

## Glance Ahead- Upcoming City and Community Wide Activities

Events listed below are either a city event or a special event permit was issued:

- **Movie in the Park-Elemental:** Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> -7:45 p.m.- Union Point Park
- **Arts in April Family Fun Day:** Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> -1:00 p.m.-400 block of Pollock Street (New Bern Civic Theatre)
- **Magic Midways Spring Fling Carnival:** (Last day) Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> -1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.-Lawson Creek Park
- **Board of Aldermen Meeting:** Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> -6:00 p.m.- City Hall



## City Wide

### **IEDC Focus Groups**



Representatives from the IEDC (International Economic Development Council) were in town this week to meet with City staff, elected officials, and stakeholders to discuss the potential highest and best use for the Old Days Inn parcel, and the corner lot at South Front and Hancock Street.

On Monday, the group learned about the history of the City, the history of both parcels, toured the city and met with some Aldermen. On Tuesday, a series of focus group meetings were held with residents, non-profits, community leaders, business owners, and others to learn more about the needs of our city and possible uses for the two properties.

Within the next several weeks, the group will provide their recommendations. We look forward to seeing their comments.

### **2024 NCAMPO Conference**

New Bern hosted the North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations' annual conference at the Riverfront Conference Center from April 17<sup>th</sup> through April 19<sup>th</sup>. NCAMPO's mission is to positively affect policies and decision making, while facilitating communication and providing leadership in transportation planning. Their conference, "Gridlocks to Green Lanes- Transforming Urban Transportation," in collaboration with the NC Association of Rural Planning Organizations and the NCDOT, attracts a diverse range of transportation planning and engineering professionals from across the state. On behalf of the Mayor, Alderman Brinson gave the opening remarks welcoming everyone to the City of New Bern.



## Comings, Goings and Such

There were no new hires this week.

## Department Items

### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES:**

#### **Planning & Zoning Board**

At the Planning and Zoning Board meeting held on April 18, 2024, all items were passed unanimously. There was 1 General Plan and 2 Final Plats.

#### **HPC Regular Meeting**

Four applications were approved, and one was continued:

- 715 E. Front St.- an application for a new 2½-story infill house and detached 1½-story rear garage was approved with conditions.
- 401 Avenue C- an application for a new screened patio, attached to the side of the existing garage, was approved with conditions.
- 707 E. Front St.- an application for a new trellis and louvered screens for the existing rear deck, new fencing, landscaping, and gravel for the driveway was approved.
- 403 E. Front St.- (the Sudan Shriners' Temple), an application for demolition and redevelopment. After staff indicated the application was not yet complete, the hearing was tabled for the next regular meeting on May 15th. They were requested to come to the HPC Design Review Meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> for further discussion on the project.
- 806 E. Front St.- an application for a new 2-story infill house in Riverstation was approved with conditions.

#### **2024 Preservation NC Gertrude S. Carraway Award of Merit**

The application for the 2024 Preservation NC Gertrude S. Carraway Award of Merit for the historic preservation renovations and repairs of City Hall and the new Annex addition was submitted on Friday, April 19th. This is the only historic preservation award in the state and is usually awarded to 5 to 10 outstanding historic preservation projects completed in the previous year. Scoring includes factors for preservation best practices, diversity, equity, inclusion (such as ADA access), community support, creativity, innovation (such as the design and the special elements to emulate the original), and impact ("the WOW factor").

#### **New Bern Area MPO**

The New Bern Area MPO hosted the NC Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) 2024 Annual Conference this week. Over 450+ transportation professionals throughout the state to include planners, MPO and RPO staff, engineers and consultants were in attendance, all of whom are responsible for creating a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive framework to make transportation investment decisions in metropolitan areas. The New Bern Area MPO last hosted this annual conference in 2017.

#### **IEDC Visit**

The City Planner prepared and presented background information for 4 guests of the City Administration from the International Economic Development Council. The guests were tasked with learning about the City, two City of New Bern sites, and providing their recommendations for future development of those sites. The sites were the vacant parcel at S. front St. and Hancock St. (the Railroad site) and the Days Hotel/Inn site at Five Points. While the guests were involved with many interviews over their two-day stay, the City Planner provided "big picture" context, historic use, topography and flood information, code requirements, historic district requirements outlook, a summary of

