

# SELMA TRACKS QUARTERLY



Vol. 1, Issue 3

A Quarterly Report From The Town of Selma

August 2022

## **COUNCIL ON THE MOVE**











Council recently adopted the \$21,410,9357 Fiscal Year 22-23 budget. The budget addresses several council priorities including improving public safety and public works. The budget calls for 4 police vehicles, police equipment, and a new fire engine to improve public safety. In addition to equipping the departments/ to retain experienced personnel/ the Council increased firefighters' salaries to be more competitive in the marketplace. The Council made the same commitment last year to the police Department by increasing police officers' salaries. The Public Works Department will purchase equipment to increase street repairs, fix sidewalks, make improvements to the Jernigan building and aesthetics to the Town landscape. It also allows the Town to pursue economic development projects.

The budget includes supporting Town utility functions. The Sewer Department allocated funds to improve two pump stations and a new jetter that will improve efficiency when servicing sewer blockages. The Electric Department's most significant expenditures will be allocated toward infrastructure for the Eastfield Development. The Water Department will continue to provide services as normal.

Below is a general allocation of the Town's spending.

 General Fund
 \$7,145,624

 Water Capital Reserve
 \$261,276

 Sewer Capital Reserve
 \$200,176

 Fire Petroleum Terminus Fund
 \$21,000

 Water Fund
 \$2,153,760

 Sewer Fund
 \$3,509,021

 Electric Fund
 \$8,119,500

 Total
 \$21,410,357

The budget can be viewed on the Town's website at www.Selma-nc.com.

The Council took a significant step to improving its utility operations by approving an Advanced Metering Infrastructure System that will have water meters transmit the customer's usage from the meter directly to Town Hall. This eliminates the need for a person to physically read a meter in most cases. Therefore, it reduces human error, and the meters will have an even more accurate read. It will make the Town's operations more efficient and will also enable staff to detect problems for customers, such as a leak, sooner, thereby, saving the customer money. We are currently working with the contractor to install the transmission equipment and expect to begin deployment of meters in January with completion in August of 2023.

The Council repealed the noise ordinance and replaced it with an ordinance to make it easier for compliance from the citizens and enforcement by the Police Department. The key elements in this ordinance in determining violations are time of day; proximity to residential structure; whether the noise is consistent with the nature of the surrounding area; and other features which reasonably should be considered in determining whether a noise is unreasonably loud or disturbing. The ordinance does indicate exceptions during normal working hours and reasonable intermittent activities at home such as lawn care. The ordinance allows for more flexibility for law enforcement to work with citizens when there are complaints.

The Council approved not assessing overdue fines for books at the library. The purpose is to encourage patrons to return materials without the fear of being charged a fine. However, patrons will not be allowed to check out any more materials until the previously checked out materials are returned, or the lost fee is paid.

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S.POSTAGE PAID EDDM Retail The Council established a Downtown Social District that permits consumption of alcoholic beverages on Town streets within the district from 12 noon to 12 a.m. A patron may purchasee an alcoholic beverage from an establishment within or adjacent to the district. The drink must be in a clear container and marked with the social district logo. A person cannot bring in their own beverages nor can enter other establishments with the drink, with the exception of establishments that sell alcoholic beverages. The district is primarily Raiford St. from Railroad Street to Oak Street at the Ruby. It also encompasses Webb St. to the Civic Center and Charway Alley. The objective of the district is to promote commerce by providing a more social atmosphere. Questions regarding the district can be directed to the Town Manager's office.

# Literature full of Wonders!

Ocean of Possibilities - Selma Public Library took the spotlight with their dive into the Summer Reading Program for the month of June and July. Oceans of Possibilities held approximately 100 kids participating weekly along with adults. With the contribution of cool critters, the experience of reading and learning was full of wonders and exciting adventures.

June 8th: Howell Woods: Turtle stories and a Box Turtle –

Our guests for the first week of our Summer program was the Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center along with the special appearance of Joe the box turtle. Kids learned so much about the importance of eating our greens and enjoyed interesting stories all about turtles.

June15th: NC Museum of Natural Sciences: Prehistoric Oceans –

The second week was presented by North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences with amazing Prehistoric Oceans stories along with a few fossil demonstrations for kids to touch and discover new textures. Thank you NC Museum of Natural Sciences, for transporting all participants into a world where the ocean was a lot bigger and had a whole lot more teeth.

June 22nd: Big Bang Boom: Music -

Time to get our dance shoes on and move every bone of our bodies, bust our best dance moves and rock the house to the rhythm of Big Bang Boom Band. Kids sang, danced, and even did the hokey-pokey and ended the day with a good book after all the moving around.

June 19th: Ms. Tracie's Fossil dig -

Fossil Dig was a hit! Kid's dug into wonderful learning adventures about a world from a million years ago.

July 6th: Katie's Ferret Business –

FERRET DAY with Miss Katie and her group of ferrets! Kids enjoyed petting the friendly Ferrets such as "Dump Truck and Pippy". Ms. Katie filled their brains with information about how they dig, wiggle, and even sometimes get the hiccups. A very fun learning experience that kids will not forget.

