there was a Suicide Prevention Proclamation that was read. I just urge anybody that has mental health issues in their families to not be shy about it, to come forward, and to confront those. Help is out there, help is needed, and oftentimes people are ashamed because of that. My father took his own life, about 40 years ago last month, and I think at that time it was a big stigma attached to it. I just want to urge people, that if you need help to seek it out, because it is there. Sorry, I don't normally say anything, but I thought it was appropriate.

Mayor Gaylor thanked Mr. Lawrence for his comments.

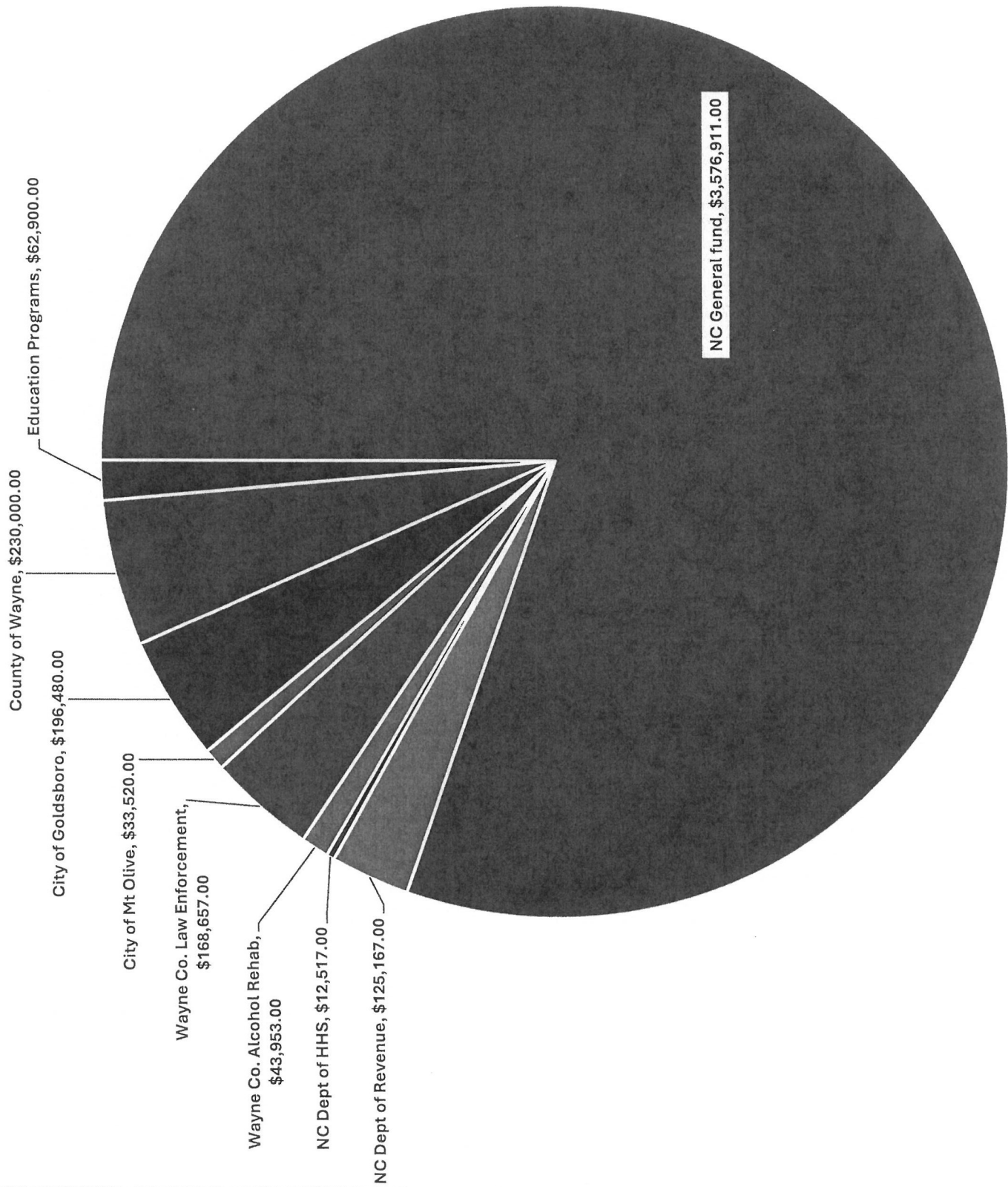
Detailed comments from the Mayor and Council are available on YouTube and Facebook.

