



STAFF REPORTS

March 2021 Regular Meeting

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Department News

With the initial phases of the COVID vaccine recently being released, the intent is for staff members to continue to telework if needed. Once Town staff have the opportunity to get the vaccine, working in the office will resume.

Within the IT department, progress continues with data input into the SmartSheet software program including the tracking of projects, adding work orders, and introducing the tracking for IT inventory. A vendor has been identified for the data installation at the Cultural Arts Center and will begin in March. Staff installed a soundbar in the Poplar conference room at the MOC and identified and resolved AV issues occurring in the Brunswick and Dogwood conference rooms in Town Hall.

Council Directive Updates

- Eastern NC Recovery and Resiliency Alliance – Mr. Brooks and Mr. Andrea have been working with Tony McEwan from the City of Wilmington, and a small group of other regional staff representatives as well as staff from several national organizations, on further developing priorities and action items for the Eastern NC Recovery and Resiliency Alliance. This informal alliance of local government leaders, including Mayor Bozeman, is working to advocate for greater attention and funding from the federal government for disaster recovery and resiliency priorities in southeastern NC.

Projects

Public Services

Lift Station #1 Replacement (1240 Magnolia Village Way)

- Purpose: To reconstruct Lift Station #1 which has deteriorated due to significant sewage flow within the collection system.
- Status: Construction is underway.
- Next Steps: The contractor is waiting on the generator and electrical components to be delivered and once delivered, the contractor will install the generator, electrical panels, and complete all electrical work. The contractor will provide a startup of the lift station and final sewer certification before the old lift station can be demolished. A Change Order to increase the contract time is being issued due to the delays in ordering the generator and electrical components for the lift station.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Regional Pump Station #33 and Force Main Extensions (Formerly Hewett Burton Lift Station Project)

- Purpose: To construct a sewer lift station in Brunswick Forest to help serve the developing areas within Brunswick Forest and along the Highway 17 Corridor with sewer. Station will be designed to accept additional flow from other lift stations by force main.
- Status: Construction is substantially complete.
- Next Steps: The contractor has completed the Lift Station #33 site. The Final Sewer Certification was submitted to the state and the lift station is fully operational. Next steps are for the contractor to complete NCDOT punch list items and conduct a final walkthrough of the project.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Leland Highway 17 Sewer Expansion II Phase 2 (Formerly Old Town Creek Lift Station Project)

- Purpose: To help serve the developing areas along the Highway 17 Corridor with sewer. The project will begin at Bishops Ridge and end at Old Town Creek Road. The Lift Station on Old Town Creek Road will be designed to accept gravity sewer flow from around the area as well as additional flow from other lift stations.
- Status: Construction is underway. The contractor cleared the new lift station site and installation is underway on the wet well.
- Next Steps: Contractor will begin laying the force main along Old Town Creek Road in mid to late March. A road closure of Old Town Creek Road is anticipated for March/April as the contractor open cuts the road to lay both the force main and gravity sewer lines.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Old Fayetteville Road Multi-Use Path (STP-DA U-5534D)

- Purpose: To develop a roadside multi-use path along the north side of Old Fayetteville Road from Town Hall Drive to North Brunswick High School.
- Status: Construction is underway.
- Next Steps: The contractor has relocated two sections of H2GO water main and is continuing to lay storm drainpipe and install concrete for the curb and gutter along Old Fayetteville Road.
- Concerns: Installed curb elevations are being reviewed and may need to be modified pending Engineer and NCDOT review.

2014 STP-DA Projects U5534 (I, J, K)

- Purpose: To construct a sidewalk along Old Fayetteville Road from Ricefield Branch to Leland Middle School, a multi-use path extension along Village Road from the Brunswick County Senior Center to Sturgeon Creek, and a sidewalk loop from Town Hall Drive down Village and Old Fayetteville Roads.
- Status: Contractor is delayed on starting work due to their Surveyor not being on the NCDOT prequalification list. SEPI Engineering is working with the contractor to identify a surveyor. Additionally, the contractor still has not submitted their Subcontractor Approval Forms (SAFs) and their subs will not be allowed to commence work until those are submitted and approved.
- Next Steps: Contractor to perform clearing and grading and begin site work.
- Concerns: Temporary construction easements ending June 30, 2021 will need to be extended.

Kay Todd Road Utilities

- Purpose: To provide water and sewer in Brunswick Forest to help serve the developing areas within Brunswick Forest and along Kay Todd Road.
- Status: Installation of sanitary sewer and water mains is currently underway. Contractor will be making the turn on Kay Todd Road with the sewer line in mid-March.
- Next Steps: Contractor to continue sanitary sewer construction along Kay Todd Road.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Brunswick Village Boulevard Extension

- Purpose: To extend Brunswick Village Boulevard across Kay Todd Road, past Regional Pump Station #33 to Hewett-Burton Road.
- Status: Project is in design and permitting. It is anticipated the design will be completed in April/May 2021 and the project will be bid in the early summer.
- Next Steps: Finalize design plans and contract documents for advertisement and bid.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Brunswick Forest Parkway & Low Country Boulevard Intersection Improvements

- Purpose: To improve the intersection at Brunswick Forest Parkway and Low Country Boulevard, as well as restripe Brunswick Forest Parkway and Low Country Boulevard.
- Status: Formal bidding was held, but the Town only received two bids and are not able to proceed.
- Next Steps: Rebid the project for April Town Council approval.

