

# CITIZENS NEWSLETTER

July – September 2024

## MAYOR CHARLES GAYLOR



Hiawatha Jones  
District 1



Chris Boyette  
District 2



Jamie Taylor  
District 3



Brandi Matthews  
District 4



Beverly Weeks  
District 5



Roderick White  
District 6

## Goldsboro City Council

Greetings,

Volunteering is one of the greatest ways anyone can affect their community. Time and time again, we see the organizations that make the biggest impact are the ones with the most dedicated volunteers. Communities thrive because of those citizens who do something simply because they believe it needs to be done. I am dedicating my space in this newsletter to say thank you to each one of you. But there is a catch. I am asking you to keep doing it and to bring a friend next time. Here is why. Our families and schools need our support. That's the bottom line. That is the quiet part being said aloud.

If we want to see reductions in crime, an end to generational poverty, stronger family units, and better economic development, we must get back to the basics of making sure our youth have a chance to grow up. The pressures and temptations of negative influences are stronger than ever. Therefore, the community must be more committed than ever to investing its time, resources, and talents into our neighborhoods, schools, churches, and community non-profits.

This fall, we need a stronger presence of mentors in the schools in and around Goldsboro. More information about this will be posted on our website and social media channels. The only way this will reach its full potential is through volunteers. We will need more volunteers who can dedicate part of their time to

connect with a student on a personal level. Mentors are not parents, teachers, disciplinarians, or best friends. They are something else; this role is unique. While the relationship may originate through a somewhat manufactured introduction, the experience often changes dramatically, becoming a genuine relationship built on respect, trust, and a desire to help each other be better. To get a clearer idea of how things work, contact Communities Supporting Schools and let them explain.

If mentorship isn't a viable commitment at this stage in life, I urge every citizen to explore and find their niche. If you like construction, look at Habitat for Humanity. If you enjoy teaching, explore Literacy Connections. If you enjoy cooking, offer to help at the Community Crisis Center or the Community Soup Kitchen. If sports are your thing, contact Parks & Recreation or the Boys & Girls Club. This list is not exhaustive, and there are organizations of every size working diligently in our community. The common thread, however, is the need for volunteers. Take this message and discuss it with your coworkers, civic clubs, churches, and friends. Consider how much you want to see the community around you improve and how much you can be part of that growth. As the adage says, "It takes a village."

Mayor Charles Gaylor

# City of Goldsboro Submits Audit for FY2023 and is Now Caught Up on Audits

On June 30, the City of Goldsboro successfully submitted its audit report for fiscal year 2023 to the Local Government Commission (LGC). This achievement marks the first time in several years that the City has been fully caught up on its audits, reflecting a significant milestone in its financial management.

“We are pleased to have achieved this milestone and are committed to maintaining our momentum in staying caught up on our audits,” said Interim City Manager Matt Livingston. “Our next step will be following up on removal from the Unit Assistance List. I’m confident this will happen as our financial position is strong and has been trending in the right direction for some time.”

By submitting the completed audit by July 1, the City is in compliance with the North Carolina General Statute regarding annual independent audits and will not face any withholding of sales tax distributions.

## City Seeking Participants for Lead and Copper Sampling

The City of Goldsboro is seeking participants for free lead and copper sampling in the drinking water. The EPA requires water systems to test for lead and copper every three years, and Goldsboro is currently sampling through September.

To participate, your home must contain copper pipe with lead solder that was installed January 1, 1983, through December 31, 1985.

If you would like to participate, or to see if you are eligible, please reach out to [goldsborowater@goldsboronc.gov](mailto:goldsborowater@goldsboronc.gov) with your contact information and address.

# City of Goldsboro FY24-25 Budget

The Goldsboro City Council recently approved the FY2024-2025 budget. The \$85.9 million budget includes the following:

■ **Property tax increase:** The property tax rate increases by 9.5 cents from 73 cents per \$100 valuation to 82.5 cents per \$100 valuation. The current net return on one penny on the tax rate is estimated to be approximately equivalent to \$233,000. The adopted 9.5 cent increase in property tax will fund salary increases for police and fire personnel, which will cost \$3.2 million.

■ **Water/sewer rate increase:** The budget includes a 2 percent water and sewer rate increase effective for billings on or after Aug. 1.

