

## **Week of August 24, 2009:**

- I attended the TCOM demonstration of their new 74 meter aerostat on Tuesday. This new contract for the Army is a joint venture between TCOM and Raytheon. Pasquotank County provided economic incentives to assist with the new building that is being used to construct the ground system for the new aerostats.
- I attended the public hearing that was held by DOT for the Elizabeth Street project. Members of the public were shown the area to be impacted by the project as well as timelines for construction. The project will include rebuilding a portion of Elizabeth St. and replacing the eastbound bridge over the Pasquotank River. Right-of-Way acquisition is scheduled to begin in 2011 with construction to begin in 2013.
- I travelled to Raleigh on Tuesday night after the joint City-County meeting for a meeting on Wednesday with the 911 Study Commission. We are making good progress on recommending expanded uses of the 911 surcharge money. In general, the Study Commission has agreed that the surcharge money should be used for any equipment related to receiving and dispatching the call up to and including the broadcast tower. We have another meeting scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup> and which point, we will begin writing the report for the General Assembly.
- This week has been busy with providing additional information for the Local Government Commission for our Revenue Bond issue for the R.O. Plant. We have provided them with additional projections and Hobbs Upchurch has updated the Agreed Upon Procedures letter that was required by the LGC. The bond issue is on the LGC agenda for next Tuesday and closing on the bond is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- I met with representatives from the Administrative Office of the Courts this week regarding the lease for Probation and Parole office space. The State will no longer pay for office space for regular probation officers, however, we will be paid for office space needed for the District Administrator. I will have a lease proposal for the Board to review at the next meeting.
- We have the new population numbers for the County and the City. The overall population increased by 298 to 41,178. The City population increased by 130 to 19,919. The unincorporated population increased by 168 to 21,259. This is a smaller increase than we have had in recent years.
- Attached is the Occupancy Tax report for July. We are down 10% compared to last July.
- It was reported today that counties will receive the Lottery money that the Governor withheld back in the spring to balance the State budget. The amount that was withheld from Pasquotank County was \$135,375. We are supposed to get the money next week. This will almost offset the money that the State took from us in Beer and Wine tax and the \$18/day in jail payments.

## **The following are reports from some of our other departments:**

### **BOARD OF ELECTIONS:**

The State Board of Elections appointed Michele E. Aydtlett and William T. Skinner as the two Democrat board members. Ramona D. Gilbert was appointed as the Republican board member. All members have taken their oath of office. The Pasquotank County Board of Elections met on Thursday, August 27, 2009, at 8:00 a.m. to organize and elect officers. Michele E. Aydtlett was nominated as Chairman and Ramona D. Gilbert as Secretary; vote having been unanimous. William Skinner remains as board member.

The Board members and staff will be attending mandated State Board Training on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will depart for Raleigh on Monday, August 31, 2009. The Board of Elections office will be closed during this time. Staff will be back in the office on Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Board will be conducting Poll Worker Training on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> for the 2009 Municipal Election.

### **Volunteer Fire Department Coordinator:**

We are now in a new budget year and thank the Board for allowing there to be money for state grants and for my position. All departments were approved for their state grant requests. We began shopping for best prices on equipment and making needed purchases of such items as radios and pagers to meet the new narrow band mandate. Other items included new fire hose to be standardized to work with other surrounding departments and new fire gear to replace old unsafe non-compliant gear.

This month I began submitting compliance reports for each department to the Office of State Auditor for the 2008 state fire grants.

During July second quarter fire reports are submitted to the state and each department's insurance needs are reviewed for renewal of their policies for the next fiscal year.

Weeksville has been working on their new squad truck installing equipment to make the wisest use of compartment space to carry the most equipment. They have been conducting annual hose and pump tests in preparation for their re-inspection which will be in August.

You may notice in the incident numbers Providence members were kept busy during July. Six of those incidents occurred during the severe storm on July 17.

I met with both Inter-County and Providence at each of their regular business meetings during the month. I responded to one call with Weeksville and Nixonton but thankfully for the residents the reported electrical fire was handled quickly. I attended training in the emergency operations center provided by Emergency Management.

Here is a summary of the incidents the departments responded to and training hours for the month of July.

#### Nixonton

- 1 Vehicle accident with injury
- 4 Calls cancelled enroute
- 1 Electrical problem
- 1 Medical assist
- 1 Smoke scare
- 1 False alarm unintentional
- 33 man hours on incidents
- 68 man hours on training

#### Weeksville

- 1 Vehicle accident
- 1 Vehicle accident with injury
- 1 Electrical problem
- 1 Reported explosion
- 1 Public assistance call
- 1 Structure fire
- 1 False alarm malfunction
- 45 man hours on incidents
- 130 man hours on training

#### Providence

- 1 Vehicle accident with injury
- 5 Controlled burns
- 2 Calls cancelled enroute
- 1 Electrical problem
- 1 Brush fire
- 2 Lightning strikes
- 1 Power pole fire

3 Smoke scares  
3 Alarm system malfunctions  
1 False alarm unintentional  
1 No incident found  
114 man hours on incidents  
274 man hours on training

Newland  
1 Vehicle accident  
2 Vehicle accidents with injury  
3 Calls cancelled enroute  
1 Vehicle fire  
1 Brush fire  
1 Lightning strike  
2 Structure fires  
81 man hours on incidents  
62 man hours on training

### **Cooperative Extension:**

#### Agriculture

The annual farm tour was held on yesterday. Farmers noted over 40 soybean varieties and nearly 30 corn varieties.

The corn harvest has just begun. There have already been 4 yield checks over 200 bu./acre.

Some cabbage will have to be replanted due to the flooding that occurred near Body road 2 weeks ago.

#### Family and Consumer Sciences

1 parenting series was completed which encompassed 6 hours of instruction

2 food preservation classes for 9 participants were held.

2 Medicare D seniors saved \$300 dollars/month as a result of the individual counseling session

4 EFNEP home visits were made on Drinking choices and what's for dinner

Visits were made with the Dept. of Social Serv. For 5 participants

#### 4-H and youth

The 100 year celebration was held last Saturday at the Livestock Arena. Over 150 attended the event.

#### Other

The extension advisory council met during the week. Our area representative from Edenton, Jack Parker met with the group.

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