

The

TOWN

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



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

June 2014

SQUARE

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Fax: 336-674-0923

Email: Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net

Website: www.pleasantgarden.net

Town of Pleasant Garden, NC

TOWN OFFICIALS

Carla Strickland.....Mayor
Alan Marshall.....Mayor Pro Tem
Steve Brandt.....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.

Independence Day Celebration Saturday, June 28; 6:00-10:00PM Pleasant Garden Community Center

The town's annual Independence Day Celebration event begins at 6:00PM on Saturday, June 28 at the Pleasant Garden Community Center. Children can play on inflatables, participate in a variety of games and receive a free balloon sculpture. The Groovin' Band will entertain with family-friendly music and attendees can check out beautifully-restored cars in the Classic Car Show on the upper ball field from 5-8PM. The spectacular fireworks show at 9:30PM will provide a grand finale to a fun evening.



Overflow parking is available at Volunteer Park just up the road from the Community Center; no parking will be allowed along Alliance Church Road. Members of the Recreation Board, Town Council members, town staff, and the Pleasant Garden Fire Department will be working hard to make sure everyone has a safe and fun time. The rain date is Sunday, June 29 if needed.

Come on out and help celebrate America's birthday!

Farmers Market

June 28 – September 6, 2014
7AM-noon on Saturdays
4-6PM on Wednesdays



The 2014 Farmers' Market opens on Saturday, June 28 in the picnic shelter behind Town Hall.

Our start is a little later than usual this year because the cold, wet weather in the spring delayed the farmers in getting their crops planted. But they are ready now and vendors will be offering a wide range of locally-grown produce. Area crafters will also have plenty of handmade goods for sale. Please join your friends and neighbors at the Pleasant Garden Farmers' Market and support our local farmers!

New Assistant Clerk

Please welcome the newest addition to town staff, Kathleen M.E. Hennebury. She previously worked for the town of Deering, New Hampshire and brings a wealth of experience in special events planning from her work with a Chamber of Commerce. Kathleen is finishing up preparations for the Independence Day celebration and is already proving herself to be an asset to the town. As Assistant Clerk, she will be responsible for staff support for the Long-Range Planning Board and Recreation Board. Please stop by Town Hall to meet and greet Kathleen and show her just how friendly Pleasant Garden folks are!



Message from the Mayor

As I reported in the February 2014 issue of *The Town Square*, the Board of Directors for the Pleasant Garden Community Center approached the Town Council and asked that the Town “take over the Community Center.” At that time, I asked the Council to form a fact-finding committee to research and present information to the Council. Those members selected are the following:

- Jimmy Sheppard and Dick Winn: representatives from the Long-Range Planning Board
- Tera Burgess: board member/Secretary from the Community Center
- Mark Couch: board member/Treasurer from the Community Center
- Alan Marshall: representative from the Town Council
- Brent Lewis and Mark Wilcox: town resident representatives
- Kim Payne: Kim provides some accounting services for the Town and offered to review the finances of the Community Center and prepare financial reports as needed.

In order to provide accurate and up-to-date information, here is a list of the action items resulting from those meetings:

✓ The Committee is reviewing the maintenance expenses for the property; Kim Payne and Mark Couch are currently finalizing these figures. One idea is that the Town would manage the property only with the current Community Center Board continuing to oversee and totally control the baseball/softball programs. The baseball/softball program would pay a rental fee to the town for the use of the property. In addition, the Committee foresees other sports using the property and paying a rental fee.

✓ Tom Moreau, the architect for the restrooms at the picnic shelter and at Volunteer Park, volunteered to inspect all the buildings on the property for structural capabilities and prepared a full report. His findings are that the buildings are sound without many repairs needed at this time and can be used in their current condition. However, once any upgrades are made to the building(s), current building codes must be adhered to, i.e. ADA compliant/handicapped-accessible. Please let me know if you would like a copy of the full evaluation.

✓ Brent Lewis (who has a degree in Parks and Recreation and runs the Town’s soccer program), Shawn Newton (Southeast High School Athletic Director) and Charlie Gamble (Southern Guilford High School Athletic Director) have extensive experience with field maintenance and upkeep. They are in the process of evaluating the condition of the fields. Mr. Newton and Brent have already looked at the grass, drainage, netting etc. and have concluded that “Overall the fields are in good shape while being used through spring and routine maintenance tasks would take care of any pressing issues. Most of the improvements that would need to be made could be done with moderate financial commitments and volunteers.”