There being no further business, Mayor Gaylor adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

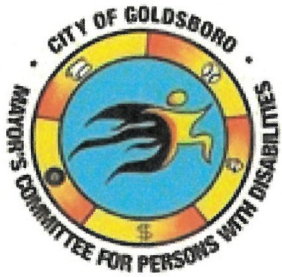



Charles Gaylor, IV
Mayor


Holly Jones, MPA/CMC/NCAMC
Deputy City Clerk

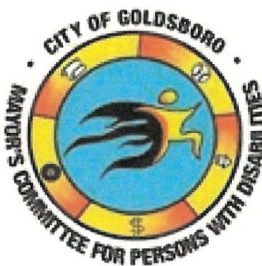


Wayne County ABC Distributions FY 2023 - 2024



MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES MCPD

WHAT IS THE MCPD?



- The Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities plans, conducts, and publicizes activities designed to promote the well being of people with disabilities.
- It is composed of 16 members making it the largest of the City's Boards and Commissions

WHAT DOES THE MCPD DO?

- Hal K. Plonk Disability Awareness Walk
- Annual Awards Ceremony
- Education
- Volunteer
- Advocate
- Support



The goals of the MCPD are to:

- Promote the establishment and improvement of rehabilitation and recreational facilities
- Support and promote legislation advocating issues of interest for people with disabilities
- Advise the City Council about the goals, recommendations, and activities of the committee

What Have We Been Up To Recently?



Community Support



A fulfilling Donation of Rod and Reels to Wayne Opportunity Center to enable the Consumers to fish at Camp Tuscarora and throughout the Summer at various locations.

Outreach

The members of the MCPD volunteer, attend, and support various national and community events in support of the Disabled community.



Educating

- The MCPD takes every opportunity available to educate the public on various topics concerning or related to disability awareness.
- We have included education material in the City of Goldsboro’s Newsletter
- Spoken at many civic group meetings such as the New Hope Ruritan Club, Sunrise Kiwanis and the Rotary Club of Goldsboro-Three Eagles.
- Maintains a Facebook page with updates concerning various awareness days and local activities.



MCPD Annual Awards

- The MCPD Annual Awards recognizes community nominated persons and businesses that have either overcome their disabilities or have gone the extra mile to serve or work with people with disabilities.
- It highlights National Disability Employment Awareness and Inclusion
- Categories include: The Mayor’s Trophy, Employee of the Year, Employer of the Year, Committee Member of the year and Most Accessible Business.
- October 17, 2024

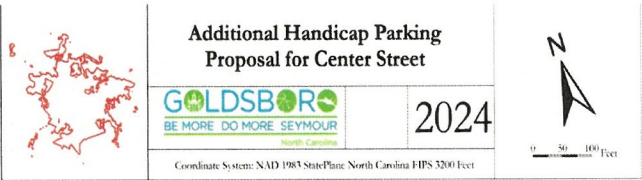
Advocating for Accessible Parking

Consider adding two parallel handicap parking space within the 200 block of North Center Street City Hall.



- Working with the City of Goldsboro’s amazing Engineering and Planning Departments to create additional handicap accessible parking.
- Proposed 6 additional spaces to be added to Center St.

Consider adding four angled handicap parking spaces within the 100 block of North Center Street that will be similar in design as those found within the 100 block of South Center Street.



Making Strides for Inclusivity

- The MCPD has spearheaded several fundraising initiatives to fund various activities throughout the year and future projects including lobbying our State representatives and finding grants
- The largest being a continuous campaign/fundraising to fund an inclusive playground for the community that would be located at North End



MCPD The Mayor's Committee for Person's with Disabilities

- Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of Every Month
- 12:00pm-1:00pm
- City Hall-Large Conference Room
- Liaison Dep.-Community Relations & Development
- Ex-Officio- Brandi Matthews
- Follow us on Facebook 

Nuisance Abatement Process Overview

Michael D. West, Chief of Police

September 3, 2024



www.goldsboronc.gov

What is Nuisance Abatement?



A LEGAL PROCESS TO ADDRESS PROPERTIES THAT POSE A THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE.