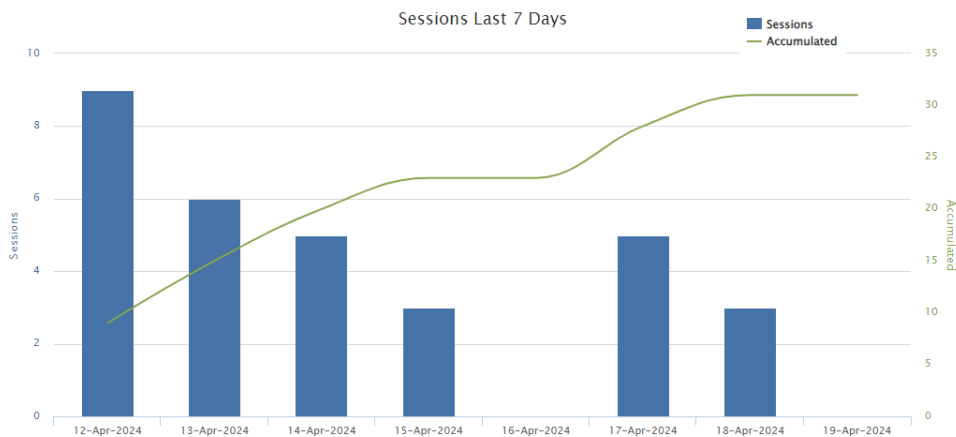
opportunities, and a list of potential partners. This information elicited a lot of questions, answers, and discussions for the visiting team.

## ELECTRIC UTILITY:



April 18<sup>th</sup> was National Linemen’s Appreciation Day. Thanks to our team of linemen for their service and commitment to the city!

- GRIP Grant – Application submitted; total \$47.9 M (federal \$35.9M, local \$13M)
- Red Bear EV Charging – Thirty-one (31) charging sessions occurred in the past 7 days.



## FINANCE

- Finance conducted 4 sessions of End of Year Purchasing Review Training and has 3 scheduled next week.
- Continuous planning and development of the FY25 budget.

## FIRE-RESCUE

Incidents (36)	Child Passenger Safety Seat Installs (3)
Investigations (0)	Fire & Life Safety Events (4)
Inspections (59)	Mutual Aid Calls (1)
Home Safety Visits (2)	CO Detector Installs (0)
Education (379 people)	Smoke Detector Installs (1)
Detector Battery Installs (8)	Training (499.5)

Upcoming Events: 4/24/2024 USAR Training

## HUMAN RESOURCES:

Information provided in Comings, Goings, and Such

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Our team completed a Cybersecurity Assessment with the National Guard and expects a report within the next 30 days.

## PARKS & RECREATION:

### Stanley White Recreation Center

- Structural Steel is complete.
- Slab on grade has been poured.
- Slab on deck (track and second floor) was poured Friday 4/12.
- All concrete is complete except for stairs.
- TPO roofing began Monday 4/15.
- Interior/Exterior Framing ongoing.
- Plumbing in wall and overhead ongoing.
- Fire Suppression in GYM complete and level 1 rough-in is ongoing.

### Lawson Creek Park

- Ernul's has been working on security camera installations. Equipment work is complete, and they are installing cameras and sensors on the poles.
- Jack's Island Shelter – Trusses have been set.

### Seth West Parrott Park

New windscreens were installed at tennis/pickleball courts.

## Special Events

- Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – Cedar Grove Tour – Cedar Grove Cemetery – 3:30pm – 6:00pm
- Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – Earth Day Celebration- Martin Marietta Park – 3:30pm – 8:00pm

## Special Event Applications – 2 this week

## Burials – 1 this week

## POLICE



This week is National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Thanks to all of our PSTs for their hard work taking emergency calls & deploying our first responders!

# CITY MANAGER’S WEEKLY REPORT

April 19, 2024

Ward	Crime Type	Date/Time	Status
1	Burglary / B&E	4/7/2024 18:21	Closed/Cleared
	Motor Vehicle Theft	4/10/2024 16:41	Closed/Leads Exhausted
2	Burglary / B&E	4/8/2024 11:28	Closed/Cleared
	Larceny-All Other	4/8/2024 11:28	Closed/Cleared
	Larceny-All Other	4/9/2024 19:43	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	4/10/2024 10:48	Further Investigation
	Larceny-All Other	4/10/2024 20:40	Further Investigation
5	Larceny-All Other	4/10/2024 9:03	Closed/Leads Exhausted
	Larceny-Theft From Motor Vehicle	4/11/2024 12:03	Further Investigation
6	Larceny-All Other	4/13/2024 19:52	Further Investigation

