

The TOWN

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



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

October 2013

SQUARE

Phone: 336-674-3002
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
Bill Greene.....Councilmember
Nancy Jo Smith.....Councilmember
Ron Surgeon.....Councilmember

TOWN STAFF

Sandy Carmany....Administrator/Clerk
Kim Vazquez.....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.



Veterans Appreciation Day Ceremony

Sunday, November 10 @ 2:00PM
Pleasant Garden Elementary School

Pleasant Garden's annual Veterans Appreciation Day will be held at 2:00PM on Sunday, November 10 in the auditorium at Pleasant Garden Elementary School. The event is moved to the school because the large number of attendees outgrew the capacity of the fire department.

The Recreation Board is planning a moving ceremony to honor our community's servicemen and women. Dr. Danny G. Nobles, headmaster of Oak Ridge Military Academy, is the keynote speaker and the Gate City Youth Singers will provide musical entertainment. Program highlights will include memorial displays, recognition of the branches of the military and a flag folding ceremony by the Southeast Guilford High School NJROTC. The Pleasant Garden Lions Club is providing refreshments after the program.

Veterans may again receive a free flu shot provided by nurses from the Veterans Administration from 12:00-4:00PM. Please bring your Veterans ID card or a copy of your DD-214 form with you to get your free shot.

****** Please join us in honoring our veterans! ******

Recreation Master Plan Workshop

Approximately 100 people participated in the Community Cookout and Recreation Master Plan mapping workshop on Saturday, September 14 at Town Hall. Participants shared their opinions with WK Dickson consultant Joel Moulin and drew ideas for recreational facilities on a large map. These folks were then treated to free hot dogs with all the fixings in the picnic shelter. The goodies were donated and prepared by members of the Town Council with the assistance of the Pleasant Garden Fire Department.



Mr. Moulin is using citizen input from this activity, focus groups and interviews along with responses to the recreation survey to develop recommendations for the master plan that will be presented to the Town Council in November. This plan will support an application to be submitted for a PARTF grant in January 2014.

Greenway Connector Funding Approved by State

The NC Board of Transportation approved \$120,000 in funding at its September 3 meeting to design and build a greenway connecting the Town Hall parking lot to Volunteer Park. The town's share of the cost is \$30,000.

Town News and Updates

Message from the Mayor

During the last two months your Council has been busy discussing two very important issues. The first is a Nuisance Ordinance. Although the Town did have existing ordinances to address junked motor vehicles and the proper methods for the disposal of hazardous waste, nothing addressed the safety factor of the residents. Please understand that the Nuisance Ordinance is not meant to impose any hardships on any individual property owner but Town Hall receives calls on a weekly basis about property that may or may not be a hazard to adjoining neighbors. The Ordinance is being established to address these issues so there will not be questions. The Nuisance Ordinance is purely complaint-driven. That is, we will only investigate complaints in which the complainant submits the proper documentation at Town Hall. After receipt of the complaint, an inspector will be called to visit the property and make a final determination based upon the Ordinance. Several items within the Ordinance are listed within this issue. If you would like a complete version, please call Town Hall. The Town Council plans to vote on this ordinance at the November 12 council meeting.

The second issue concerns an amendment to the Development Ordinance to provide for the possibility of a senior (retirement) overlay district community. The first draft, which has now been sent to the Zoning Board for review and suggestions, contains specific information such as:

- At least one resident of each dwelling unit must be above age 55;
- Townhomes, condominiums or apartments are **NOT** allowed;
- All utilities shall be underground;
- All water and sewer infrastructure shall be the **FULL** financial responsibility of the developer;
- The overall density of the dwelling units **MUST** comply with RS-80;
- The development **MUST** dedicate at least 15% of open space, excluding those areas dedicated as street right-of-ways, as common areas;

At this point, the Zoning Board will make the appropriate “tweaks,” conduct a public hearing and submit it to the Council for final approval. Again, if you would like to view the document in its entirety, please call Town Hall. As always, you can email me at carlastrickland@pleasantgarden.net. It’s my pleasure to serve as your Mayor.

Mayor Carla Strickland

New Benches at the Athletic Field



Visitors to Volunteer Park now have two benches on which to rest thanks to Boy Scout Levi Walker and his Life Achievement Award project. He has participated

in the town’s youth soccer program for the past ten years and wanted to give back to the program in some way. After noticing a need for seating during games, he asked the Town Council for permission to put benches on the athletic fields. He purchased the lumber and built the benches with a little help from family and friends. Thanks, Levi!



Illegal Dumping Problems

Someone has been illegally dumping household items and garbage at Volunteer Park, Town Hall and other locations around town. The Guilford County Sheriff’s Office is investigating and will cite the persons when they are identified. There are fines of up to \$500 per incident for illegal dumping. Please dispose of waste properly!

Nuisance Ordinance Provisions

The following are defined as nuisances in the proposed ordinance:

- ⊗ Any condition that is or may become a breeding ground or harbor rats, mosquitoes, harmful insects or other pests;
- ⊗ Dense growth of grass, weeds or noxious vegetation over eighteen (18) inches in height in a lawn excluding trees and ornamental shrubs, cultured plants, and flowers. Land in active farming or agricultural use is exempted.
- ⊗ An open concentration of combustible items such as mattresses, paper, automobile tires, refuse, rags, etc.
- ⊗ An open collection of garbage, food wastes or other rotten matter. Composting is exempted.
- ⊗ Openly kept furniture, appliances or metal products with jagged edges of metal or glass, or areas of confinement;
- ⊗ Dilapidated structures that constitute a health or safety hazard, are used by vagrants as living quarters, or attract rodents;
- ⊗ Abandoned or junked motor vehicles on a public street or private property or in violation of the Development Ordinance;
- ⊗ Any condition detrimental to the public health which violates the regulations of the county health department.

