

Opportunity to Serve on the Planning Board

The Town of Aberdeen is soliciting applications to fill vacancies on the Planning Board for a Regular Member and an Alternate Member representing the extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ). Planning Board members serve three year terms with regularly scheduled meetings the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm. The Planning Board makes recommendations on various land use planning decisions such as zoning ordinance text amendments, rezoning requests and conditional use permits, and issues special use permits.

One of the vacancies is for an Alternate Member representing the extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ). Alternate Members sit in lieu when a Regular Member is absent. If you are uncertain if your residence falls within the Town's ETJ, please contact the Planning Department at (910) 944-7024 or visit the website at www.townofaberdeen.net. A map can be found under the Unified Development Ordinance in the Document Center.

The application for service on any of the Town's advisory boards, including the Planning Board, is also located on the Town's website in the Planning folder of the Document Center.

Planning to Clear Your Lot – Here's What You Need to Know

The Town of Aberdeen's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) requires that prior to substantially changing the use on a property, or before any substantial clearing, grading, or excavation begins, a permit must be issued by the Town. Depending on the nature of the proposed use and the zoning district where the property is located, the permit may be a simple zoning permit issued by staff, or it may require a Special Use or Conditional Use Permit issued by the Planning Board or Board of Commissioners. Trees with a diameter of 12 inches or greater also require some protection according to our UDO and removing them without approval may be a violation of the Town ordinances. Staff works with applicants to develop a plan that does not unreasonably burden the development while retaining as many of the existing large trees as possible on a site. If you have plans to develop or clear a piece of property, coordinating with the Planning Department prior to commencing work is the best way to keep your project on track. Please contact the Planning Department at 944-7024 or visit the website at www.townofaberdeen.net for more information and to access the permit application forms.

Water Bills

Bills will be bank drafted on July 10. 5% or \$5 late fee added for those not paid by July 20. \$25 penalty added for those not paid by August 5 and disconnected August 6.

Recycle Dates

Monday Dates:	Friday Dates:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 16 • July 20 • August 3 • August 17 • August 31 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 1 (Wednesday) • July 17 • July 31 • August 14 • August 28

Goals and Objectives

The following are the six Goals and Objectives that have been adopted recently by the Board of Commissioners:

1. **Engaged Economic Development**
 - a. Work to promote the location, access, and transportation corridors going through the Town to attract new business.
 - b. Promote the creation of new jobs through the use of all available resources.
 - c. Investigate the use of incentives to support Town development and attract new business.
 - d. Encourage new businesses to hire locally, patronize local businesses, and bank locally.
2. **County, Regional or Intergovernmental Cooperation and Participation**
 - a. Attend relevant organizational meetings and discussions to ensure that Town interests regarding schools, transportation funding decisions, jobs and educational opportunities are represented and acknowledged.
 - b. Review existing county, regional or other intergovernmental agreements for additional benefit to the Town.
 - c. Explore opportunities for creating other agreements to benefit the Town.
3. **Encourage Citizen Communication and Participation in Town Events, Celebrations and Volunteerism**
 - a. Motivate citizens to become volunteers and be active in small projects for the benefit of the Town using the Bon Accord newsletter, Town website, local newspapers and direct communication.
 - b. Encourage citizens to become involved in appointed Town committees, boards and commissions.
 - c. Foster community-wide activities and celebrations to include Spring Spree, Fourth of July, Reindeer Fun Run, the Christmas Parade and other special Town activities.
 - d. Provide a variety of Town sponsored program and event opportunities for individuals and families to enroll in and attend.
4. **Strengthen Business and Residential Partnerships**
 - a. Attract more commercial and retail business into the downtown and historic district area.
 - b. Work with local businesses in the town to improve the beautification and appearance of all the business districts with a focus on:
 - Street and sidewalk cleanliness
 - Signing
 - Parking
 - Trees and other plantings
 - Trash Barrels
 - Benches
 - c. Promote business through the active support of the local Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Aberdeen Business Guild.
 - d. Maintain a strong emphasis on code enforcement to improve business and residential appearance with particular attention on dilapidated buildings, abandoned vehicles, litter, junk, and weeds.
 - e. Evaluate opportunities to provide retail spaces in the downtown area that are on the first floor with options for living spaces on the floors above.
 - f. Enforce the approved Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) while working to ensure that it evolves as the needs of the Town supporting business and residential development necessitate a review.
5. **Enhance Town Departmental Core Services**
 - a. Assess opportunities for, and the cost benefits of, leveraging outside contracts for providing services to citizens of the Town.
 - b. Hire and retain the qualified staff necessary to support the activities and essential services provided by the Town.
 - c. Look for grants and other opportunities to offset costs of providing equipment for public safety to ensure a well-equipped fire and police force.
 - d. Ensure Town staff and employees have access to the training required to be highly skilled to do their jobs.
 - e. Construct a new police department and Town hall facility to better serve and represent the Town.
6. **Balanced Capital Improvement**
 - a. Prepare long range capital plans for Town vehicles, equipment, utility upgrades, improvements, and renovations which will be reviewed annually with the budget.
 - b. Inspect Town-owned buildings and property for any required maintenance to ensure proper upkeep with a continuous emphasis on safety.
 - c. Evaluate new technologies and/or methods for improving equipment or Town services while maintaining an emphasis on overall efficiency and effectiveness.