Tip 411 Reports: Last 7 Days: 0 Tips Last 30 Days: 3 Tips Tips Received This Year: 27 Tips

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Traffic Crash (No Injury)	3	2	0	3	3	8	19
Traffic Crash (With Injury)	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Traffic Crash (Unknown Injury)	0	0	0	0	1	4	5
Traffic Stops	36	65	0	9	44	29	183
Noise Complaints	4	1	0	4	3	2	14

**Note: No ShotSpotter Activations for this reporting period.**

4/17/2024 – Hosted Leadership Craven

4/19/2024 – Career Fair – Oaks Rd Academy 8:30–11:25 AM and 12:00–3:00 PM

4/20/2024 – Noble Knights Chess Club Tournament, West New Bern Rec Center 9 AM

4/22/2024 – Noble Knights Awards Ceremony, West New Bern Rec Center 5:30 PM

4/23/2024 – Grover C Fields AVID program Police Department Tour

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

- Asphalt Crews repaired a water/sewer cut at 5303 Hatcher Road, Trent Woods.

- Heavy Equipment Crews performed tree trimming/mowing/stump grinding along City rights-of-ways, mowed/cleaned several City-owned vacant lots, and swept along curbed streets throughout the City of New Bern.
- Public Buildings Crews performed many tasks for maintenance/repairs to City buildings, equipment, and/or grounds (City Hall, City Garage, EOC, Finance (CAPS/Billing), Fire Headquarters, Old Fireman's Museum; Parks & Recreation (West New Bern Recreation), Police Department Headquarters, Police Department Satellite Office, Public Utilities (Electric). The Civil War Monument Sign is pending due to a mounting bracket and location for installation.
- Solid Waste Litter Crews continue to monitor/remove litter along City rights-of-ways throughout City of New Bern and from City's leased parking lots downtown. They continue to remove litter along US Highway 70 Bypass between Pembroke & South Glenburnie Road exits, and within city limits as part of the City's participation in the NCDOT's Adopt-A-Highway Program. The NCDOT Spring Litter Sweep Event continues through to April 27, 2024, and the NCDOT litter/mowing contractors are working within our area. The Craven County Spring Clean Sweep Event is scheduled for May 4, 2024, and the Duffyfield Community Cleanup Event is set for May 4, 2024. The Rotary Club will host their state conference in New Bern April 26, 2024, and plans to perform a litter pickup in Lawson Creek Park on that date with assistance from Parks & Recreation/Public Works.
- Stormwater Crews continue to perform normal maintenance with cleaning/clearing of city-maintained inlets, outlets, and outfalls throughout the City of New Bern.

**REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:****Community Outreach:**

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, The Commission hosted a community round table with the Housing Authority geared towards a collaborative approach to community housing. The topics covered included the redevelopment of Trent Court, the strategic partnership of the Housing Authority and the Redevelopment Commission, and a potential FR Danyus property project.

**Walt Bellamy Update:**

The staff met with the housing authority and First Citizens Bank to discuss the potential purchase of these units. The assistant city attorney and the housing authority's attorney are working on a potential request to be presented to the Redevelopment Commission. The staff also met with several citizens interested in these properties, outlined the process for purchasing any property from the Redevelopment Commission, and referred to community financial partners to work with them.

**Wellness Update:**

This week, staff started to process a requisition to transfer the health and wellness funds to Carolina East Medical System. Both the RDC and the hospital have signed the agreement. The city's conveyance to the RDC has been recorded, and staff will continue to work through the rest of the conveyance to Carolina East Health System.



## **Eubanks Update:**

The Staff is working on a strategy to present to the Commission in its May meeting. There is approximately \$230,000.00 in CDBG funds tied to this property. The Commission must find a low-mod family to finance this property via an upset bid to clear those funds. This process will most likely be done through a third-party non-profit that can hold the lien from the CDBG. It is a very complex process. However, the staff is committed to finding a good strategy to execute.

## **WATER RESOURCES:**



**New Bern 101** participants learned all about the Department of Public Utilities this week. They toured the Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and an electric lift station. When they returned to the Water Treatment Plant, our linemen offered them bucket truck rides for a beautiful view over Ward 5 of the city.