July 13th: Flirite Productions: Pirates –

Wendal Wandell, Flirite Productions performer, created a fun and educational performance centered around pirates and our Summer Reading Program theme of Oceans of Possibilities. The program included several interactive magic tricks that the kids participated in and included excerpts from books focusing on making differences into strengths and turning disabilities into abilities.

July 20th: Selma Fire Department: Fire Safety and the Fire Truck! –

Selma Fire Department taught the kids the basics about being a firefighter. They also looked at many cool things a fire truck carries. Towards the end of the day Kids got to cool off in this summer heat with the firehose. This was a fun way to beat the heat and have a "soaking" good time!

July 27th: Sylvan bird park -

For our last but not least week of the Summer Reading Program we welcomed Miss Julie from Sylvan Height Bird Park along with the highest-flying bird in the world, the Bar Headed Goose. Children learned much about this specific bird, and with the company of Miss Julie Connolly they also got to meet a Corn Snake and the meaning behind their name. We had a great closing with 122 children and 35 adults.

We appreciate all for participating. See the next page for some pictures!



The fun doesn't end here though - we'll be back doing children's programs in September, along with many other fun activities!

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

**SAFETY WEEK** – The Selma Police Department visited My Kids Club on July 21st for SAFETY WEEK. Sgt. Harris, Cpl. Tavarez, and Chief Thomas spoke to 50 kids about Public Safety and demonstrated how their police vehicles operate in emergency and non-emergency situations.





Robert Raetz



**David Hildreth** 



**Dante Scarboro** 

## Give a warm welcome to our newest members:

Robert Raetz comes to us from the Johnston County Sheriff's Office. Ofc. Raetz has 20 years of Law Enforcement experience along with military experience in the US Army. Ofc. Raetz will be assigned to the Patrol Division.

David Hildreth comes to us from the Harnett County Sheriff's Office. Det. Hildreth has over 20 years of Law Enforcement experience along with military experience in the US Marines Corp. Det. Hildreth will be assigned to the Detectives Division.

Dante Scarboro comes to us from the Smithfield Police Department. Scarboro will be assigned to the Patrol Division.

Thank you for joining the Selma Family!

# FIRE DEPARTMENT







Safety at Home – In June, the Selma Fire Department conducted smoke alarm testing. We are pleased to announce that it was a huge success. With the help of Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey, we were able to prevent fire deaths by going door-to-door to check homes for working smoke alarms. The State of NC installed more than 2,800 smoke alarms during this program.

Working smoke alarms save lives. Test smoke alarms monthly, change the batteries every year, and replace alarms that are more than 10 years old.

For more information about fire prevention, you may visit the website nfpa.org as well as reach out to our Fire Department for any questions regarding your smoke alarm at (919)965-2697 or email our Fire Chief at pmcdaniel@selma-nc.com.

**Selma Fireworks** – We would like to thank everyone who came out to enjoy the All-American Festival, and all the Town of Selma staff for working together to make this event safe and spectacular. Selma Fire Department set an extraordinary show of fireworks. We hope to see you all for an even better fireworks show next year for the Independence Day celebration.



New to the Town - Vernie Creech, owner of "Barn Shelter Antiques" grew up surrounded by antiques. He began collecting antiques at the age of 11 and hasn't stopped since. His dream has always been to own an antiques store and sell some items he has collected over the years. What he used to call a hobby has now become his career. He is the greatest fanatic of antiques but his most favorite item to collect is glass bottles. Mr. Creech is passionate about history, and he is excited to share this passion with everyone, including younger generations. He opened his doors on Wednesday, August 10th, with people visiting from approximately 100 miles away just to visit his new business; it was a big hit! Barn Shelter Antiques is open for business Monday - Saturday 10a.m. - 5p.m. and Sundays 1p.m - 5p.m. He is planning a grand opening in the month of September. Be on the look out for this great event! Let's all give Mr. Creech and his family a warm welcome to the Town of Selma and explore his great items in Barn Shelter Antiques.





## New to the Team



THE CROSS

Kelly Blanchard will serve as the Community Engagement Coordinator for the Town of Selma. In this role, she leads the strategic development of communications between all departments within the Town of Selma and will use engagement strategies to build suitable relations with community organizations and leaders. Mrs. Blanchard oversees the growth and organization of Selma Railroad Days Festival and JoCo Latino Festival. Kelly is a graduate of Meredith College, co-owner of Genuine Plumbing Company, LLC and currently serves on the Parents Advisory Committee for the Partnership for Children of Johnston County, Legal Aide Advisory Board. She previously worked for Johnston County Department of Social Services and served as President of the Junior Women's League of Smithfield, Community Action Committee (CAC), Housing Committee, and other community organizations.



