



Town of Holly Ridge

Mayor's Message



OCTOBER 14TH, 2024

Happy Columbus/Indigenous people Day! Today, we reflect on the spirit of exploration and discovery that marked a turning point in history. As we commemorate this day, let's also acknowledge the diverse cultures and rich histories that shape our world. May this day inspire a deeper understanding of our shared past and a commitment to a more inclusive future. We continue looking forward to the natural growth of our town and providing the infrastructure and support systems required for our citizens.

1. Last week, with the help of the staff, council members, police departments, and the Absolute Moving and Storage Company, a full trailer load of support was sent to the Western North Carolina relief staging area in Winston-Salem. The area's support and contributions were incredible.



2. Last week, we began our weekly toddler time in addition to family connection. This is a reminder about today's weekly toddler time, 10-12. Family Game Night, Teen Night, and Kids Night Out are scheduled. Please see the town's Facebook page and website for these and other events. The staff Audrey Madia, Rachael Greene, and Jynette Brogden are doing a fantastic job.
3. Councilman Hines is a member of the ONWASA board. As I am sure you know, with the planned growth of our town, we need infrastructure improvement, water, sewer, roads, schools, medical facilities, better EMS and fire, etc. The Council, the town staff, and I are looking at all aspects of our challenges. Councilman Hines and I met with the ONWASA CEO and the ONWASA board chairman of ONWASA Commissioner Bennett to discuss the future of water and sewer. There are many planned improvements to the sewer system in various locations over the next few years to support commercial and residential growth. We invited them to make a public presentation during the November council meeting on November 12.

4. We have received questions regarding disaster and emergency management. The internet outage and what happened in Western North Carolina highlight the need for the public to better understand emergency management and the communication process during disasters, which needs to be multichannel in case regular communication is unavailable. The town staff are working on this.
5. We are still seeking to fill the open position in the Council. The application period is closed, and the Council will select the council person during this week's October 16th meeting.
6. Thanks again to those who stopped by during office hours to discuss their questions and concerns. I will continue office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 5 to meet with the citizens. I welcome your visit and chat. You are always welcome to email or call me.
7. I look forward to your participation in council meetings; our October Regular Meeting is rescheduled for Wednesday, October 16, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. We will also have a council public work session on October 22 at 6:00 p.m. Please attend to understand the Council, Mayor, and town manager roles and responsibilities better and hear the discussion of our vision, strategic plan, and time-based action planning. You are more than welcome to participate and make public comments at any of our meetings.
8. Mark your calendars for the November 12 council meeting. The ONWASA CEO and Royce Bennett Onslow, country commissioner, will give a special presentation. It is a public meeting.

Please feel free to contact pparnian.hollyridge@gmail.com

Mayor Pete Parnian