

The

TOWN

Kirkman Municipal Building
PO Box 307
4920 Alliance Church Road
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313



*"Remembering the Past,
While Moving Towards the Future"*

April 2015

SQUARE

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Email: Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net

Website: www.pleasantgarden.net

Town of Pleasant Garden, NC

TOWN OFFICIALS

Carla Strickland.....Mayor
Steve Brandt.....Mayor Pro Tem
Alan Marshall.....Councilmember
Ron Surgeon.....Councilmember
Rick Wallace.....Councilmember

TOWN STAFF

Sandy Carmany....Administrator/Clerk
Kathleen Hennebury...Assistant Clerk

TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday...9:00AM - 5:00PM
(We often close at 1:00PM on Fridays as needed to avoid overtime hours.)

TOWN MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Kirkman Municipal Building/Town Hall located at 4920 Alliance Church Road and are open to the public. All citizens are invited and encouraged to attend.

Agendas for all Town Council and board meetings are available by email in advance of the meeting. To receive meeting agendas, send an email to Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net

Town Council

First Tuesday of each month

Zoning Board

Third Monday of each month

Long-Range Planning Board

Third Tuesday of each month

Recreation Board

Fourth Tuesday of each month

All regular meetings begin at 7:00PM.

Special meetings may be called as needed. 48-hours public notice will be given for such meetings.



Work on 2015-16 Town Budget Begins

The Town Council has held two work sessions on the town budget for fiscal year 2015-16 that begins on July 1. Town Administrator/Clerk Carmany will formally present the budget message at the May 5 council meeting after which additional work sessions may be scheduled if needed. The required public hearing on the budget proposal will be held at the June 2 council meeting. Councilmembers have the option of voting on the approval of the budget that same night or at a later time. June 30 is the deadline for adopting the budget.

➤ The **General Fund** covers the day-to-day operations of Town Hall and administrative necessities such as office supplies, utilities, repairs and maintenance, legal and auditing fees, staff salaries and postage. Money for town programs and services such as Senior Luncheons, Independence Day Celebration, Veterans Appreciation Day, Christmas Parade, youth soccer program, the US flags on Pleasant Garden Road, and this newsletter are also budgeted in the General Fund.

Revenue to cover these expenses comes from the property tax, sales tax, ABC taxes, utilities tax, investment earnings, soccer registrations and sponsorships, and development fees. If the estimated revenue from these sources is less than the projected expenses, the options for balancing the budget are to cut expenses, raise the property tax rate, or make a “fund balance allocation” from the General Fund Reserve. This reserve is the town’s savings account built up from unspent revenue accumulated over the past 17 years. As of March 31, there was \$1,160,778 in the General Fund Reserve.

➤ The **Capital Reserve Fund** can be used only for construction projects or long-term improvements to land or buildings. Construction of Town Hall and recent improvements to the town’s athletic field complex are examples of projects paid from this fund. Possible future uses of this money could be matching funds for a PARTF grant, financing of road improvements, and/or implementing the Recreation Master Plan or the Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan.

The Capital Reserve has been built up with an annual 20% transfer of certain tax revenues added to the money accumulated in this fund over the past 17 years. As of March 31, there was \$1,511,963 in the Capital Reserve Fund.

Adoption of the budget is one of the most important decisions your Town Council makes. The budget document serves as the planning guide for the coming year. Citizens are encouraged to share ideas and opinions at the budget input sessions at council meetings and/or the June 2 public hearing or by contacting members of the Town Council directly at any time.

It's your town and your money – how do you want it used?