FOCUSES ON PROPERTIES THAT ARE NEGLECTED, ABANDONED, OR INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.



Key Objectives of Nuisance Abatement

1

Protect Community Safety

- Ensure properties do not endanger residents or visitors.

2

Enhance Property Values

- Maintain or increase the value of surrounding properties.

3

Promote Community Well-being

- Foster a safe, clean, and healthy environment.



Types of Nuisances



Public Health Nuisances

- Unsanitary conditions, vermin infestations, stagnant water.



Safety Hazards

Dilapidated structures, unsecured buildings, fire hazards.



Illegal Activities

Drug-related activities, illegal gambling, chronic disturbances.



Legal Framework



Local Ordinances

Relevant city codes and regulations governing nuisance abatement.



State Law

State statutes that empower local authorities to address nuisances.



Due Process

Ensuring property owners are notified and given an opportunity to correct issues.

The Nuisance Abatement Process

1. Identification

- Reports from residents, police, or inspections.

2. Investigation

- Assessing the severity of the nuisance through inspections.

3. Notification

- Issuing a notice to the property owner detailing the violations and required actions.

4. Correction Period

- Allowing the property owner time to remedy the situation.

5. Enforcement

- If not corrected, the city may take direct action (e.g., cleanup, repairs) and charge the owner.

Enforcement Actions



Administrative Remedies

- Fines, penalties, or liens placed on the property.



Judicial Remedies

- Court orders for property cleanup, repair, or demolition.



Emergency Actions

- Immediate intervention in cases posing an urgent threat to public safety.

Challenges in Nuisance Abatement

Property Owner Resistance - Non-compliance, legal challenges, absentee owners.

Resource Allocation - Time and cost associated with abatement efforts.

Public Perception - Balancing community expectations with legal constraints.

Case Studies/Examples

In 2017, the City of Goldsboro successfully conducted a nuisance abatement against a local hotel that had become a hotspot for criminal activity and a source of significant concern for the community. Over the course of several months, the city received numerous complaints from residents and businesses about ongoing issues at the hotel, including drug activity, prostitution, and frequent disturbances.

The Goldsboro Police Department (GPD) responded by launching a thorough investigation, collecting vital evidence and conducting surveillance operations. These efforts culminated in the execution of search warrants and the arrest of several individuals involved in illegal activities at the hotel. Following these law enforcement actions, the City Inspections Department, in collaboration with the Fire Department, conducted an in-depth assessment of the hotel. They discovered multiple safety violations, which ultimately led to the closure of the hotel to protect public safety.

Understanding the impact of the closure on the residents who were living at the hotel, the city took extra steps to ensure they were provided with alternative housing options, demonstrating a commitment to their well-being throughout the process.

To further support their efforts, GPD sent a formal request to the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement (NC ALE) Abatement Team for assistance. This collaboration initiated a comprehensive 14-month investigation into the hotel's operations. The investigation provided substantial evidence, leading to a court ruling that imposed strict restrictions on the hotel, effectively preventing it from continuing to operate as a public nuisance.

This successful nuisance abatement not only resolved the immediate issues at the hotel but also highlighted the City of Goldsboro's dedication to maintaining a safe and secure environment for its residents. The combined efforts of local law enforcement, city officials, and the NC ALE were instrumental in restoring peace and safety to the community.

Community Involvement

Education and Outreach

- Informing residents about how to report nuisances.

Collaboration

- Working with community groups, police, and other stakeholders.

Prevention

- Encouraging property upkeep and timely maintenance.

Benefits of Effective Nuisance Abatement

Improved Quality of Life

- Safer, cleaner neighborhoods.

Economic Growth

- Increased property values and attractiveness for new investments.

Public Confidence

- Trust in the city's commitment to maintaining community standards.

Next Steps

Council Support - Request for approval of resources or policy changes to enhance abatement efforts.

Ongoing Monitoring - Implementing systems for tracking and responding to nuisance reports.

Community Engagement - Expanding outreach efforts to keep the public informed and involved.

QUESTIONS

Thank you for your time

Chief Michael D. West
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27. People who are struggling with suicidal ideas or behaviors may use social media as an outlet for their thoughts.



