

# SELMA TRACKS QUARTERLY



Vol. 1, Issue 1

A Quarterly Report From The Town of Selma

May 2022

### **Reinventing the Former Town Hall**



The renovations of the Old Town Hall are moving along at a rapid pace. The new owners Jeb Jeutter, and Cliff Zinner are hard at work reinventing the former government space into a building that will change the landscape of downtown. They plan on remolding the first floor 6,500 square feet into a commercial space. They are actively recruiting a restaurant/brew pub along with other entertainment amenities. The second and third floors are being converted into upscale luxury one and two-bedroom apartments. The apartments will be tenantready by late summer 2022.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Council News

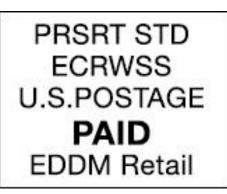


The Council has been hard at work on several issues over the last few months. The Council approved changes to the animal control ordinance that 1) Limits chaining or tethering to a stationary object to a maximum of 3 hours within a 24-hour period. The ordinance clarifies further that dogs are not allowed to run free in Town and the owner must be able to control the canine with a leash, vehicle, enclosure, or fence. If an invisible fence is used it must have a sign stating that it is in use. The Town Council approved an Economic Incentive Ordinance to attract and encourage investment within the Town. The purpose of the ordinance is to allow the Town of Selma to enter into an agreement with a person, firm or corporation who/that undertakes a development project consistent with the Town's adopted comprehensive, master plans and/or redevelopment plans.

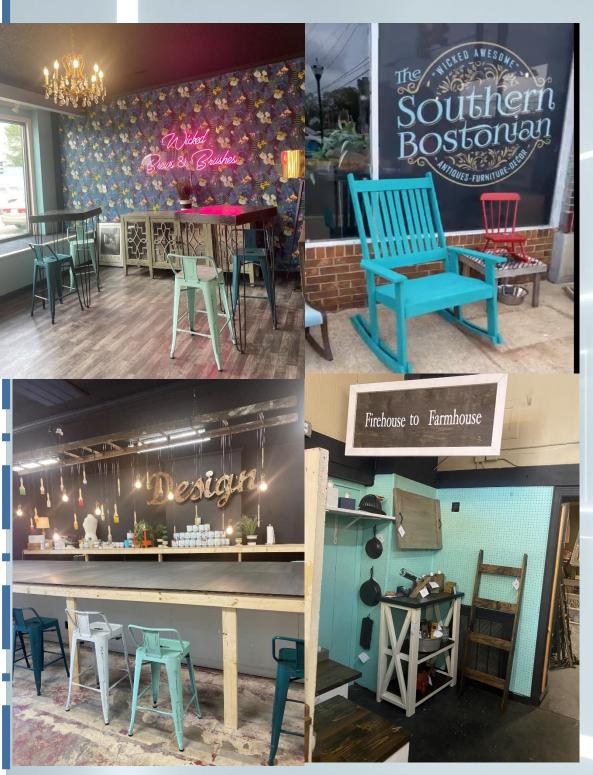
The goals of the program include but not limited to; Increased revenues from property taxes, sales taxes, and permit fees. Increased tourism and commercial activity within the Town. Improvement of the Character of the Town by preserving, rehabilitating buildings or promoting construction of new buildings that are compatible with the Town's character. Agreements are on a case-by-case basis depending on the value of the investment to the town.

The Council approved revamping regulations regarding rental of the Civic Center. The changes provide more flexibility for town staff to work with perspective renters to make it more user friendly. As a result, rentals have surged within the last two months.

The Council approved renewing a lease with CSX railroad to maintain and operate the Depot on Railroad St. The Depot is currently and AMTRAK station, as well as a significant landmark for the Town. The lease was renewed for 20 years with two five-year options for renewals. The Town also entered a lease with Railstream Inc. who provides live streaming video nation-wide of trains entering and departing depots. Selma will join 20 other towns on this web-site for rail enthusiasts to view. We expect it to go live in June. The site is www.railstream.net.



#### **Quarterly Newsletter**



Expansion in The Southern Bostonian – Kristina Whitten, owner of "The Southern Bostonian" Antiques shop in downtown Selma has come a long way. Kristina started off at a small commercial space in Smithfield back in 2020. On August 28, 2021, she made the decision to move her business into the Town of Selma starting off with 4,000 sq.ft. on the corner of Waddell Raiford and Street. Her unique line of products and experiences was so successful she expanded her shop to sq.ft 6,000 along with performing other renovations she is still open to the public. She not only has breathed new life into a building, but also to a community.