Town News

Message from the Mayor

In the last issue of the newsletter, I reported the current situation of 13 roads, within the Town limits, declared eligible through NCDOT, which could be taken into the state system if repairs were made up to their standards. (If you need a copy of the last issue's article, please let me know). I also reported about the petition submitted from 14 property owners on Walter Wright Road for the Town to fund the monies to repair their road and assess **all** property owners, even those who did not sign the petition. Councilman Alan Marshall submitted a proposal for the Council to consider. Working from Mr. Marshall's proposal, I submitted the following to the Council, in the form of a Motion, at April's Council Meeting:

1. The Town would enter into an agreement with the property owners on any of the 13 roads to expend the money for the repairs.
2. The property owners who wish to have their road repaired would pay the Town Attorney to devise an equitable agreement between the Town and the property owners **who sign the agreement. That is, only those who sign the agreement will be responsible for the repayment of the monies loaned.** This proposal is based on the number of property owners and not on road frontage space.
3. The property owners would pay the Town Attorney to devise an agreement with NCDOT to bid and repair the road with the understanding NCDOT will take the road over once the repairs have been completed.
4. The Town will fund the money for 10 years with 3% interest and the assessment will be made to those who signed the agreement.
5. The Town would collect the money itself without the county's assistance.
6. The 3% interest would allow for lost interest on the Town's money and/or liens, future attorney fees on said project, possible overtime (or part-time) person to collect and account for said payments.

The Motion passed 3-2. At this point, it's now in the property owners' hands to contact the Town Attorney to comprise an equitable agreement, based on the terms above, and obtain the signatures.

Before the above-Motion was adopted, a Motion was made and approved (3-2) to hold a Public Hearing on a "Resolution to Finance by Special Assessments the Road Improvements for Walter Wright Road Extension from 6421 Walter Wright Road Approximately 3,168 Fee to 6478 Walter Wright Road." The Resolution covers the following points:

- N.C.G.S. 160A-223 requires cities/towns to adopt a preliminary resolution regarding the financing of proposed projects by special assessments;
- The Town of Pleasant Garden has received a verified Petition from the majority owner(s) of property abutting Walter Wright Road Extension;
- It is the intent of the Town of Pleasant Garden to undertake the above road improvements of Walter Wright Road Extension to bring the road into compliance with North Carolina Department of Transportation standards, in order for NCDOT to accept all future maintenance of Walter Wright Road Extension;
- The assessments for the road improvements will be one hundred percent (100%) of the total cost of the road improvements;
- No assessments for the road improvements will be held in abeyance;
- The proposed terms of payment of the assessment will be ten (10) equal annual installments, which installments will bear interest at the rate of 6 percent (6%) per annum from the date of confirmation of the assessment roll; provided, however, that any such assessment may be paid in full in cash without the addition of interest, if such payment is received by the Town of Pleasant Garden within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of the Notice of Confirmation of the Assessment Roll; and

This Resolution covers the holding of a Public Hearing at the next Council Meeting, May 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. The Council will hear speakers **For** and **Against** the Resolution. Please plan to attend and let your voice be heard. If you have any questions, please email me through the Town website or carlastrickland@pleasantgarden.net. I hope to see you at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor Carla Strickland

**May 2, 2015
Saturday
Volunteer Park**

**4930 Alliance Church
Road
Pleasant Garden NC
5K Run/Walk**

8:00 A.M.

**1-Mile Fun Walk
8:10 A.M.**

Fees after April 11, 2015

5K— \$30.00 1-Mile \$15.00

T-shirt is only guaranteed
if the application is
received by April 17, 2015.

Register at:



onthemarksports.com

Race Packet Pick-Up &
Late Registration will be
available on Friday May 1,

4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Pleasant Garden Town Hall
Picnic Pavilion

Day of Race Registration &
Packet Pick Up
6:30 A.M. – 7:30 A.M. at
Volunteer Park

Like Us on FB
Pleasant Garden JDRF 5K



Discover Good Living

Come out and see what the Southeast Community is all about! We will have camps, recreation, tips for a healthy lifestyle and strategies to manage diabetes. Camp Weaver, Hayes-Taylor YMCA, Quaker Lake, 97.1, Walgreens, Omega Sports, JDRF, Bio-Life and Gold's Gym will be there for you.