✓ Jimmy Sheppard is assigned to investigate the cost for outsourcing maintenance of the property (i.e., a property management firm). Jimmy’s father has experience in this area.

✓ At the same time, Town Administrator/Clerk Carmany and Mark Wilcox are researching possible salary requirements for a Town-paid property manager position. The Committee’s thought was that we could “bundle” maintenance responsibilities for Volunteer Park, the Community Center and Town Hall vs. outsourcing this work.

There has been some question about just who owns the Community Center, along with the approximate 12.2 acres of land. As a matter of history, stocks were given to the investors when the Center was built and incorporated under the name of the Pleasant Garden Community Center, Inc. A merger took place in February 2000 and the surviving corporation’s name was changed to the P.G. Center, Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of North Carolina. According to the merger documents, “...all of the shares of common stock of the merging corporation shall be cancelled. Each shareholder of the merging corporation, regardless of the number of shares owned, shall be entitled to one membership in the surviving corporation, upon the ordinary terms and conditions of such membership in effect on the effective date of the merger.” In addition, the purpose of the corporation as stated in the Plan of Merger is “To assume the ownership of all assets of Pleasant Garden Community Center, Inc., particularly the facilities, and to manage those facilities in a manner in keeping with the purpose of P.G. Center, Inc.” These documents were filed and approved by the NC Secretary of State in 2000.

I will continue to keep you updated as the Committee’s findings progress. If you have any comments and/or questions, please call Town Hall and leave a message for me to call you and I will do so. One final comment, please understand that the Community Center property would be **given** to the Town, not sold.

Mayor Carla Strickland

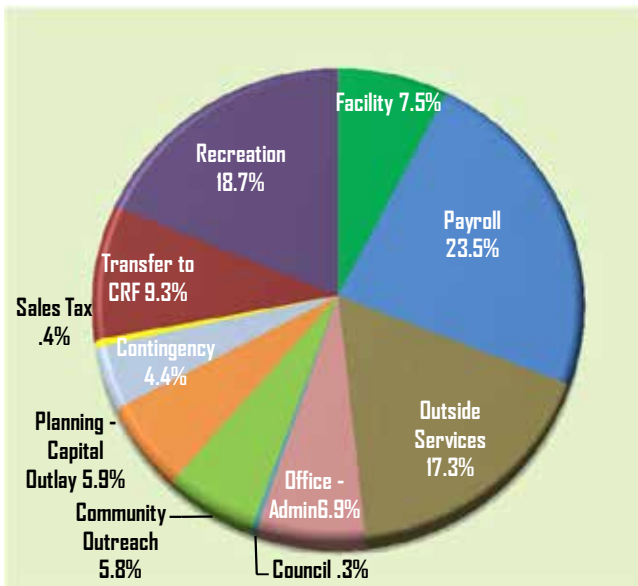
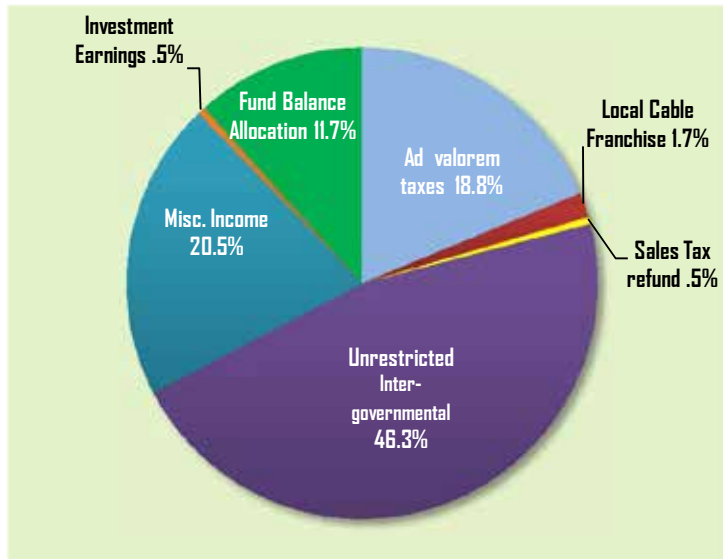
Town of Pleasant Garden 2014-15 General Fund Budget