Weatherization Assistance Program

The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low income, elderly, or disabled residents save energy and reduce utility bills by improving energy efficiency in their homes. Call the Piedmont Triad Regional Council at 608-3578 for more information.

2013 MUNICIPAL ELECTION



Voters elect the mayor and two members of the Pleasant Garden Town Council on **Election Day, Tuesday, November 5**. The mayor will serve a two-year term. The two council members will receive four-year terms. Polls will be open from 6:30am to 7:30pm. Make your voice heard and vote for the candidates of your choice!

Councilmembers Alan Marshall and Ron Surgeon have two years remaining on their current terms and are not running during the 2013 election.

Meet the Candidates

Mayor



Anne Kearns Hice
6759 Kearney Road
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
(336) 674-6152
ahice@earthlink.net
www.electannehice.com

"I will work tirelessly for the cause (protecting our rural and agricultural heritage), not for applause or to impress."



Carla Strickland
100 Lord Osborne Court
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
(336) 674-7220
carla13579@icloud.com

"If you want to continue with common sense decisions, openness and honesty, then vote to re-elect Carla Strickland for Mayor."

Councilmembers



Steven Brandt
6384 Walter Wright Road
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
(336) 210-0619
sbrandt@triad.rr.com

"Continue the current council's progress. Vote based on studying all the facts, citizen input, and the benefits to our residents."



Chris Johnson
1700 Sparrow Drive
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
(336) 674-7705
cmjinpj@aol.com

"I pledge to my fellow citizens of our Town -- to continue to be an open, "front-door" representative. Please vote!"



Nancy Jo Smith
PO Box 295
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
(336) 674-2514
najose@earthlink.net

"Lowered taxes and focused on ways to partner with other governments and/or agencies to bring services to PG residents."



Rick Wallace
6404 Manorhaven Place
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
(336) 508-4497
rewmhp@aol.com

"Freedom wasn't won with Silence. Choose a voice that supports Family and Community Values. Together, we can make a difference."

Pleasant Garden Voting 2013

Precinct PG1

Kirkman Municipal Building/Town Hall
4920 Alliance Church Road

Precinct PG2

Pleasant Garden Baptist Church
1415 Neelley Road

Tuesday, November 5, 2013
Polls open from 6:30AM – 7:30PM



Town of Pleasant Garden
 PO Box 307
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TOWN EVENTS



Dates to Remember

Senior Luncheon

October 15 November 19
10:00AM – 1:00PM

Pleasant Garden United Methodist
 Church fellowship hall



December 17 – Christmas party; time and location to be announced later

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

2013 Election

Tuesday, November 5, 2013

Polls open from 6:30AM to 7:30PM

Elect the Mayor and two Councilmembers



Veterans Appreciation Day

Sunday, November 10, 2013

2:00PM

Pleasant Garden Elementary School

**** Please note the change in location! ****

Town Council meetings

Tuesday, November 12 @ 7:00PM

Changed to the second Tuesday because of the schedule conflict with the November 5 election



Tuesday, December 3, 2013 @ 7:00PM

Final meeting of the current Town Council immediately followed by the installation of the newly-elected mayor and councilmembers at the first meeting of the new Town Council



Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 8 at 2:00PM

Pleasant Garden Road from Nesbit Road to East Sheraton Park Road

Family-friendly fun with floats, bands, cars and of course, Santa; Susie and Donna Lawrence of "Susie's Hope" are returning as the Grand Marshals.

Searching for Town Board Members

Appointments to the three town boards for 2014-15 will be made at the December 3 meeting of the new Town Council. If you want to be more involved in planning events and making decisions that affect your town, this is your chance to serve. Please contact Town Hall for a board application to be appointed to one of these boards:



➤ **Long-Range Planning Board:** The primary charge of the Long-Range Planning Board is to make recommendations on overall planning of town government and community development to the Town Council. This board meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Four (4) seats will be open on the Long-Range Planning Board.

➤ **Zoning Board:** The Zoning Board is charged with receiving and acting upon all requests for changes and other matters involving the town zoning ordinance. The Zoning Board also oversees enforcement of the zoning ordinance and reviews the ordinance and zoning map at least every five years. This board meets on the third Monday of each month. Two (2) seats will be open on the Zoning Board.

➤ **Recreation Board:** The primary charge of the Recreation Board is to provide a variety of recreational and educational activities for residents of the Pleasant Garden community. This hard-working board plans the Independence Day celebration, Pet Day, Veterans Appreciation Day, and the Christmas parade. The Recreation Board meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month; three (3) seats will be open.

Progress on Road Maintenance

Officials from NCDOT met in July and September with residents who live on roads in the town that are not currently maintained by the state. Some of these roads are in bad shape, but it is up to those residents to pay for any repairs. Transportation officials explained what citizens needed to do for the state to take over maintenance responsibility for those roads. Garden Valley Court was added to the state system on September 3 and several others will be added once the affected property owners complete the petition process.