



Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter
Volume 7, Issue 3
June, 2013

www.townofblowingrock.com

Important Numbers

Town Hall.....295-5200
Planning & Inspection.....295-5240
Water/Sewer/Garbage.....295-5200
Parks & Recreation.....295-5222

Non-Emergency

Police Admin only.....295-5212
Fire Admin only.....295-5220
Emergency Police & Fire.....911

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council

07/09/2013 5:30 p.m.
08/13/2013 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board

07/18/2013 5:30 p.m.
08/15/2013 5:30 p.m.

ABC Board

07/18/2013 3:00 p.m.
08/22/2013 3:00 p.m.

TDA

07/02/2013 3:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Offices Closed for Independence Day:

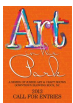
July 4th

Monday Night Concert Series:

July 8th & 22nd
August 5th & 19th

Art in the Park:

July 13th & August 10th



Charity Horse Show:

July 23rd- August 4th

Kinder Soccer Registration:



Taxpayers- July 29th
Open Registration- July 30th

Community Foundation's:

Golf tournament- August 17th

Groovy Nights-

August 11th

August 13th

August 16th

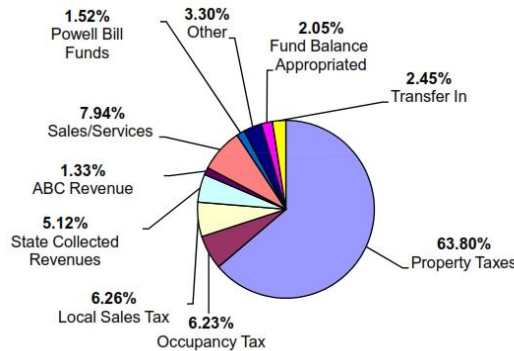
2013-2014 Budget Approved

Following various budget work sessions and a public hearing, the Town of Blowing Rock FY 2013-2014 Budget was adopted at the June 11, 2013 Town Council meeting. A synopsis of the budget is available on the town website www.townofblowingrock.com.

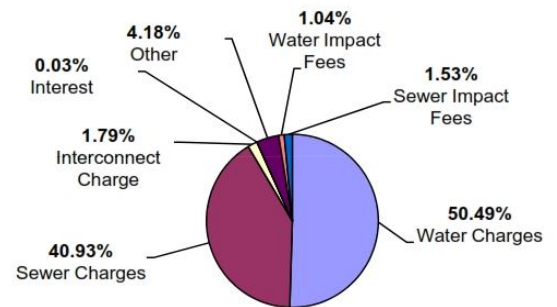
The FY 2013-2014 Budget totals \$6,332,00.00. The budget maintains a tax rate of \$0.28 per \$100 valuation, for the eighth consecutive year. The Budget includes changes to water/sewer fees, with an increase of \$0.75 per month in both water and sewer fees. All other charges/fees are unchanged, except for implementation of a notary fee of \$2.00 per signature.

For additional information, please contact Town Hall at (828) 295-5200.

