

The

TOWN

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



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

Summer 2012

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
Nancy Jo Smith.....Mayor Pro Tem
Alan Marshall.....Councilmember
Bill Greene.....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.



Town of Pleasant Garden
Independence Day Celebration
Saturday, June 30 @ 6:00 – 10:00pm
Pleasant Garden Community Center



Message from the Mayor

Your Town Council has spent the last three months crunching numbers in order to adopt the 2012-2013 budget. This year's budget sessions have been extremely amicable with all of us on the same page – provide for the town within reasonable limits. The council adopted this budget on June 13, 2012.

Two years ago, the Council voted to make improvements to the athletic fields and parking facilities; we have been able to achieve wonderful results. To maintain that investment, the Council is considering a well at the fields. Running the electric lines for this will cost the Town nothing.

Other items of interest include the following:

- ✓ Review of the manufactured housing provisions in the development ordinance that were erroneously omitted. The Zoning Board is discussing this at their June meeting with a recommendation to the Council in July;
- ✓ Another business forum was held in which the businesses discussed sprucing up the central business district;
- ✓ The new PARTF grant committee held its first meeting April 23;
- ✓ The Veteran's Information Fair at Town Hall on May 18 answered questions and registered veterans for benefits available to them. Another event is being planned for the fall.
- ✓ The Town hosted the EPA's question-and-answer session at Town Hall on May 10 concerning the well water contamination in the 4700 block of Pleasant Garden Road. The Guilford County Health Department is working with property owners affected by the contamination.
- ✓ The Council adopted the Town's Stormwater Program for New Development at its June meeting to comply with the Jordon Lake Rules.
- ✓ The Council approved regular employee status for Assistant Town Clerk Kim Vazquez.

As always, we would appreciate your input. If you would like more information about any of the above, please call Town Hall, 674-3002. I am happy and willing to answer your questions.

Mayor Carla Strickland

Town News and Updates

\$\$\$ How Does the Town Handle Its (Your) Money? \$\$\$

The town's income is budgeted and accounted in three separate funds -- the General Fund, General Fund Reserve, and the Capital Reserve Fund -- to cover all of the town's spending. State law regulates how the money in each fund can be used. The Town Council must approve the spending of any money from each fund through the adoption of the annual budget ordinances in June of each year, budget amendments as needed throughout the year, and special capital project budget ordinances at any time.

- The **General Fund** contains the revenue from the property tax, sales tax, ABC taxes, utilities tax, investment earnings, soccer registrations and sponsorships, and development fees. Money for town programs and services such as the Farmers' Market, Senior Luncheon, Independence Day celebration, Veterans Appreciation Day, the Christmas parade, the youth soccer program, the US flags on Pleasant Garden Road, and this newsletter is budgeted in this fund. The General Fund also 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, to name just a few.
- The **General Fund Reserve** is the town's interest-earning savings account built from unspent revenue from the General Fund accumulated over the past 15 years. It has few restrictions and can be used as deemed appropriate by the Town Council. A "fund balance allocation" from the General Fund Reserve can be used to balance the annual budget when expenses are estimated to be higher than the revenues in any given year; this allows the Town Council to avoid raising your property taxes to make up that shortfall. Examples of other possible uses for the money in this fund include paying for major equipment purchases, providing funding for unexpected emergencies, or adding new programs or services approved by the Town Council.
- The **Capital Reserve Fund** is highly restricted by state law and can be used only for construction projects or long-term improvements to land or buildings. Construction of Town Hall and the picnic shelter, recent improvements to the town's athletic field complex, and the soon-to-be-built restrooms at the picnic shelter are examples of capital projects paid from this fund. Examples of future uses of this money could be drilling of a well at the athletic fields, installing sidewalks and/or lighting along Pleasant Garden Road, or the construction of additional facilities as proposed in the Town Hall Site Plan. *(Please note that these are examples only and have not been authorized.)*

The Capital Reserve Fund has been built up with an annual 20% transfer of certain tax revenues added to the money accumulated in this fund over the past 15 years. Once money is moved into the Capital Reserve Fund, it must be used for capital purposes only. State law prohibits using this money to cover the town's operating costs or transferring it back into the General Fund.