5K Race

With a lead ride out from the Freedom Biker Church, our 5K will follow last year's popular course. Our 1-mile walk course is enhanced to capture the scenic beauty surrounding Volunteer Park. Both the 5K & 1-mile walk will be emceed by our special guest Cindy Farmer of FOX8.

Family Connection Zone

This year we have expanded the family fun activities for the kids. There will be a craft area from Home Depot and an art station from Pleasant Garden Elementary School. Enjoy face painting, bounce houses and be sure to get the cameras ready for the tyke obstacle course from Wee-Shine.

Demonstration Zone

Back by popular demand!! Enjoy the leading dance and clogging teams from the Southeast area. See Pleasant Garden's own Rockin Ropers perform eye-catching jump rope routines. Hear Tony Straughn of The Barn sing tunes to get you moving.

Thank you to our generous sponsors!



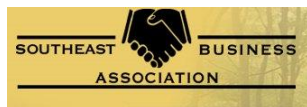
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Town of Pleasant Garden
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 Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

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TOWN EVENTS

Dates to Remember



Senior Luncheon

April 21 May 19 June 16
10:00AM – 1:00PM



Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church fellowship hall

This monthly program is free and open to citizens 60 years and older. Please call 674-3002 no later than the Friday before each event to make your reservation.

5K/Discover Good Living Expo/JDRF Benefit



Saturday, May 2, 2015; Volunteer Park
5K race: 8:00AM

Community Expo: 8:00 – 11:00AM

Exhibits by area businesses and organizations

Demo Zone: 8:00 – 11:00AM

Local performers

Town Council meetings

Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00PM

Public hearing on Walter Wright Road petition, presentation of 2015-16 draft budget

Tuesday, June 2 at 7:00PM

Public hearing on the 2015-16 budget, possible vote on adoption of the budget



Independence Day Celebration

Saturday, June 27, 6:00 – 10:00PM

Pleasant Garden Community Center
 Music and entertainment, food, kids' games and inflatables; Fireworks begin around 9:30PM

Friendly Reminder about Stream Buffers

When mowing grass and clearing brush this summer, don't forget that Jordan Lake watershed rules require a 50-foot undisturbed buffer to be left around natural ponds, lakes, creeks and streams. Violating these restrictions can result in hefty fines plus you will be required to repair the damage and return the disturbed area to its former undisturbed condition.

2015 Municipal Elections

The seats for the mayor and two councilmembers will be open for election this fall. The mayor serves for a two-year term and councilmembers serve for four years. The election will be held on November 3, 2015 with a primary on October 6 if needed. The filing period opens at 8:00AM on Monday, July 6 and closes at noon on Friday, July 17. Candidates can register at the Guilford County Board of Elections office or at Town Hall; the filing fee is \$5.

Record-breaking E-Cycle 2015

A big "thank you" to all who participated in the March 21st e-cycling event at Town Hall. 504 cars drove through and dropped off **18.81 tons of e-waste** and **9.14 tons of paper for shredding** – a new town record!



Eagle Scout Project Benefits the Town



Levi Walker of Boy Scout Troop 365 recently completed his Eagle Scout project which was the construction of six wooden benches placed at Volunteer Park.

Two of benches honor the service of former Town Council members Bill Greene and Nancy Jo Smith. Visitors to the park are already enjoying the comfortable new seating. Congratulations and many thanks to Levi for a job well done!

Greenway Construction to Begin

Bids for the construction of the greenway connector between Town Hall and Volunteer Park will be advertised in mid-April. The timeline is for construction to begin in late May with a completion goal of October 31. TGS Engineers is handling the construction oversight and inspection responsibilities. NCDOT is covering 80% of the costs for this project that will provide better access between the two facilities with a paved surface through the wooded area.



The Pleasant Garden Farmers' Market will open in mid-June in the picnic shelter behind Town Hall. Check for details later on the town website.