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Cliff Collins, Commissioner
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Frank Zachary, Commissioner*



*Ed Powell, County Attorney
Lisa Hughes, County Manager
Tanya Gentry, Clerk to the Board*

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

October 13, 2023

Solid Waste Fire

Yesterday afternoon someone disposed of bags or partial bags of Yellow Jacket sulfur at the Transfer Station. When it, along with other items on the floor of the transfer station, were pushed into the Hilco trailers, the sulfur ignited and started a fire. The fire was eventually contained, but the Transfer Station was closed through today for clean-up. All of the household trash collection sites remained open and the Transfer Station will re-open tomorrow.

Charters of Freedom

On October 31, 2023 Ron Lewis and his construction manager with Charters of Freedom will visit the space at the Courthouse to build and install the Charters

Noise Ordinance and Animal Control Ordinance

Sheriff Smitherman, Chief Deputy Justin Collins and I met with Assistant District Attorneys Matthew Leach and Michael Brown yesterday to discuss enforceability of the current Noise Ordinance and any changes they would like to see. Leach and Brown have no issues prosecuting noise ordinance violations when the Sheriff's Office will charge someone with them. They stated that it is not necessary for them to have decibel readers, they just need to include details in their reports.

Holcomb House

The Holcomb House will be moved next Thursday at 10am. The Historical Society will have host a small gathering at 9am prior to the move.

Employee Vacancies

There are currently 16 vacant positions, down from 26 last week.

Election Day Parking

We have met with owner representatives of the building leased for Elections to discuss parking on Elections Day. They have agreed to allow us to use the portion of the property that is excluded from the lease as an exit to Fred Hinshaw Road to ease traffic flow. I have shared this with Elections staff and we will meet again if necessary prior to November 7th.

205 E. Main Street Property

The Town of Yadkinville is moving forward with the Phase II Environmental Study of the garage area of 205 E. Main Street. The testing will include drilling 4 – 1” holes that are 15 ft. deep in the parking lot at the garage. The samples will be tested and results determined. None of the testing will occur in the building. They will be on-site November 8th to conduct the testing. Town Manager Mike Koser has made Sheriff Smitherman aware of the date.

Ambulances

The County has 5 EMS Outposts and 1 ambulance for each outpost and 3 spares. The County's replacement plan has been to purchase 1 new and the remount 1 the following year. NCOEMS changed the ambulance requirements and the remounts of our boxes will not fit. So, we have had to purchase new ones every year until they have all been replaced and we can do remounts. In December 2019, we purchased 1 F-450, 4x2 ambulance; in December 2020, we purchased 2 F-450s, one that is a 4x2 and one that is a 4x4. Then COVID hit and production of vehicles has been impacted. The one we ordered in 2021, arrived in January 2023 and already has over 25,000 miles on it. We have 2 that have been on order since August 2022 that should be delivered some time in 2024. We ordered one this August that has no delivery estimation. The cost of a F-250 4x4 ambulance has increased from \$223,250 in 2020 to \$294,236. We do have an opportunity to send Northwestern Emergency Vehicles a letter of intent to purchase to secure a new F-250 4x4 at this price before prices increase again. If we are in a position to do that, our ambulance fleet should be in good shape and return to its normal replacement schedule.

Upcoming Dates

Employee Chili and Chicken Stew lunch will be held on **Friday, October 20th, 11am-1pm** at the Memorial Park.

Joint meeting with the Board of Education, **Monday, October 30th**.

The Annual Christmas Employee Luncheon will be held on **Friday, December 22nd, 12noon-2pm** in the Banquet Room at the Agricultural & Educational Building.