



# Clinton Connection

## Citizen's Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2014

Volume 7, Number 1

### In this Issue

- City Council Adopts Budget
- Mill Around Downtown
- E-Recreation
- Employee Spotlight

### Community Calendar

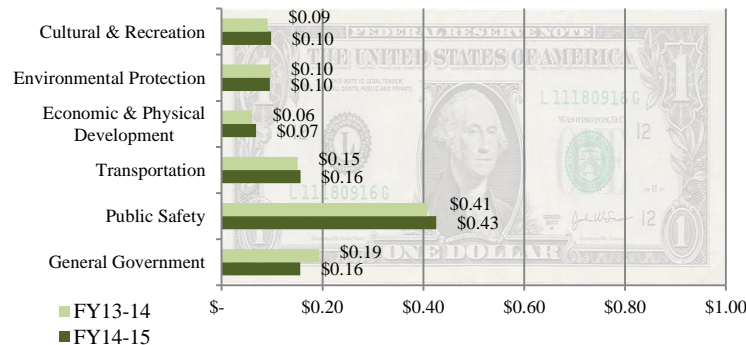
- **Friday, July 4**  
Fireworks Celebration  
*Clinton Recreation*
- **Mon. to Thu., July 7-17**  
Summer Art Camp  
*Sampson Arts Council*
- **Thursday, July 10**  
Movies at the Market  
*City of Clinton*
- **Thursday, July 17**  
Alive After Five Concert Series  
*Sampson Arts Council, City of Clinton, & Sampson County*
- **Friday, July 25**  
Fall Soccer Registration Closes  
*Clinton Recreation, Sampson County Recreation, & SC Soccer Club*
- **Mon. to Tue., August 4-5**  
Football Camp  
*Clinton Recreation*
- **Mon. to Thu., August 4-7**  
Children's Theater Drama Camp  
*Sampson Community Theater*
- **Thu. to Sun., August 14-24**  
*Little Mermaid Jr.*  
*Sampson Community Theater*
- **Friday, August 15**  
Football Registration Closes  
*Clinton Recreation*
- **Thursday, August 21**  
Alive After Five Concert Series  
*Sampson Arts Council, City of Clinton, & Sampson County*
- **Thursday, September 11**  
Business Showcase  
*Clinton-Sampson Chamber*

## City Council Adopts FY2014-2015 Budget *by Shawn Purvis, City Manager*

The Clinton City Council officially adopted the city's 2014-2015 fiscal year budget on June 17. The new budget, which takes effect July 1, totals \$13,686,150 for all city operations, capital improvements, and debt service requirements. This is 7.7 percent less than the current year amended budget. The new budget continues to provide the services and programs Clinton residents and businesses have come to expect without raising the tax rate. The General Fund represents the largest portion of the city's budget at \$8.73 million, a decrease of 2.7 percent from the current year. The predominant expense in the General Fund is public safety services- fire and police. The Water & Sewer Fund budget is \$4.79 million for 2014-2015, which is a 15.5 percent decrease. The water and sewer budget does include a slight fee increase (1.5 percent) to offset some large capital projects and infrastructure improvements the city has in the near future. "City Council and staff have worked diligently over the past several months to balance the various needs of the city," said Mayor Lew Starling. "(This budget) will

allow us to continue to provide excellent services for our citizens without an increase in the tax rate or garbage and recycling fees and only a modest increase in water and sewer rates." The city has received the Governmental Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Award for Distinguished Budget Presentation the past four years and plans to submit this budget document for consideration this year. The complete budget document is available for review at City Hall and online at [www.cityofclintonnc.us/budget-docs](http://www.cityofclintonnc.us/budget-docs)

**Amount of Dollar Used per General Fund Function:  
Current Budget vs. Proposed Budget**



## Mill Around Downtown This Summer *by Mary Rose, Planning Director*



Summer is a great time to mill around downtown. Whether you are looking for a bite to eat, shopping for that perfect gift, or cooling down with some ice cream, there is a lot to enjoy in Downtown Clinton. We encourage everyone to visit downtown every day, but Thursdays will prove to be especially full of fun and entertainment. A new summer event this year is Movies at the Market, presented by the Clinton Main Street Program Promotion Committee. The theme for the first-year series is "Celebrating the Dog Days of Summer." On Thursday, June 12, moviegoers enjoyed the family-friendly *Milo & Otis* at Clinton City Market. The next movie will be *Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey* on Thursday, July 10. Movies start at 8:30 pm and are free. Concessions are provided by New Life Baptist Church. In conjunction with this year's movies, the Sampson County Animal Shelter will host a pet adoption drive before each movie. The movies will run rain or shine, and we encourage everyone to bring a lawn chair, sit back, and enjoy a relaxing family night out in Downtown Clinton. The Alive After Five Concert Series continues every third Thursday this summer. The Magnificents will perform on July 17, and Steve Owens & Summertime will take the stage on August 21.