Bon Accord

ISSUE July & August 2015



Water & Sewer Rates to Increase July 1, 2015

There will be a 5% increase for water and sewer rates effective on the September 2015 water bill. Below are the new rates.

In-Town Water Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$12.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$15.00
Industrial	\$50.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$3.01 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$3.22 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$3.42 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$3.63 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$4.04 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$4.42 per thousand

In-Town Sewer Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$12.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$15.00
Industrial	\$50.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$3.37 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$4.04 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$4.69 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$5.37 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$6.05 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$6.71 per thousand

Out of Town Water Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$20.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$30.00
Industrial	\$100.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$6.04 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$6.62 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$7.19 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$7.78 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$8.35 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$8.94 per thousand

Out of Town Sewer Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$20.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$30.00
Industrial	\$100.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$6.73 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$7.32 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$7.89 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$8.47 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$9.04 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$9.63 per thousand

Residential Garbage - \$20.00 (per billing cycle)
Business Garbage - \$25.50 (per billing cycle)



Ray's Mill Park

This issue

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Message from the Manager, Bill Zell

The Town of Aberdeen Board of Commissioners (BOC), executive staff and other key individuals involved in the Town's operations over the past eight months have developed a strategic plan with goals and objectives for the Town's future growth. Commissioner Joe Dannelley was the impetus behind this project.

It all started last October on a beautiful fall Saturday morning when about 20 of us gathered at the Aberdeen Fire Station to start the process. We hired a professional facilitator from the UNC School of Government to lead us. She gave us five strategies for succeeding with strategic planning and they are the following:

- Ground your strategic plan in a realistic assessment of the current situation,
- Involve everyone who has or might potentially have a stake,
- Learn from others' experience,
- Choose to do what is important, and clarify why you value it, and
- Build action, assessment, and revision capabilities into your strategy.

At the end of that day we had developed a substantial list of the things that are working and of which we are most proud and how we wanted the Town of Aberdeen to look in the future. Then we were asked by the facilitator to work on a set of goals and objectives for the next meeting which would take place in February of this year. One of our goals was not to meet on another Saturday so this meeting was held on a Friday afternoon.

The purpose of the goals and objectives are to

support the vision for the town as established by the BOC. The goals and objectives serve as the basis for the policy direction of the BOC and serves as the guide for all operational, maintenance and budgeting activities.

The new Vision Statement that was developed is the following:

"The Town of Aberdeen grows to a population level that retains its unique history and character and provides the services and amenities to continuously enhance the quality of life for all its citizens". Continued on page 4.