■ **Salary increases:** In addition to the police and fire salary increases, full-time and permanent part-time employees will receive a 2.5 percent cost of living adjustment. A net bonus of \$400 (full-time) and \$200 (permanent part-time) for eligible employees is budgeted.

The entire budget is available for review on the City’s website at [goldsboronc.gov/finance](http://goldsboronc.gov/finance).



**NC FREEDOM FEST**  
GOLDSBORO, NC

- Kids Zone
- Food Trucks
- Live Entertainment
- Street Fair Vendors
- Car & Bike Show
- Static Displays
- Beer Garden
- And More!

**Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024**

## Downtown Parking

Visit <https://www.goldsboronc.gov/parking/> for information about downtown parking regulations, parking maps, FAQs and more.





# Paramount Performing Arts Series



**ALEXANDER STAR**  
FRI., OCT. 4 AT 7:30PM



**THE MALPASS BROTHERS**  
FRI., NOV. 22 AT 7:30PM



**NC SYMPHONY**  
TUE., NOV. 26 AT 8 PM



**THE COASTERS**  
SAT., FEB. 8 AT 7:30PM

For tickets and more information, visit [goldsboroparamount.com/ppas/](https://goldsboroparamount.com/ppas/)

**GOLDSBORO**  
BE MORE DO MORE SEYMOUR



**BROADWAY IN LOVE**  
THU., FEB. 13 AT 7:30PM



**GOLDSBORO FAN FEST**  
SAT., FEB. 22 FROM 12-8PM



**BUCKETS N BOARDS**  
FRI., MAR. 28 AT 7:30PM



**CAROLINA SOUND**  
TUE., APR. 15 AT 7:30PM

# Fats, Oils & Grease are a Pain in the Drain

## Public Works

Grease down the drain can cause big problems in the sewer system.

As a byproduct of cooking, fats, oils & grease are typically found in: baking goods; butter, lard and shortening; cooking oil; fats and oil from cooked meats; food scraps; gravy; mayonnaise; salad dressings; sauces; and sour cream.

### Why are fats, oils and grease a problem?

Blockages can lead to sewer overflows on your property. All too often, fats, oils and grease are disposed of improperly during food preparation and kitchen clean up. When poured down the drain, fats, oils and grease can build up, blocking sanitary sewer lines. This accumulation can drastically reduce the capacity and effectiveness of the wastewater collection system. In severe cases, blockages can lead to:

- Sewage backing up into your home or business
- Sewage overflowing onto roadways and private property — eventually entering into local waterways and causing contamination.

### How can you help avoid sewer clogs from fats, oils and grease?

You can help avoid sewer clogs simply by keeping fats, oils and grease out of the sewer system. Through awareness, education and adoption of certain habits, it is easy to minimize fat, oil and grease sources at home. Follow these tips to keep your drains fat-free:

- Pour cooled fats, oils and grease into a disposable container and put it in the trash.
- Before washing dishes or cookware, wipe any fat, oil or grease off with a napkin or paper towel and dispose of it in the trash.
- Use sink strainers to catch food waste.
- Put food scraps in the trash, not through the garbage disposal.
- Simply put, never put fats, oils or grease down sink drains or in the toilet.



OPEN TO ALL WHO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY IN WAYNE COUNTY

# SHRED EVENT

SPONSORED BY CIVIC AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS

FRIDAY  
**9.13.2024**  
10 AM - 1 PM

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO  
**HERMAN PARK CENTER**  
901 EAST ASH STREET  
GOLDSBORO, NC 27530

Protect yourself from identity theft by bringing your personal documents and records to be safely shredded at no cost to you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CALL 919-580-4330

**CIVIC CREDIT UNION** | **LGEFCU LOCAL GOVERNMENT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

Not for use by businesses, commercial entities or county departments.  
Limit of three document boxes or 75 pounds of paper per attendee.



## Don't even think about it!

If you're thinking of tossing your trash out the window or on the ground, please don't. Put trash where it belongs — in a garbage can. Thank you for doing your part to help keep Goldsboro clean.

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS\*

August 19 | September 3 | September 16 | October 7

Council meets at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

\*Subject to change with public notice.

## UPCOMING SANITATION CHANGES

**Labor Day | Monday, September 2**

Monday routes will be serviced Wednesday, Sept. 4.