The combined balance in the General Fund and General Fund Reserve as of June 13, 2012 was \$1,183,761.49. The Capital Reserve Fund contained \$1,696,806.41. Budget ordinances for these funds were approved on June 13, 2012.



Town Council Recognizes Brent Lewis, Longtime Soccer Volunteer

The Town Council recently honored Brent Lewis, a town volunteer who has shared his talent, time and dedication with the Pleasant Garden youth soccer program for many years, by presenting him with an appreciation plaque at the June 5 council meeting. The program was begun in July 1999 with 75 kids playing at the Pleasant Garden Elementary School after then-Mayor Bill Wright learned of community interest in a soccer program. Town resident Chris Culler was also instrumental in the program's inception. Since that time, Brent Lewis, along with his volunteer coaches, has helped to build *(in our opinion)* the best town-sponsored soccer program in North Carolina. Last fall 418 boys and girls from ages 4 to 17-years-old played soccer on the town fields. This spring, we had 548 children participating in the program.

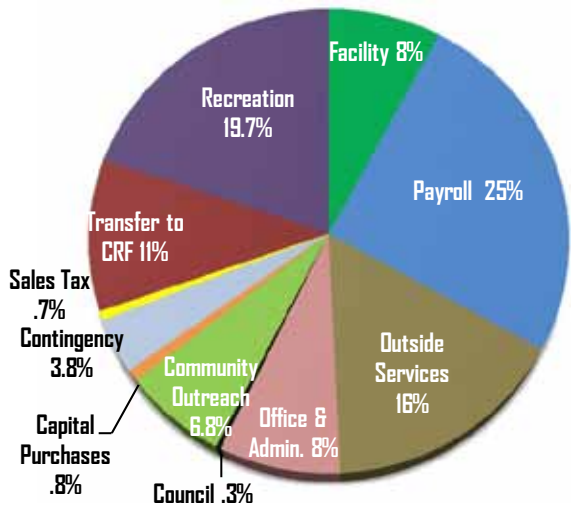
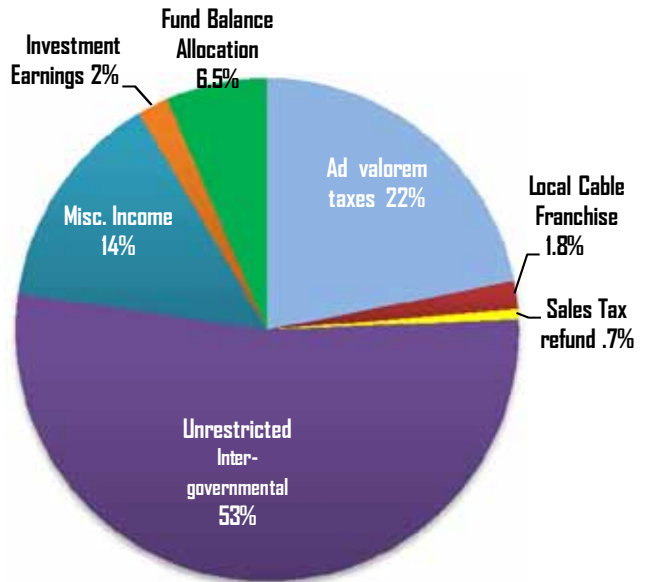
Brent takes the time to know the names of each of the players and to meet and greet the parents of these children. He works with coaches to help them to be the best they can be. With his ever-present iced caffeine coffee, he manages to be everywhere he is needed. All the while, his wife Karen supports him. It is volunteers like them who make Pleasant Garden such a great community. Congratulations to all and thanks for your many contributions!