Town Benefits From Eagle Scout Project

The Town of Aberdeen Appearance & Beautification Commission wishes to extend their sincere thanks to Boy Scout Troop 800 and Eagle Scout candidate Brandon Bassett for their work to paint the fence at The Depot in downtown Aberdeen. Approximately 700 feet of rail fence was painted after repairs were made (1,400 feet since both sides of the fence were painted). This project had been a top priority of the Commission and the results are stunning and will protect the fence in years to come. Brandon was assisted by the scouts and leadership of Troop 800 and the project was made possible by generous donations from Builders' First Source, Burney Hardware, Lowes Home Improvement, and Parish Signs and Service. The Aberdeen Public Works Department also assisted. Great work guys!



Movies by the Lake

Grab your lawn chairs, blankets, family and friends and join us the 2nd Friday of each month, July through October, at Aberdeen Lake Park to enjoy family movies on the big screen. Concessions will be available.

The Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department, along with Meridian, Coca-Cola, Kiwanis of the Sandhills, The Aberdeen Bead Company, This Little Piggy, Air Specialties, and Set in Stone of the Sandhills presents the following movies:

- **July 10th - Paddington Bear** (Rain date July 11th)
- **August 14th - Big Hero 6** (Rain date August 15th)
- **September 11th - Box Trolls** (Rain date September 12th)
- **October 9th - Cinderella** (Rain date October 10th)

Summer Camp

Campers will play group games, participate in arts and crafts, listen to educational guest speakers, and go swimming. Aberdeen Parks & Recreation Department will provide breakfast and lunch to campers. Camp will run through August 14th from 7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Camp is for children ages 5 -12 and held at the Aberdeen Recreation Center.

Fees are \$80 for residents and \$120 for non-residents per week. Payment for the first week is due at registration and a \$15 holding fee is due for each additional week. Registration forms can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Center. Space is limited; early registration is encouraged!

Schedule:

- Week 3 - July 6th – 10th
- Week 4 - July 13th – 17th
- Week 5 - July 20th – 24th
- Week 6 - July 27th – 31st
- Week 7 - August 3rd – 7th
- Week 8 - August 10th – 14th

For more information, contact Jack Clelland at (910) 944-7275.



Aberdeen Lake Park

What is being offered by Parks & Rec this summer?

Athletics and programs for every age and physical ability.

Lacrosse Camp

Lacrosse is a unique and upcoming sport in our area. We are holding a Lacrosse Camp October 26th through October 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Lacrosse camp is held at Colonial Heights Park for boys and girls ages 5-10, as of August 31, 2015. Each camper will receive a Lacrosse Camp T-shirt. Coach Brad Thomson will be instructing the camp. Equipment and supplies will be provided for use at the camp. Cost for the camp is \$30 for residents and \$40 for non-residents. Registration deadline is October 16th.

T-Ball

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is conducting a Fall T-Ball League. This activity is available for children ages 4-5 (age as of August 31, 2015). Practices and games will be held at Colonial Heights Park on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Registration will run through August 21st or until full. Registration form and payment must be received by August 21st. Volunteer coaches and sponsors are needed. For more information contact Joseph Keel, Athletic Coordinator, at (910) 944-7275.

Tennis Lessons

This is a great way to introduce Tennis or brush up on skills for your child, ages 9 - 12. Lessons will be taught by USPTA Elite Professional Julie Criscoe at Legacy Lakes Tennis Club in Aberdeen. Lessons will be every Thursday July 9th -

August 20th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Deadline to register is July 3rd. The 7 lessons course will cost \$90 for residents and \$100 for non-residents. Get your child started today with the exciting sport of Tennis.

Family Zumba

Get the family together and move to the beat with Sarah Calleja, in this exciting new Zumba class for the whole family. This class is designed to burn calories, increase muscle tone, strengthen core muscle, and burn off that afternoon energy. Class is for adults and children ages 5 – 15.

Dates: Wednesdays, July 15, 22, 29, & August 5

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Aberdeen Recreation Center

Cost: Residents \$15 per adult + \$5 per child

Non-Residents \$23 per adult + \$5 per child

The cost is for a 4 week session.