Selma Railroad Days will be "All Aboard! For the 47th Annual Selma Railroad Days Festival, in Downtown Selma, NC Friday, October 7th, Saturday, October 8th, and Sunday, October 9th. Selma Railroad Days is a unique festival that allows railfans of all ages to see, learn, and celebrate the history of the railway and its importance to the Town of Selma. Railfans can shop till they drop on Raiford Street, Chew Chew till their engines are full at food trucks and dance the day and night away with live entertainment all three days and more! The new parade route will start at 115 W. Anderson Street Selma, where KS Bank is located. It will continue along W. Anderson Street, turning left at the intersection with Webb Street. The parade will continue along N. Webb Street, in front of the Kidszone, ending at N. Webb Street and W. Elizabeth Street, just past the Selma Civic Center. The parade route is approximately 0.35 miles long. On-air radio personality Carly from Country Superstars 102.3, will provide a narration of the parade from the intersection of Anderson and Raiford Street. along the parade route. This is a live narration of the parade over the Country Superstars Facebook page and a loudspeaker to the crowd gathered on the route (not a live broadcast over the radio channels). Visit <a href="https://selma-nc.com/programs/parks-rec/">https://selma-nc.com/programs/parks-rec/</a>, to learn more about the 47th Annual Selma Railroad Days Festival.

Selma Firefighters Association Railroad Days BBQ Cook-Off and Sandwiches sale will be on October 7th, 2022. Teams will cook pork butts on the 7th and prepare them for sale by 5:00 p.m. A taster choice competition will begin at 5:30 p.m. For \$5 you can taste and judge all team's BBQ. BBQ Sandwiches are for sale from 5:30 p.m. until sold out.

This year we will be adding a Rib Competition. The entry fee is \$20.00 and is separate from the BBQ entry. Contestants will PROVIDE THEIR OWN RACK OF RIBS. Turn-in your entry for rib judging by 5 p.m.

To request a registration form email firechief@selma-nc.com. All registration forms and payments must be returned by September 30th. You can mail forms and payment to 201 N Webb St, Selma NC 27576, or drop

Selma Firefighters Association 2022 Railroad Days Downtown Selma October 7, 2022 **LGEFCU** Cookoff begins Friday morning 5:30pm - Tasters Choice Competition All BBQ Teams Welcomed! BBQ Team Entry - \$40 Champions awarded at 8pm Register at Selma Fire Station

All Aboard! Next stop

7th, 8th & 9th!

then of the personal Laboratory of the Registration of the next Selma Railroad Days Queen? The Selma Railroad Days Pageant takes place September 24, 2022, prior to the Selma Railroad Days Festival, crowning the Miss Railroad Days and the Court. Once crowned, these five young ladies will serve as ambassadors for the Town of Selma at various events throughout the year! Contestants must be 4-20 years of age and reside within a 20-mile radius of Johnston County. Age Division (all ages as of 9/24/22): PRESENTING

Tiny Miss Railroad Days: ages 4-6 Little Miss Railroad Days: ages 7-9 Junior Miss Railroad Days: ages 10-12 Teen Miss Railroad Days: ages 13-16 Miss Railroad Days: ages 17-20 Contestant Fee: \$100.00

Registration Deadline: Thursday, August 25, 2022

Pageant Night: Saturday, September 24, 2022

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** The Rudy Theater

300 N Raiford St, Selma, NC 27576

**Admission:** \$12.00

If you have questions or would like to purchase tickets you can contact Nanda Jones or Kelly Blanchard at pageant@selma-nc.com.





The Miss Hispanic Heritage Johnston County Pageant is seeking contestants.

APPLICATION DEADLINE 8.25.22

LIVE@THE

For more information contact the Town of Selma Parks and Recreation Department at 919-975-1411 afox@selma-nc.com or Sola Creations at 919-351-0120 solacreations@icloud.com.

## **June Meetings**

#### **Regular Council Agenda Review**

Sept 08, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oct 06, 2022

Jernigan Building – 110 E. Anderson Street

#### **Regular Town Council Meeting**

Sept 13, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oct 11, 2022

Jernigan Building - 110 E. Anderson Street

#### **Tourism Committee**

Sept 8, 2022 @ 8:30 a.m.

Oct 13, 2022

Jernigan Building – 110 E. Anderson Street

#### **Historic Properties Commission**

Sept 7, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oct 13, 2022

Jernigan Building - 110 E. Anderson Street

#### **Recreation Advisory Board**

Sept 20, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oct 18, 2022

Jernigan Building – 110 E. Anderson Street

#### **Appearance Commission**

Sept 15, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oct 20, 2022

Jernigan Building – 110 E. Anderson Street

#### **Planning Board**

Sept 26, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oct 24, 2022

Jernigan Building – 110 E. Anderson Street

## **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

# ROCKIN' ON RAIFORD

#### **2022 DATES:**

August 25<sup>th</sup> – Jim Quick &

Coastline

Sponsored by: Selma

Jewelry

September 15<sup>th</sup> – The

**Switch** 

Sponsored by: Johnston

**Smiles** 

BAND PLAYS



## **Town Contacts**

Town Hall ------ 919-965-9841
Utilities/Customer Service ------ 919-202-8315
Cemetery Sales ------ 919-202-8315
Planning ----- 919-965-3278
Human Resources ----- 919-965-7142
Public Works ----- 919-965-2244
Police ----- 919-965-2697
Parks & Recreation ----- 919-965-8613

After Hours / Weekend Non-Emergency Calls

919-934-9411

For Utilities and Police Non-Emergency