Town of Pleasant Garden 2012-13 Budget

as adopted on June 13, 2012

Revenues

Ad valorem Taxes @ 2.5 cents/100	\$86,352
Local Cable Franchise Tax	7,000
Sales & Use Tax refund	2,500
Unrestricted Intergovernmental <i>(Greensboro ABC, Franchise & Utilities, NC Beer & Wine, Sales & Use)</i>	209,000
Miscellaneous Income <i>(soccer registrations/sponsorships, event revenue)</i>	55,900
Investment Earnings	7,800
Fund Balance Allocation	<u>25,766</u>
Total Revenues	\$394,318



Expenditures

Facility	\$30,750
Payroll	99,945
Outside Services	63,633
Office & Administrative	31,262
Council	1,300
Community Outreach	26,908
Capital Purchases & Outlay	3,225
GF Contingency/disaster	15,000
Sales Tax Expense	2,500
Transfers to Capital Reserve	41,800
Recreation	77,995
Total Expenditures	\$394,318

Comparison between the 2011-12 and 2012-13 budgets

	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u>
Anticipated Revenues	\$379,432	\$368,552
Allocated Fund Balance	13,017	25,766
Total	<u>392,449</u>	<u>394,318</u>
Operations	277,284	274,523
Recreation	73,165	77,995
20% to Capital Reserve Fund	42,000	41,800
Total	<u>\$392,449</u>	<u>\$394,318</u>

The 2012-13 budget is \$1,869 higher than the previous year.

Quick Calculator



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



Town of Pleasant Garden
 PO Box 307
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 Permit # 717

TOWN EVENTS



Dates to Remember

Farmers' Market

June 16 – September 8
Saturdays, 7:00am-noon
Wednesdays, 4:00-7:00pm
 Picnic shelter behind Town Hall
 Fresh produce and local crafts



Independence Day Celebration

Saturday, June 30 at 6:00pm
Fireworks begin at 9:30pm
 Town of Pleasant Garden event at the
 Pleasant Garden Community Center
 5024 Alliance Church Road

Election Day

Tuesday, July 17, 2012
Polling places open 6:30am– 7:30pm.



Run-off election for (*Democrat Party*) NC Labor Commissioner and (*Republican Party*) NC Lieutenant Governor, NC Commissioner of Insurance, NC Secretary of State, and NC Superintendent of Public Instruction

Fall 2012 Soccer

Registration opens July 9, 2012
 by mail or in person at Town Hall
Onsite registration at Town Hall
 9:00am-2:00pm:
 Saturday, July 28
 Saturday, August 4
 Saturday, August 11



Season dates: September 8 – October 20, 2012.
 Games are played on the town athletic fields at 4920 Alliance Church Road.

Board of Elections Information Session

Thursday, July 12, 2012
10:00am–noon and 2:00-4:00pm
 Pleasant Garden Town Hall



The Guilford County Board of Elections is seeking registered voters from Pleasant Garden who are civic minded and looking to serve their community in the upcoming General Election. This is a great way for you to earn extra cash while helping the voters of Guilford County by serving at the polls during Early Voting. There will be an information session for Pleasant Garden residents who are interested in supporting our democracy by serving as an early voting poll worker.



Senior Luncheon

July 17 August 21 September 18
10:00am – 1:00pm

Sponsored by the Town of Pleasant Garden and held at Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church
 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.

Stormwater Program for New Development

In order to comply with requirements from the NC Department of Natural Resources for jurisdictions located in the Jordan Lake watershed, the Town Council adopted a new stormwater ordinance that applies to new development. More rainwater run-off controls are now required for new residential and recreational development that disturbs more than one acre of land and for commercial, industrial, institutional or local government development or redevelopment that disturbs more than one-half acre of land within the Jordan Lake watershed area in Pleasant Garden. Guilford County will be overseeing and enforcing the new permitting process on behalf of the town.