- Concerns: Bids are inconsistent with the Engineer's estimate.

Operation Services

Leland Fire Station 51 – 1987 Andrew Jackson Hwy NE

- Purpose: Construction of a new Fire Station at the Municipal Operations Center at 1987 Andrew Jackson Highway NE.
- Status: Discussions for prelim site design/scope has begun and engineers and architects are working towards pre-construction design.
- Next Steps: Continue with design and permitting.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Leland Fire Station 53 – 187 Old Lanvale Road

- Purpose: Construction and upfit of existing satellite fire station.
- Status: Currently working on finalizing architectural plans. Civil engineering/permitting/site design work in progress and nearing completion. Prelim estimates have been completed for 2-story design. Based on initial figures, the Town has requested estimates on constructing a 1-story design. The interior has been demoed to allow for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design.
- Next Steps: Discuss and compare both budget estimates and arrive at a decision on design before moving forward into the construction phase of the contract.
- Concerns: Project cost that exceeds current budget.

1987 Andrew Jackson Highway (Municipal Operations Center)

- Purpose: Up-fit property and facilities to support Town operations.
- Status: Move in complete in the office and warehouse. Site Master Plan completed.
- Next Steps: Currently working on a number of small projects such as lighting upgrades, storm drain updates, warehouse vent fans, warehouse bay doors, and fencing. Working with Atlantic Coast Survey to stake driveways, roads, and new fence line in preparation of opening yard debris site.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Emergency Watershed Protection – Stream Clearing

- Purpose: Snag and Drag/Stabilization of four streams in Leland that have debris buildup due to Hurricane Florence.
- Status: RFQ responses received and Grillot Construction was the firm chosen for the project.

- Next Steps: Finalize and officially award contract to Grillot, conduct project kickoff meeting, and discuss project timeline.
- Concerns: Feedback from property owners has been mixed, with several owners objecting to the Town accessing their property.

Sturgeon Creek Park

- Purpose: Phased park development of property located off of South Navassa Road at Sturgeon Creek.
- Status: WithersRavenel is working on a Brownfield Study.
- Next Steps: WithersRavenel to complete Brownfield Study. Finalize acquisition of key waterfront property.
- Concerns: Funding for park project once study has been completed and acquisition of house/land on park property.

Founders Park Improvements

- Purpose: Phase 1A and 1B park improvements that would include walking paths, play areas, picnic shelters, and an amphitheater.
- Status: Task order approved for McGill to proceed with engineering design of park site.
- Next Steps: Meet with McGill onsite, conduct project kickoff meeting, and begin discussing different elements of the park with plans to publish RFQ/RFP for design of vertical structures and play elements.
- Concerns: No concerns at this time.

Communications

Social Media Update

- Facebook Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2021)
 - Added 68 new page followers
 - Received 66 new page likes
 - Overall post reach – 7,865 (Increase of 49% from prior month)
 - Engagement (Number of people who liked, commented on, or shared a post) – 1,950
 - Top post (Largest reach): “The Town of Leland's contract for Town-wide monthly curbside recycling will expire June 30. Residents who would like to continue curbside recycling after June 30 can sign up for twice-monthly service directly through GFL or use the Brunswick County free recycling drop-off points. How to sign-up with GFL and drop-off locations are at the link below. <https://www.townofleland.com/faqs/curbside-recycling>”
- Twitter Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2021)
 - Impressions/Reach increased nearly 125% over the previous month to 3,044

- Received 221 new profile visits (Increase of 100 visits over prior month)
- Added 8 new followers
- Town of Leland was mentioned in Tweets from seven other Twitter users, including Visit NC, and Art League of Leland
- Top tweet (Largest reach): “The latest #BrunswickCounty data on #COVID19, plus info on vaccination appointments @BrunswickGovt @brunswickhealth <https://www.brunswickcountync.gov/alert-ticker/information-on-coronavirus/>”
- NextDoor Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2021)
 - Impressions/Reach – 18,956
 - Likes/Comments – 34
 - Top post (Largest reach): “Have you scheduled your COVID-19 vaccine appointment yet? If not, here are a few helpful bits of information and local vaccination updates from Brunswick County Government & Brunswick County Health and Human Services. www.brunswickcountync.gov/alert-ticker/information-on-coronavirus”

Website/Newsletter/Other

- Completed the design of marketing materials (i.e. refrigerator magnets and business cards) related to Leland 311. Created a [Leland 311 information page](#) on the Town of Leland website. Executed a social media campaign related to the launch of Leland 311.
- Reviewed municipal websites to gather information and ideas for improvements to the Town of Leland website.
- Reviewed the Town’s Brand Style Guide for potential updates to guidelines and restrictions as part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s upcoming rebranding effort.
- Assisted reporters with WECT and Port City Daily on stories related to Leland 311 and the Police Department’s CrimeMapping tool.