- This week, operations staff worked to install new connections, renew several old water and sewer services, and repair damaged services at various locations throughout the City including Walt Bellamy Drive, Colony Drive, Oaks Road, Chestnut Avenue, First Street, Church Road, Stadium Drive, Old Cherry Point Road, Brooks Drive, Hawthorne Drive, Mom Lane, Ecu Circle and Riverdale Road.
- This week, a lining contractor was in town to work on rehabilitating structures within the sewer collection system that have been severely deteriorated from exposure to hydrogen sulfide gas. The coating material which was applied to the manholes and pump stations prevents groundwater infiltration into the structures and protects the structures from future deterioration.

BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



## Significant Ward Related Items

### Ward 1

- Asphalt Crews repaired a water/sewer cut at 1115 Queen Street, and repaired potholes within the 300 block of Metcalf Street.
- Concrete Crews completed pressure washing downtown sidewalks and replaced a Keep Right signpost on Rhem Avenue.
- Heavy Equipment Crews filled in sinkholes along City rights-of-ways on Queen Street.
- Solid Waste Litter Crews continue to monitor/remove trash near downtown consolidated trash dumpsters. Stormwater Crews cleared/graded outfall at Walt Bellamy Drive & Norwood Street (before & after images shown below).



- They cleaned/cleared drainageway along the 2000 block of 8<sup>th</sup> Street, and assisted AIA Project contractor with moving heavy storm grates within the downtown area.

### Ward 2

- Asphalt Crews repaired a water/sewer cut at 606 Pinetree Drive and performed street repairs near 504 McKinley Avenue.
- Concrete Crews repaired a water/sewer 10' curb cut on Pinetree Drive and continue to monitor the Lowes Boulevard Sidewalk Improvements Project.
- Stormwater Crews cleared a beaver dam from Lawson's Creek near Oscar Drive.

### Ward 3

- This week, the contractors working on the water/sewer relocation work in James City were able to complete the tie-ins necessary to activate 6,350 feet of newly relocated water main. This completes the water main relocation work from Williams Road to Garner Road.
- The contractor completed proof-roll this week on Grouper Run & Bluewater Blvd. (Bluewater Rise Subdivision), and they have installed approx. 6,000 feet of curb/gutter and are currently installing stone to request proof-roll for concrete next week. Carolina Utilities is installing sewer line in the Atlas section within the Bluewater Rise Subdivision. The Public Works Project Coordinator met with a developer in Carolina Colours to discuss driveway width restrictions, and proof-roll was completed/passed in Carolina Creek within Carolina Colours.



- Asphalt Crews performed street repair on Tesie Trail.
- Concrete Crews completed 30' of sidewalk replacement within the 2900 block of Tesie Trail. They replaced 10' of curbing along the 2900 block of Weathersby Drive and replaced a post on Sailfish Street & Grouper Run street-name signs.

## Ward 4

- Asphalt Crews/Public Works Project coordinator continues to oversee the Racetrack Road Improvements Project with asphalt work completed, pending concrete barrier replacement. Asphalt Crews performed cleanup along Racetrack Road around mailboxes, performed street repairs at the end of Racetrack Road and Tyler Rhyne Trail, and repaired a water/sewer cut at 1302 South Glenburnie Road.
- Heavy Equipment Crews mowed/trimmed along the fence line at the rear of City Garage and removed a tree along City right-of-way on the 1400 block of Phillips Avenue. Stormwater Crews cleaned a ditch on City right-of-way in front of 1701 Racetrack Road and cut a swale for a culvert at the corner of Elizabeth Avenue & Racetrack Road (image shown below).



## Ward 5

- Public Works Assistant Director & Project Coordinator met with the developer of the Lake Tyler Subdivision this week to discuss requirements that must be met before the City of New Bern may request streets/stormwater infrastructure to be accepted for maintenance. The developer plans to have all streets completed within a year.
- Asphalt Crews performed a street repair near 1504 Beaufort Street.
- Heavy Equipment Crews performed a mowing abatement at 812 Murray Street and filled in sinkholes along City rights-of-ways on Oaks Road.
- Stormwater Crews cleaned the area around pump station at the Jack Smith reek Wetlands.

## Ward 6

- This week, a CCTV contractor began working on the inspection of existing sewer mains that run along the north side of Highway 17, from Trent Creek Road to Honda Drive. The information gained in this survey will be used to prioritize future sewer rehabilitation work along this corridor.
- Asphalt Crews performed street repairs near 1705 Rosemary Way and within the 100 block of St. Andrews Circle.
- Concrete Crews replaced a 25 MPH speed limit signpost on Academic Drive.