The all-new shopping experience will be offering antiques, workshops, a brand-new DIY Studio with beer & wine "Wicked Brews & Brushes", good music, and all new "Firehouse to Farmhouse" booth by our Selma Fire Department. Along with laser engraving on iPhones and so much more. What are you waiting for? There's so much to see and discover with the fully renovated shop; come and experience an atmosphere like no other.



#### **Reid's Country Sampler Says Good-Bye**

The Antique Shop was established back in April of 1998, after 24 years Donna Reid (owner) has made the decision to retire and close **Reid's Country Sampler** on May 30, 2022. However, The Reid's Printing which is owned by her husband will remain open for business. After the history of having a total of 7 commercial spaces owned by family, the Reid's space will be up for auction on Friday, June 10 and Saturday, June 11 by Batten Auctioneers, LLC. Thank You for all you have done for the Town of Selma.

## Another one Bites the Dust



The Town of Selma demolished the structure located at 301 E. Waddell Street. The abandoned house was approved for court-ordered demolition in March 2022. Community concerns about the condition of the home and a large accumulation of debris at the site caused the Town Council to seek its removal.

The Town of Selma is tasked with encouraging property owners to carry out their responsibilities and comply with appearance standards enforced by our Code Enforcement Officer. Compliance ensures property owners maintain structures to not cause harm to their occupants, neighbors and/or their community. Failure to do so results in fines and ultimately demolition.

Responsible property ownership and maintenance is a key component of neighborhood stability.

We welcome your inquiries about property issues or questions about how Code Enforcement improves our town. Please contact the Planning Department by phone (919) 965-9841, extensions 1006 and 1007 or via email <u>cgarris@selma-nc.com</u>.

# A Letter to Historic District Property Owners

It's the time of the year when many residents are considering exterior home improvements. In 2020, the three Historic Districts in Selma (Downtown, West Selma, and Harrison) were locally designated by the State of North Carolina as regulatory zoning overlays. If you live or own a business inside one of these Historic Districts, you must obtain specific zoning approval before making alterations to your home or business exterior. Even if a building permit from the County isn't required, all alterations require approval from our Historic Properties Commission (HPC).

To help preserve and maintain Selma's charm, livability and character, <u>any alteration</u> to the exterior of buildings in these districts must now include an:

\*Application to the HPC for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA)

\*An appearance before the HPC to obtain written approval PRIOR to the alteration being made.

This requirement does NOT apply to "minor works" such as fences, patios, decks. The application is identical, but the permission is granted at staff level.

Failure to apply for COA and securing approval could result in a fine of \$350 or more and removal of the unauthorized alteration(s). Download the COA application from the Town's website at <a href="https://selma-nc.com">https://selma-nc.com</a>

For questions, please contact the Planning Department at 919-965-9841, extension 1006 or email rcahoon-tingle@selma-nc.com

# Police Department

### TERRI WEST 2021 SELMA POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Terri has been with the Police Department over 11 years and provides excellent customer service. Her primary duties are Administrative Assistant and Evidence Custodian. She was selected for this award by the employees of the Police Department.



**\$1,500 REWARD** For Information Leading to the Whereabouts of:





#### Jimmy "Mose" Batten

AGE: 84 HAIR: Grey/Balding MANNERISMS: Very quiet/pleasant HEIGHT: 5' 10" WEIGHT: 165 pounds EYES: Brown

Jimmy Batten was last accounted for on December 17, 2021. His family is concerned that he may have suffered a medical emergency while on one of his long walks into town and around the Selma, NC area. His cell phone was found in his home. If you have any information on his whereabouts, please contact Det. Vause at the Selma Police Department at 919-965-8189



# MISSING PERSON - On

behalf of Mr. Batten's family, the Selma Police Department asks if you have any information on Mr. Jimmy's whereabouts to please contact Det. Vause at the Selma Police Department at 919-965-8189. Jimmy batten was last accounted for December 17, 2021. His family is concerned that he may have suffered a medical emergency while on one of his long walks into town and around the Selma, NC area.

# Fire Department



**Selma Firefighters Bring Life to Selma's History** – In 1936, Selma purchased a brand-new Fire Engine. This was the first new apparatus purchased for the Department since it was established in 1915. The open cab International Engine was in service until the early 1960's. The beautiful old truck spent the next few years in storage but would make an appearance for a few events to let kids take a ride. Over time the antique fell into disrepair and needed a face lift. In 2007 the truck received a restoration bringing its beautiful exterior back to life. The old apparatus was used until 2016 in parades and displays and was even a famous visitor to town, Santa Claus, hitched a ride. Since then, the truck had many mechanical issues which made it inoperable to drive. Then along came our determined Firefighters. With a little diagnostics, a few new parts, a lot of elbow grease, and busted knuckles, Selma's oldest piece of equipment rides again. Look for her at Selma's next parade and maybe even a few surprise appearances.