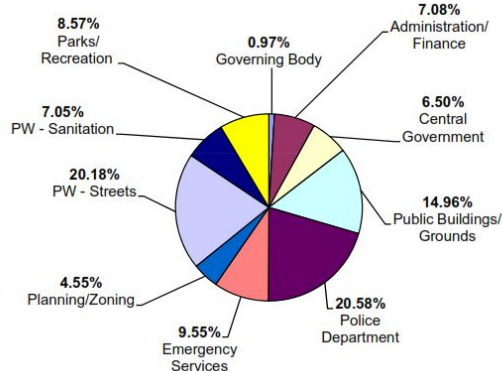
General Fund Revenues



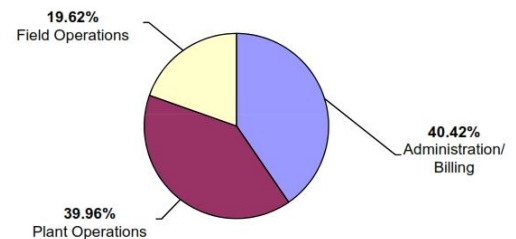
Water/Sewer Fund Revenues



General Fund Expenditures



Water/Sewer Expenditures



Town Manager Says Goodbye



Blowing Rock Town Manager Scott Hildebran announced his resignation, effective July 12th, following 10+ years of service to our Town. Hildebran has accepted a position in Morganton, NC, where he will be Assistant City Manager. In his resignation letter, Hildebran expressed his gratitude to the Town's leadership and citizens for the opportunity to serve Blowing Rock for more than a decade. "I feel blessed to have worked with so many civic-minded citizens, community leaders, staff and elected officials. The Town has an especially dedicated, loyal and caring workforce...an outstanding group of hardworking professionals," Hildebran wrote. He has had many accomplishments and made many improvements to the Town during his tenure. The process of looking for Hildebran's successor is underway. A walk-in reception will be held in Town Hall at 1036 Main St. on Friday, July 12, 2013. Please stop by and help us wish him well and thank him for his service to our Town.

Mike Wilcox Celebrates 30 Years of Service!



Public Works Director Mike Wilcox was recognized on June 18th for 30 years of service with the Town of Blowing Rock. Congratulations Mike on your achievement!

Planning & Inspections Welcomes New Building Inspector



Planning Director Kevin Rothrock is pleased to announce the hiring of John Warren as Building Inspector. Having begun work on June 3rd, Mr. Warren previously served as Building Inspector with the Town from 2000-2006 and formerly with the Town of Boone. Recently, John, a State Licensed Electrical Contractor, was part owner in Gary Trivette Electric, Inc. He holds State of NC Level Three Certificates in Building, Electrical, Plumbing and Mechanical and also possesses a State Level One Certificate in Fire. John is a native of Watauga County. He and his wife, Debbie, live in Vilas, and are parents to a daughter and son. John is looking forward to once again serving the Blowing Rock community.

Employee Service Day



Town staff participated in three "Service Days" this year, as part of a Customer Service Excellence Initiative. The service days included staff from all departments, separated in to two shifts, working to spruce up different parts of our Town. The areas that have been worked on are downtown, Memorial Park and Wood Lawn Cemetery. The goal of the service days are to help the areas focused on "pop", while giving employees an opportunity to visually make a difference in our Town.

Project Updates

American Legion: Architect David Patrick Moses was selected to complete the upcoming American Legion Renovation Project. Mr. Moses plans to submit preliminary drawings to Town Council for review and approval in August, with final drawings complete and ready for contractor bidding by early September. A construction bid is expected to be awarded in October with construction completed by April 2014.



Park Tree Trimming: Daniel Starnes and Starnes Tree Service performed some much needed tree trimming in Memorial Park. Mr. Starnes approached town staff previously about providing complimentary pruning of the maple trees in Memorial Park. Starnes Tree Service's work removed dead limbs and made selective pruning cuts to improve the long-range overall health of the trees. The town greatly appreciates Mr. Starnes' contribution to the beauty and safety of our great public park.

Pool Shelter: Public Works staff, led by Chris Taylor, constructed a rock grill at the picnic shelter at Robbins Pool at Broyhill Park. The grill is a nice addition to the picnic area and is now in service for grilling this summer.



Planning & Inspection Updates

New Businesses:

Several new businesses are planning to open over the course of the next few weeks:

- Dino's Dog and Dash on Sunset Drive opened the first week of June.
- The Blowing Rock Ale House and Inn on the corner of Sunset Drive and Greenway Court opened Tuesday, June 25th.
- Town Tavern is opening at the former MK's on the corner of Main Street and Pine Street around the first week of July.
- The New Public House, formally Crippen's, will reopen on Sunset Drive under new management in the next several weeks.



Comprehensive Plan Update:

The Town Council recently selected Benchmark, Inc. to provide comprehensive planning consulting services for the Town. Benchmark will lead the town through a public visioning and comment process to gather ideas for the direction of the town over the next 10 to 15 years. Initial workshops are tentatively scheduled during the last week in August. The full process will carry through spring of 2014 with a final document prepared in April.

Main Street Award: The Town of Blowing Rock has won the gold award for best Main Street in Blue Ridge Country's 2013 Best of the Mountains poll.