



Clinton Connection

Citizen's Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2009

Volume 2, Number 1

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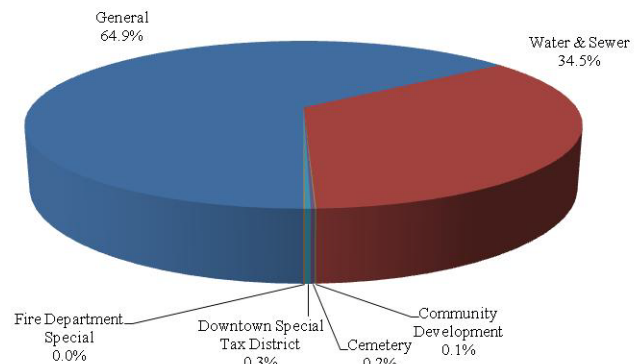
Community Calendar

- **Saturday, July 4**
Celebration & Fireworks
Royal Lane Park
- **Thu. to Sun., July 9-12, 16-19**
"Dogs"
Sampson Community Theatre
- **Mon. to Thu., July 20- 23**
Summer Arts Camp
Sampson Arts Council
- **Tuesday, August 25**
First Day of School
Clinton City Schools
- **Tuesday, Aug. 25 to Oct. 2**
Show Your Swine Art Competition
Sampson Arts Council
- **Saturday, September 12**
Youth Soccer Games Begin
Royal Lane Soccer Complex
- **Sat. to Sun., September 12-13**
Coharie Indian Cultural Pow-Wow
- **Monday, September 28**
Youth Football Games Begin
Royal Lane Park

Inside Municipal Budgeting

On June 23, City Council held a special meeting to adopt the city's 2009-2010 budget. By adopting the budget, Council will bring to an end a process that began last December. In North Carolina, fiscal years run July 1 to June 30, and local governments must adopt a balanced budget by July 1, according to the Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The city's budget consists of two major funds and four minor funds. The major funds are the General Fund and the Water and Sewer Fund. The General Fund accounts for resources not required to be accounted for in other specific funds. Typically, the General Fund includes services that are not enterprise (business-like) operations. This fund relies on tax dollars as the primary source of revenue. For 2009-2010, Clinton's General Fund budget is \$8.5 million, a \$740 thousand decrease from the previous year. Property taxes account for 30 percent of General Fund revenues, and sales tax represents 20 percent of revenues. Other various taxes and fees, along with intergovernmental funds, make up the other 50 percent of revenues. The Water and Sewer fund is an enterprise fund, meaning it operates like a business and must be self-supporting. Revenues in the Water and Sewer fund are generated through charges and fees associated with water and sewer usage. For 2009-2010, the Water and Sewer Fund budget is \$4.5 million.

City Expenditures by Fund



The budget process begins in December with the Capital Improvement Program. This is a five-year plan that analyzes the effects of large capital costs on the city's operating budget and financial condition. Once approved by City Council, the first year of the plan becomes part of the operating budget. This process wraps up in mid-April. In January, department heads meet with their staff to put together departmental proposals. They submit their proposals to the Finance Officer and City Manager for review at the beginning of April. The Finance Officer works to establish accurate revenue projections, which she and the City Manager use to evaluate the departmental budgets and make recommendations based on City Council's goals and objectives. City staff and Council meet for budget workshops during May. At these workshops, Council members offer input regarding the budget and receive information from city staff. Once a proposed budget is constructed, City Council holds a public hearing at the beginning of June to receive citizen input on the recommended budget. After the public hearing, the City Manager makes the final revisions and City Council adopts a budget ordinance that

Amount of Dollar Used per General Fund Function for Proposed FY09-10 Budget



establishes what the city can spend for the fiscal year. To make changes to the budget throughout the year, City Council must approve budget amendments. Once adopted, the budget becomes even more important. It is a guide to direct department activities and services, a management tool to improve services, and a communication tool for citizens to see how their tax money provides services. You can view the entire city budget online under the documents link, the Finance Department's page, or the City Manager's page.

