



Town of Holly Ridge

Mayor's Message



JANUARY 27, 2025

Hi everyone

It has been an interesting week, with cold and snow impacting our area. We are blessed that we had no serious events other than two days of closures impacting work and services. I realize it has been a difficult few days for everyone; it has also impacted citizens differently due to closures and various job situations, but we are out of the crisis with better weather. Hopefully, all the snow will melt by now, and we can return to normal. So, not much has happened during the past week. Most meetings and Town activities were rescheduled considering the Monday holiday and the two to three days of closures. Thanks for your patience. The Town Council, Town staff, and I, send prayers for all our citizens. Here are a few updates from the past week and what is coming up this week.

1. During the snow and cold, we received a lot of questions and concerns regarding snow and ice removal. I mentioned in my message, and I would like to repeat, that we do not have snow and ice removal equipment due to the infrequent nature of this type of weather in our area. The equipment would be fairly expensive and remain unused for most of the year, maybe the whole year. We certainly hope this is not a repeating change in the weather pattern, and if it happens again, we will discuss purchasing equipment. Having been in contact with other Mayors, we are not alone in dealing with this challenge, and most of the eastern part of the state had similar challenges.
2. The Town Council, Town Manager and I will continue collaborating with various external entities regarding school, EMS & Fire, ONWASA, and Transportation. As mentioned in the past, our Town Council members, Town Manager, and I contact outside leaders to advocate for our needs. As we make progress, we will continue to keep you informed.
3. The second survey for the Master Municipal Park Plan went live last week. We received 24 survey responses from the most recent public input session, and those results will be manually entered. Please feel free to use [this link](#).
4. Based on our responses, the Town Council will vote on the Land Use Committee's creation and appointment of nominees. Now that the ordinance changes have been completed, the land use plan is one of the goals we set for this fiscal year.
5. We continue to work on the long-range planning for our Town. The Town Council, Town Staff, and I will have a Strategic Planning Public Session on the 6th and 7th of next month to set the mission, vision, focus areas, objectives, and initiatives for the

next 5-7 years. These are public sessions. These sessions are public for viewing only, not for participation. The results will be presented to the public through Town Hall sessions to get feedback and adjust accordingly. Those would be the times for participation and citizen input.

6. In the past few months, we have introduced to the citizens new businesses that have started in our town, such as Fusion Blue and Fishmongers Restaurants, in addition to the portfolio of great businesses in our village. We continue to grow our business base to provide better services to our community. This expansion will continue, and we will keep you posted. We want to take the opportunity to introduce a new business that will be starting shortly in Holly Ridge: Sanctum 1791

Sanctum 1791 offers various outdoor shooting amenities that cater to all skill levels. Just a few of the MANY Highlights include: 1)**Pistol and Rifle Range** featuring over 30 lanes, 25 yards long, equipped with partial coverage and lighting for year-round shooting; 2)**Tactical Range** extending 200 yards, complete with stadium lighting and a unique 180° moving shoot setup. 3)**Air Rifle Range** for youth aged seven and up, featuring eight bays for gallery-style shooting; 4) **15-Station Clay Course and Wobble** designed by renowned shooting architect Rick Hemingway, which spans 60 acres of our property and includes four throwers at each station; and 5) **Two-Level Five Stand** fully covered and equipped with night lighting and Friday night glow-in-the-dark clays, enhancing the shooting experience after sunset.

In addition to these amenities, Sanctum 1791 will host sport shooting leagues and competitions, all managed by their highly qualified and experienced Shooting Director, Marcee Finn, the highly qualified instructional team, and Assistant General Manager, Marc Toronto. (Great fact: along with Marc, their General Manager, Ryan Gilley; the Membership Director, Karen Burton; and the Food and Beverage Director, Brian Gribben, all reside in the Town of Holly Ridge). Please see more using [this link](#).

The Town Council members and I have mentioned other great businesses in our area through weekly social media updates and the town newsletter. We are fortunate that we continue to attract business and have an excellent commerce chamber in the area.

7. The Parks and Recreation staff will continue supporting the Pickleball schedule. Please continue to look at the town schedule or contact programs@hollyridge.org for any questions.
8. Please plan to attend the Bee Festival on April 26 starting at 10 AM. More updates on this later. It was a great success last year. Look forward to seeing you there.
9. As we continue this new year, I encourage our citizens to participate in our governance by attending meetings. I also look forward to serving you and continuing the lines of communication during office hours or appointments when convenient

for citizens. In doing so, I will continue to keep office hours. I will have office hours from 1–4 pm on Tuesday and Thursday. You are welcome to contact me at pparnian.hollyridge@gmail.com or call me at 336-865-0884

10. Upcoming events

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| 01/29/25 | 9:00 am | Senior Social Embroidery Class |
| 02/03/25 | 11:00 am | Onslow County Commissioners meeting |
| 02/06/25 | 9 am – 4 pm | Strategic Planning Workshop for the Town Council |
| 02/07/25 | 9 am—1 pm | Strategic Planning Workshop for the Town Council |
| 02/11/25 | 6:30 pm | Regular Town Council Meeting |

Mayor Pete Parnian