



Town of Holly Ridge

Mayor's Message



NOVEMBER 11TH, 2024

Happy Veterans Day – This Veterans Day, we honor the brave men and women who have served our country in any of the services with courage and dedication. Their sacrifices have protected our freedoms and shaped the nation we live in today. Let us take a moment to express our profound gratitude for their service and for supporting all veterans, past and present. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our country. If you see a veteran, please thank them for their service.

1. Yesterday was also the United States Marines' Birthday – A fantastic service to our country since November 10, 1775. We have a lot of active and retired marines in our town, county, and surrounding communities. We wish them the best birthday and thank them for their unwavering commitment to our country. If you are not aware, our county has one of the largest marine populations in the country.
2. As a result of the election last Tuesday, we have two new Commissioners on the Onslow County Board. Mr. John Davis, the current mayor of Swansboro, and Mr. Tony Padgett will be serving new terms. As I have previously mentioned, we look forward to close collaboration with all members of the county leadership. On behalf of the town, I attended the commissioner's meeting on Monday, and I will continue to meet there on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. We have gotten very positive commitment and support from all commissioners in supporting Holly Ridges's needs in the following areas:
 - a. EMS support
 - b. School system plans
 - c. Transportation, parks & recreation
 - d. Infrastructure support
 - e. County Strategic Plan Components Impacting Us

Although we are a small portion of the county's 200K population at 5400, we are one of the fastest growing areas and an important part of the county. I have asked the county manager or his team to give us a brief overview during the December Council meeting, and he graciously accepted.

3. Don't forget the Toddler Time on Mondays at 10–12 a.m. and Senior Gathering on Wednesdays 9–11 a.m.
4. We had an excellent opportunity to have an open meeting last Thursday 4–7 p.m. to discuss our Park Plan. If you missed it, you can attend the next meeting in January.
5. We had our kickoff meeting with the Marketing, Branding, and Political Connection committees. We appreciate the volunteers and look forward to their contribution and support to help our growth and consistent communication with outside entities.

6. The Bee committee met on Thursday. They will be hosting a Bee Buddies event on Wednesday, November 13th from 6:30-7:30pm at the Community Center. This will be a free educational event for the whole community.
7. We continue seeking community volunteers to help us with grant application writing. It is critical to our town, and we appreciate anyone with any proposal development and grant writing background who can help us, give advice, and support our needs.
8. The tree-lighting ceremony is coming up! This will take place on December 7th, 2024 and will be part of the Holly Ridge Annual Hometown Christmas event. Flyers will be posted this week with all event details!
9. Several events are going on during the next couple of months. All are posted to the town we page, but here is a summary:
 - a. Friday, November 15, 2024 – Teen Night hosted by the Town of Holly Ridge Parks and Recreation Department beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center.
 - b. Wednesday, November 20, 2024 – Family Game Night hosted by the Town of Holly Ridge Parks and Recreation Department beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Center. It is a Free Event.
 - c. Every Monday Through December 16, 2024 – The New Toddler Time Program begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Center. It is a Free Event.
 - d. Thursday, November 28, 2024 & Friday, November 29, 2024 – Administrative Offices Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving.
10. I will continue office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 4 this week to meet with the citizens. I welcome your visit and chat. You are always welcome to email or call me.
11. We look forward to your participation in our council meetings. We will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. We will have some public hearings and some additional items. We always welcome citizen comments. Please keep an eye out for the agenda on our website. November 12 Public Council Meeting, we will have special presentations by The ONWASA CEO, Mr. Frank Howard, County Commissioner Mr. Royce Bennett Onslow and chairman of ONWASA Board and VP of the Jacksonville Economic Development Organization, Mr. Mark Sutherland, who will present Phase III for the Camp Davis development.

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

Mayor Pete Parnian