28. Don't ignore posts that mention despair, self-harm, death or suicide. Reach out via private message. Send messages of hope and links to a local crisis center or to Lifeline. If you think the person is in immediate danger, **call the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988.**

29. Flag or report troubling posts. Many social media platforms have safety teams that can offer help.

30. If you or someone you know is considering suicide, get help today. **Call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988, or connect to Lifeline Chat online at www.988lifeline.org (1-800-273-8255).**



Suicide is often preventable. People at risk of suicide need to know that they are not alone. The Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is available for free and confidential support 24/7/365 at 988. To connect with Lifeline Chat look online at www.988lifeline.org

Suicide

30 Facts Everyone Should Know



1. On average, there are 130 suicides per day in the U.S.

2. The rate of suicide is highest in adults between ages 45 and 64.

3. There is no single cause for suicide.

This pamphlet is not a substitute for medical care. If you have questions or concerns, please talk with a health care provider.

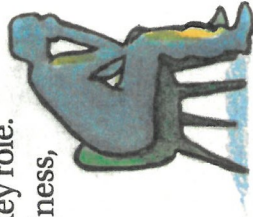
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4. Mental illness can play a key role.

But abuse, bullying, loneliness, substance misuse, family and relationship issues, health, money and legal problems may impact the suicide rate.



5. Men are nearly four times more likely to die from suicide than women, but women attempt suicide three times more often.

6. LGBTQ youth are four times more likely than heterosexual youth to attempt suicide.

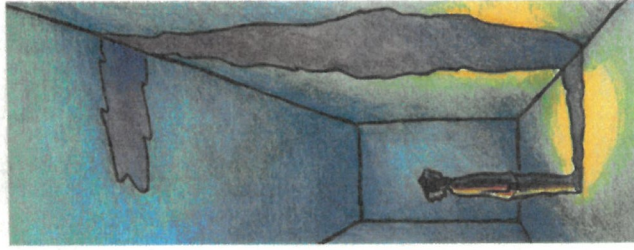
7. Relative to the size of their population, Native American people have the highest rate of death by suicide than any other ethnic group in the U.S.

8. Most people who consider suicide do not want to die. They see it as a way to end their pain.

9. Around 40,000

Americans die by suicide every year, but more than a million attempt it.

10. Nine out of 10 people who attempt it and survive will not die by suicide later.



11. Two thirds of all gun-related deaths in the U.S. are suicides.

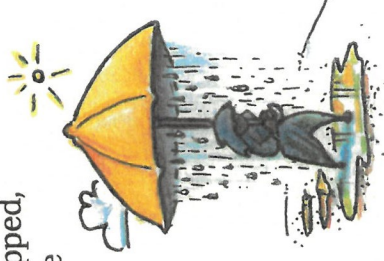
12. Suicide is often not planned.

13. Less than 40 percent of people who die by suicide leave a note.

14. Of people who have died by suicide, 54 percent did not have a known mental condition.

15. People who feel hopeless, trapped, ashamed or isolated are more likely to consider suicide.

16. Other warning signs include talking about wanting to die or killing oneself, end-of-life planning, mood changes, anxiety, withdrawal, anger, recklessness and substance abuse.



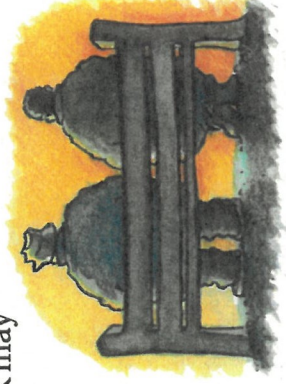
17. Risk factors for suicide change with age.

18. Teens may not have the coping skills to deal with a breakup or problems with family, such as abuse or substance misuse.

19. A teen may be the target of bullying, either online or in person. Or they may identify with someone who has died by suicide.

20. Older adults at risk may

be dealing with illness, isolation, chronic pain, financial insecurity, or the death of a partner.



21. Suicidal thoughts or actions are not a bid for attention. They are the result of extreme stress and should not be ignored.

22. Asking people direct questions about suicidal thoughts and behavior will not make them more likely to attempt it.

23. Do not leave a suicidal person alone. Call a hotline or speak to a counselor for help. Offer support and keep them away from the means to hurt themselves.

24. A person at risk for suicide should not have access to firearms.



25. Certain medications, including antidepressants, increase the risk for suicidal thoughts and behavior.

26. Get help IMMEDIATELY if you have unexpected mood changes or thoughts of self-harm while taking any medication.