Registration deadline is July 13th. All children must be registered and accompanied by an adult.

Zumba

Enjoy Zumba classes at the Aberdeen Recreation Center Tuesdays and Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. with instructor Sarah Calleja. Registration is \$25 for residents and \$38 for non-residents. Registration fee is for 8 classes. Registration is open for all classes with the deadline for each month being the day before the first

class. Classes are for ages 16 and older.

Classes:

• July 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30, August 4 & 6 - Registration deadline is July 13th.

• August 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27, September 1 & 3 – Registration deadline is August 10th.

Senior Fit

This exercise program is designed specifically with seniors in mind. It will help improve balance, strengthen muscles, improve mobility, and increase blood flow throughout the body. If you are having trouble working in the garden, climbing stairs, or playing with the grandchildren, this

class is for you! All moves are modified depending on fitness levels and physical limitations. Gloria Megyas will be instructing the class.

Days: Tuesdays

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Fees: Residents \$15 - (For 4 Classes)
Non-Residents \$25 - (For 4 Classes)

Classes:

- July 7, 14, 21, & 28
- August 4, 11, 18, & 25

Registration forms for all athletics and recreational programs can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Center or can be downloaded on the Town's website, www.townofaberdeen.net.

For more information or questions on any athletics or programs, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (910) 944-7275.



Celebrate America's Birthday

Aberdeen plans to celebrate America's Birthday with an evening of fabulous fun activities on Saturday, July 4th. The 2015 "Fun Family Fourth of July", sponsored by the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department, will be held at the Aberdeen Lake Park on US-1.

The Town of Aberdeen's 51st Annual Celebration will offer entertainment and activities for people of all ages. Attractions and games for children will start at 5:00 p.m., with live music beginning at 6:00 p.m. The

fireworks will begin at dark, approximately 9:15 p.m.

Admission to the park is free. Children can purchase a wrist band for \$5.00, which will allow them unlimited access to the 25' rock climbing wall, inflatable slide, bounce house, obstacle course, and much more.

Red, white, and blue colors will adorn the park as folks gather to honor America and to celebrate this patriotic day! Citizens of all ages are encouraged to dress in their patriotic colors.

There will be several food vendors present selling funnel cakes, shaved ice, hot dogs and hamburgers, and a variety of other tasty treats.

Grab your blankets and lawn chairs, and bring your family and friends to enjoy one of the largest, most exciting fireworks displays in the area.

Please no pets, no alcoholic beverages, no personal fireworks, no coolers, and no open carry of weapons!

Did you know you need a permit to put up a fence?

Many residents may have noticed a lot of fences going up this summer. Did you know that a permit is required? Yes, if you plan on installing a fence in your yard, town ordinances require a zoning permit. The permitting process makes sure that all fence proposals meet minimum requirements under the local ordinance and that any installation proposals do not interfere with utility easements (water, sewer, electrical, natural gas, etc.).

So what if you already installed a fence without applying for a fence permit? You should still apply and pay for a zoning permit. You can come by the Planning Department located in the Town Hall located at 115 North Poplar Street to pick up a zoning permit application or

download one from the town's website at www.townofaberdeen.net.

The fee for a fence permit is \$50. Please be prepared to provide a sketch plan of the property showing the location of the proposed fence including dimensions.

Planning staff will be following up on a number of unpermitted fences this summer. Again, if you have failed to have your fence properly permitted, please contact us to complete the required paperwork.

Please contact the Planning Department at 944-7024 if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Your Government

Board of Commissioners
Work Session

2nd Monday | 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Conference Room

August 10th

Board of Commissioners
Meeting

4th Monday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

August 24th

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Thursday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

August 20th

Have agendas delivered directly to your inbox. Sign up for E-news at: www.townofaberdeen.net.

Town Hall Closing

In observation of Independence Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed Friday, July 3, 2015.

There will be no garbage pick-up on July 3rd; the make-up day will be Wednesday, July 1st.