as adopted on June 3, 2014

Revenues

Ad valorem Taxes @ 2.5 cents/100	\$87,515
Local Cable Franchise Tax	8,000
Sales & Use Tax refund	2,200
Unrestricted Intergovernmental (<i>Sales & Use Tax, Greensboro ABC, Franchise & Utilities, NC Beer & Wine</i>)	216,200
Miscellaneous Income (<i>event revenue, soccer registrations/sponsorships, grants</i>)	95,633
Investment Earnings	2,400
Fund Balance Allocation	54,565

Total Revenues **\$466,513**



Expenditures

Facility	\$35,223
Payroll	109,599
Outside Services	80,300
Office & Administrative	32,295
Council	1,400
Community Outreach	27,250
Planning & Capital Outlay	27,666
GF Contingency/disaster	20,050
Sales Tax Expense	2,200
Transfers to Capital Reserve	43,240
Recreation	87,290

Total Expenditures **\$466,513**

Comparison between the current and new budgets

	<u>2013-14</u>	<u>2014-15</u>
Estimated Revenues	\$398,468	\$411,948
Allocated Fund Balance	100,716	54,565
Total	\$499,184	\$466,513
Estimated Expenses		
Operations	378,029	335,983
Recreation	79,355	87,290
20% to Capital Reserve Fund	41,800	43,240
Total	\$499,184	\$466,513

Full details of the budget can be viewed on the town website at www.pleasantgarden.net

Quick Calculator



Town taxes on property valued at \$100,000 are \$25.



Town of Pleasant Garden
 PO Box 307
 Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

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 US Postage
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 Permit # 717

TOWN EVENTS

Dates to Remember



Senior Luncheon
June 17, 11:00AM

Picnic at Hagan Stone Park, Shelter 5



July 15 and August 19

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.

Independence Day Celebration

Saturday, June 28, 2014; 6:00-10:00PM

Pleasant Garden Community Center
 Family-friendly music, games, food
 Fireworks and Fun!!!



Additional parking is available at Volunteer Park located at 4930 Alliance Church Road.

Farmers' Market

June 28 – September 6, 2014

Saturdays, 7:00AM – noon

Wednesdays, 4:00-6:00PM

Picnic shelter at Town Hall



Run-off Election

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

6:30AM – 7:30PM

Republican candidates for US senator and
 US District 6 House of Representatives



Fall Soccer Registration

Registration by mail or at Town Hall during
 Town Hall business hours opens on July 7.

On-site registration on Saturdays from
 9:00AM -- 2:00PM at Town Hall on July 26,
 August 2, and August 9



\$60 per player; \$10 for optional accident insurance

No registrations will be accepted after 5:00PM on August 11!

Restroom/Concessions at Volunteer Park

Construction on the restroom and concessions building at Volunteer Park should be completed by the end of June according to Wright & Wray, the contractor. The new amenities will be welcomed by participants in the youth soccer program and other events at the park. The Town Council is currently working on a policy on how the concession stand will be operated.



New Members of the Recreation Board

The Town Council recently appointed Lisa Marion and Cyndi Rice to the Recreation Board. Both became interested in serving after participating in the recent 5K run/Discover Good Living expo. Town boards are always in need of willing workers and helping hands. If you would like to get more involved in town activities, please contact one of your councilmembers.

5K Run/Discover Good Living – Big Success!

87 runners, 30 exhibitors and 39 sponsors participated in the April 26 events at Volunteer Park. \$5,289 in donations was raised for Susie's Hope for animal abuse prevention. Corporate sponsorships covered almost all of the town's expenses for the event.

Soccer Registration Fee Increase

Upon the recommendation of the soccer committee and Recreation Board, the Town Council raised the soccer registration fee to \$60 per player. This is the first fee increase since 2007 although costs for equipment and field maintenance have gone up during that time. The additional revenue will provide for a better quality of soccer jersey, more training for coaches, and cleaning/maintenance of the new restroom facilities.

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.