A special thanks to the following staff members who contributed to this edition of Clinton Connection:

Megan Wilson

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Mayor & Council
Lew Starling, Mayor
Maxine Harris, Mayor Pro-Tem
Marcus Becton
Steve Stefanovich
Neal Strickland
Jean Turlington

City Manager
John Connet

City Clerk
Elaine Hunt



Important Numbers

Emergency.....911
After-hours Emergency...592-1151
City Hall.....592-1961
Water & Sewer Billing.....299-4909
Code Enforcement.....299-4904
Sanitation.....299-4905
Streets.....299-4905

City Council Meetings

City Council meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at City Hall. Those interested in speaking at meetings should contact the City Clerk at (910) 592-1961.

Missed the City Council Meeting? Watch it on TV!

You can watch City Council meetings every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. on GOAC-15. StarVision broadcasts the meetings throughout the month on cable channel 15.

Need More Information?

Visit our website 24-7 for more information about Clinton, community events and what the City is doing for you.

What do You Think?

We'd like to know what you think about the newsletter and what we could do to improve it...

Call or email us at:
910-592-1961
spurvis@cityofclintonnc.us

www.cityofclintonnc.us

Fun, Food, and Fireworks

When thinking of July 4, we often find the perfect reason to fire up the grill, spend time with family and friends, and end the day with a fireworks show that will bring a smile to everyone's face. We invite you to come and enjoy a fun filled day at Royal Lane Park on Saturday, July 4, for a day full of activities and entertainment for all ages. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with an open singles and doubles tennis tournament. The pool will be open from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. for a small fee of \$2.00 per person ages 1-16 and \$3.00 per person ages 17 and up. At 3:00 p.m., a horseshoe tournament will begin at Picnic Area 1, and DJ Joey Warren will start spinning tunes. At 5:00 p.m., the Woodmen of the World Flag Presentation, Veteran Recognition Ceremony, and placing of the wreath at the Wall of Honor and Remembrance will take place outside the recreation office. The Magnificents Band will begin playing at 6:00 p.m. to keep the fun going into the evening. A fabulous fireworks display beginning at 9:30 p.m., will cap off our Independence Day Celebration. There is fun for everyone, so bring your family and friends and celebrate our independence at Royal Lane Park.



Saving Our Lives in Sampson County

From 2000-2005, alcohol-related traffic accidents accounted for 7.6 percent of all accidents in Sampson County. The state average is 5.5 percent. As a result, Sampson County was one of nineteen North Carolina counties chosen to participate in the Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG) to reduce the number of alcohol-related traffic accidents. Police Chief Mike Brim explains the program as a "significant prevention effort aimed at saving lives and preventing injuries" and an "opportunity to make our community a safe place to live, work, and play." The Sampson County SPF-SIG program is called "Saving Our Lives In Sampson" or SOLIS. A Community Coordinator is responsible for bringing community stakeholders together, developing an action plan for the SOLIS program, and evaluating the program's success. The person shouldering such a responsibility is Maria Paniagua. Previously an attorney and environmental legislation consultant in Nicaragua, Maria has lived in Sampson County since 2004. Maria joined the Clinton Police Department in May to serve as the Community Coordinator for the SOLIS program. She says the program will seek to prevent alcohol-related problems by understanding the influence of alcohol during various stages of life. Maria says the goal is to reduce alcohol-impaired driving, injuries, and fatalities that will save lives and reduce morbidity in future generations. If you have questions about SOLIS or if you would like to request a program for your community, club, church, business, or organization, you can contact Maria Paniagua at (910) 592-3105.



Maria Paniagua

Visit the City Market for Fresh, Local Produce

Do you enjoy locally grown, fresh fruits and vegetables but don't have the time or space to plant your own garden? Well, look no further than the Clinton City Market on Lisbon Street. The Clinton City Market is now open on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. A variety of locally grown produce is available, and the market will continue to grow as the harvest season nears. Come support our local farmers and find the fresh fruits and vegetables you've been looking for.