Selma Orders New Fire Engine – In April, the Selma Town Council approved the purchase of a new Fire Engine. This engine will replace the 1991 Engine currently in service. The engine is being custom built by Pierce Mfg and is expected to be delivered in April 2024. This engine will have all the technology used by today's Fire Engines but also include capabilities to combat emergencies at the Fuel Terminal Facilities.

# New to the Team



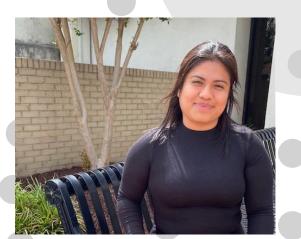
Ernest Burgess III



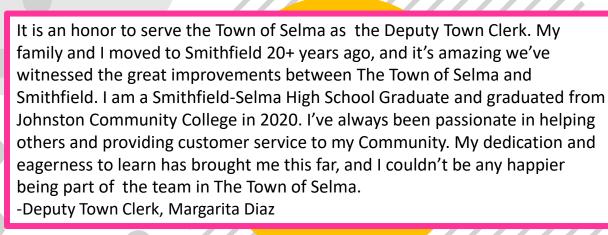
Alyssa Fox

The Selma Police Department would like to introduce our newest officer. Police Officer Ernest Burgess III of Nashville NC. Officer Burgess is originally from Louisburg NC and has prior working experience with the Rocky Mount Police Department, and with the Army National Guard. If you see officer Burgess around Town, please give him a warm welcome to the Town of Selma.

I was born in Goldsboro, NC and currently reside in the Grantham community with my 2 dogs, 1 cat, and 1 fish. I am a 2012 graduate from the University of Mount Olive, where I was a member of the softball team and hold a bachelor's degree in Recreation & Leisure Studies with an emphasis in Exercise Science. I am also a 2022 Graduate from NC State with a masters in Parks, Recreation, Sport Management, & Tourism and hold a Graduate Certification from NC State in youth Development & Leadership. I have worked in Parks & Recreation for 7 years and currently am a certified Parks & Recreation Professional. I look forward to working with and serving the citizens of Selma! -Parks & Recreation Director, Alyssa Fox



Margarita Diaz





**Cameron Gupton** 

Cameron Gupton native of Selma, has been a part time employee of Selma Parks and Recreation for several years and now he has been appointed the athletics Supervisor. He recently graduated from the University of Mount Olive where he studied Sports Management.

"I started my playing career when I was 3 years old, growing up I knew I always wanted to be around sport. I am excited to be able to build and grow sports in The Town of Selma." - Athletics Supervisor, Cameron Gupton

# Selma Parks & Recreation





**News Flash!** We are now accepting Visa and Mastercard at Selma Town Hall. Our drive thru is not equipped for card payments. We request that if our customers desire to utilize a debit/credit card as the method of payment; come in the building and our Customer Service Representatives would be more than glad to assist you on your payment.

#### Our Town Officials

Mayor Mayor Pro-Tem Councilmember Councilmember Councilmember Town Manager Town Clerk Town Attorney Byron McAllister Joseph Scarboro Amy West Whitley Bruce McKay, PA William Overby Brent Taylor Sarai Byrd Allen Alan "Chip" Hewett



## June and July Meetings

All meetings are at the Jernigan Building 110 E. Anderson St. Unless otherwise noted.

Regular Council Agenda Review June 2, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. August 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Regular Town Council Meeting June 14, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. August 9, 2022 @ 6:00p.m.

Tourism Committee June 9, 2022 @ 8:30 a.m. July 14, 2022 @ 8:30 a.m. August 11 ,2022 @ 8:30 a.m.

Historic Properties Commission June 9, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. July 14,2022 @ 6:00 p.m. August 11 ,2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Recreation Advisory Board June 21, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. July 19, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. August 16,2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Appearance Commission June 16, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. July 21, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. August 18 ,2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Planning Board June 27, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. July 25, , 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. August 22 ,2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Public Forum June 25, 2022 @1:00 p.m. Harrison Gym – 605 W. Noble Street (Visit www.selma-nc.com for updates, agendas, meetings and notices)

#### Selma Town Offices are open : Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Town C	ontacts
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Town Hall 919-965-9841 Utilities/Customer Service 919-202-8315 Cemetery 919-202-8315	After Hours / Weekend Non-Emergency Calls
Planning 919-965-3278	
Human Resources 919-965-7142	919-934-9411
Public Works 919-965-2244	
Police 919-965-8189	For Utilities
Fire 919-965-2697	and
Parks & Recreation 919-975-1411	Police Non-Emergency
Library 919-965-8613	-

### Always Call 911 for Emergencies