Also, don't forget to visit the Sampson Farmers' Market at City Market. The farmers' market is open Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. In addition to fresh produce, you can find honey, handmade crafts, and plants and flowers. To keep up with all the Downtown Clinton happenings, follow Downtown Clinton on Facebook and subscribe to our e-newsletter. For more information, please contact the Clinton-Sampson Planning Department at (910) 299-4904.





### Important Numbers

Emergency.....911  
City Hall.....592-1961  
Water & Sewer Billing.....299-4909  
Code Enforcement.....299-4904  
Sanitation & Streets.....299-4905  
After-hours Emergency...592-1151  
NIT Tip Line.....590-3009

### City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are held 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 or Online!

You can watch City Council meetings every Thursday at 7:00 pm on StarVision GOAC-15. City Council meetings are also available on the City's You Tube channel, [Clintonnc1](#).

### Need More Information?

Visit our website 24-7 or like us on Facebook 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 how we can improve it...

Call or email us at:  
910-592-1961  
[spurvis@cityofclintonnc.us](mailto:spurvis@cityofclintonnc.us)

## Improving the Recreation Experience by Jonathan Allen, Recreation & Parks Director

Clinton Recreation and Parks is continually looking for ways to improve our citizens' experiences with the department. Our two most recent efforts include easier ways to provide information and complete registration for our participants and parents. During the past year, the Recreation Department began using a website call Quick Scores. The site offers easy access to rosters, schedules, game results, standings, and contact information for coaches and staff. Our department also uses the website to promote registration, acknowledge sponsors, and provide links to the City's website. The Quick Scores site is accessible to anyone on your computer, tablet, or smartphone and can be found easily by clicking the "athletics" link on the Recreation Department's website.



Starting with the 2014 fall soccer and football registrations, the Recreation Department will be using a new registration program. This program will help us make the registration process easier and quicker by compiling a more comprehensive database for all participants. The database will reduce the amount of information needed each year when each participant comes back to play a sport. With the information, we will also be able to communicate more efficiently regarding registration periods, parent and coaches meetings, and other important dates. We can now take credit and debit card payments in the recreation office and ultimately will be able to offer online registration with debit and credit card payment. For more information or questions regarding the new registration or any recreation activities, please call us at (910) 299-4906.

**Clinton Recreation will soon offer online registration and payment options.**

## Employee Spotlight by Brittany Locklear, Police Sr. Admin. Specialist & Shawn Purvis, City Manager

In April 2014, Police Captain Donald Edwards completed the Administrative Officers Management Program (AOMP). This NC State University program is tailored to police administrators and includes 12 rigorous weeks of courses on management skills, organization theory, public administration, legal and constitutional principles, and public administration. Upon completion, participants earn 15 college credits. AOMP has provided management and leadership education for law enforcement professionals since 1989. "This is an outstanding program, and I am appreciative of my opportunity to attend. I learned a lot and have already been able to apply what I learned to the department," commented Captain Edwards.



City Human Resource Director Lisa Carter completed the UNC School of Government Municipal and County Administration program in April. This comprehensive course is for city and county officials whose responsibilities require an understanding of local government functions beyond individual areas of specialization. Students attend classes for a week each month from September through April. More than 50 School of Government faculty members and guest instructors teach on subjects including local government law, organization and management, finance and budgeting, public employment law, planning and regulation of development, and municipal and county services. The program provides participants with knowledge about the legal framework and administrative requirements of North Carolina city and county government and the interrelation among different government activities and departments. Lisa said, "Attending the County and Municipal Administration Course in Chapel Hill and receiving my certification was a rewarding experience. I have a newfound appreciation for other departments that enhance the city's abilities to provide excellent service to the citizens."