

Week of February 23, 2009:

- I am continuing to look at office space options for the Public Defender's office after the Planning & Inspections office moves into the former Tax Office space in the Courthouse. I met with another owner of office space in the downtown area this week so that we can compare options and prices. I will have a recommendation for the Board to consider in the near future.
- I have been working on the budget update all week to cut at least \$260,000 from the current budget so that it will be balanced at the end of the fiscal year. The Department Heads have done a great job by suggesting creative solutions to our current budget situation. We will have plenty of options for the Board to consider at Monday's meeting.
- I attended the OLF meeting at COA on Tuesday. The Navy had asked to meet with the Board of Trustees and senior staff from COA. President Bunch also invited the county managers.
- I spoke to a class at Pasquotank County High School on Tuesday about the County budget. The class was very timely since there was an article in that morning's paper about the effect of the budget cuts on the school system.
- I attended the Oxford Heights community watch meeting on Wednesday to discuss drainage and the clearing and snagging that the County has done over the last four years. There was a very good discussion about drainage and the Knobbs Creek study that we have done.
- I was the speaker for a meeting on Thursday that was hosted by the Pasquotank County Farm Bureau and attended by approximately 50 farmers and businessmen. The topic was "Progress in Pasquotank County". Commissioners Stevenson, Trueblood and Griffin were also in attendance as well as Rodney Bunch.
- Our application for \$3 million in stimulus money for the 24" water line project was submitted yesterday to the State. This will link the new R.O. Plant to the existing 16" water line on Halstead Blvd.
- Attached is the most recent Occupancy Tax Report.

The following are reports from some of our other departments:

Finance Office:

The Finance Office received \$23,678.69 from the North Carolina Department of Revenue's debt setoff program on February 20. Included in this amount was \$6,290.27 for delinquent EMS bills. The next notification of debts setoff will be on March 6th. The County currently has \$960,437 in delinquent accounts in the setoff program. EMS delinquent bills amount to approximately \$200,000 of the total. During the week of March 9th we will be sending approximately \$700,000 in delinquent tax bills.

PASQUOTANK-CAMDEN LIBRARY:

- The library is pleased to announce that we have received the following grants:
 - Albemarle Electric Membership Corp. - \$3,646.98 to purchase non-fiction children and reference books.
 - Picturing America – is a initiative from the National Endowments of the Humanities in collaboration with the American Library Association to bring masterpieces of American Art into classrooms and libraries. The library will receive forty (40) high-quality color reproductions of selected works of art spanning several centuries by American painters, sculptors, photographers, and architects.
- The library has purchased twenty (20) computers and two (2) network printers for the public to use from the Bill & Melinda Gates Grant that we received last year. The Pasquotank-Camden Library Trust Fund provided matching funds for the grant.

Stats for Feb. 20 – 26, 2009

- Total Items checked out = 4,327
- Total Patrons visiting the library = 3,445
- Average number of patrons per day = 575
- Total Library Cards Issued and Renewed = 91

Volunteer Fire Department Coordinator:

Attached are some pictures of the Weeksville truck that is under construction. I was contacted by Bobby Johnson about a change in the Weeksville truck. As you see by the pictures the fuel tank is below the drivers door and they have black steps. We were asked if we would accept that. It was specified that the fuel tank would be under the rear of the apparatus and the steps would be diamond tread plate. We told them any issues should be corrected there. It should be as the specifications indicate. General Motors finally agreed to take the truck back and make the necessary correction. The truck chassis will go back and will be another week returning to the Alexis Fire Equipment plant.

Randy Keaton
P.O Box 39
Elizabeth City, NC 27907-0039
252.335.0865 (phone)
252.335.0866 (fax)
keatonr@co.pasquotank.nc.us