Press Releases/Blogs/FAQs/Media Coverage

- Blogs/press releases:
 - [Town to Transition Curbside Recycling](#) (press release and blog)
 - [COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#) (blog)
 - [Leland Police Respond to Suspicious Package](#) (press release)
 - [Fairview Road Closure](#) (blog post with additional updates)
 - [Leland Police Department Launches Community Crime Map](#) (press release and blog)
- North Brunswick Magazine - [CrimeMapping Comes to Leland](#)
- WECT
 - [Town of Leland to end its curbside recycling program](#)

- [The fastest-growing community in the state wants your opinion](#)
- WWAY
 - [Leland to end curbside recycling at end of June](#)
 - [New project in place to address Leland's rapid growth through 2045](#)
 - [Leland Arts Center holds Mug Madness](#)
 - [Leland police deem no public threat after responding to suspicious package](#)
 - [Leland Police Department launches community crime map](#)

TDA Marketing

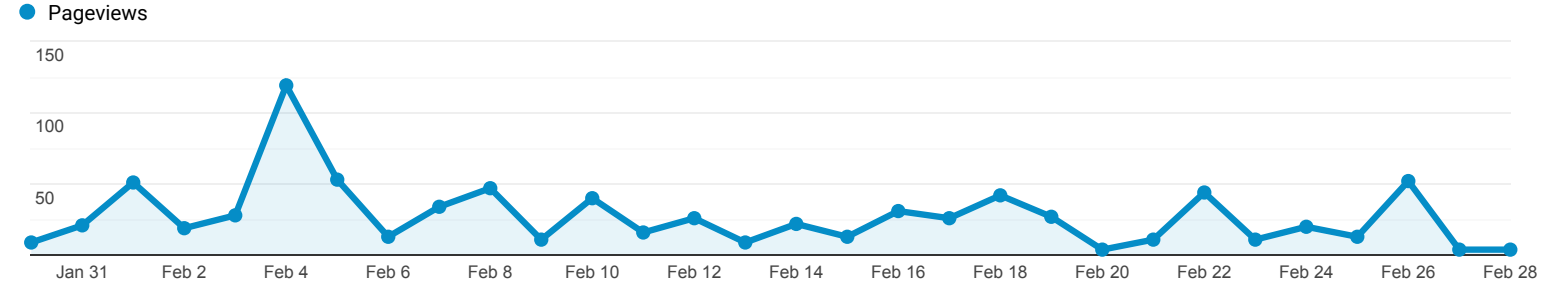
- Completed the video tour of Leland with CGI. Uploaded the tour to the new [LTDA website](#) (direct video tour link: https://www.elocallink.tv/m/v/player.php?pid=w7Qx8Ny72&fp=ncle20_wel_rev1_iwd)
- Continued review of professional photos and ad campaign ideas for upcoming print ad in *Our State* magazine.

Projects Page Report

Jan 30, 2021 - Feb 28, 2021

All Users
100.00% Pageviews

Explorer



This data was filtered using an **advanced filter**.

Page	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
	820 % of Total: 2.20% (37,272)	574 % of Total: 1.87% (30,626)	00:01:00 Avg for View: 00:01:52 (-46.71%)	104 % of Total: 0.55% (19,012)	50.00% Avg for View: 49.38% (1.26%)	19.39% Avg for View: 51.01% (-61.99%)	\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
1. /town-projects	279 (34.02%)	167 (29.09%)	00:00:33	17 (16.35%)	41.18%	10.39%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. /projects/future-town-projects	123 (15.00%)	108 (18.82%)	00:01:36	48 (46.15%)	56.25%	42.28%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. /town-projects?field_project_type_tid=&page=1	104 (12.68%)	61 (10.63%)	00:00:26	2 (1.92%)	50.00%	6.73%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. /projects/brunswick-forest-parkway-low-country-blvd-intersection-improvements	51 (6.22%)	38 (6.62%)	00:02:27	4 (3.85%)	100.00%	27.45%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. /projects/old-fayetteville-road-multi-use-path-stp-da-u-5534d	34 (4.15%)	24 (4.18%)	00:01:55	7 (6.73%)	42.86%	29.41%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. /projects/leland-highway-17-sewer-expansion-ii-phase-2-formerly-old-town-creek-lift-station-project	33 (4.02%)	21 (3.66%)	00:03:36	8 (7.69%)	25.00%	24.24%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. /projects/leland-fire-station-53	32 (3.90%)	25 (4.36%)	00:00:45	5 (4.81%)	0.00%	12.50%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. /projects/leland-fire-station-51	30 (3.66%)	25 (4.36%)	00:01:02	2 (1.92%)	50.00%	26.67%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. /projects/future-town-projects?page=1	22 (2.68%)	22 (3.83%)	00:00:46	1 (0.96%)	100.00%	45.45%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. /streets/roadwork-projects-updates	20 (2.44%)	17 (2.96%)	00:00:16	4 (3.85%)	75.00%	20.00%	\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 10 of 26

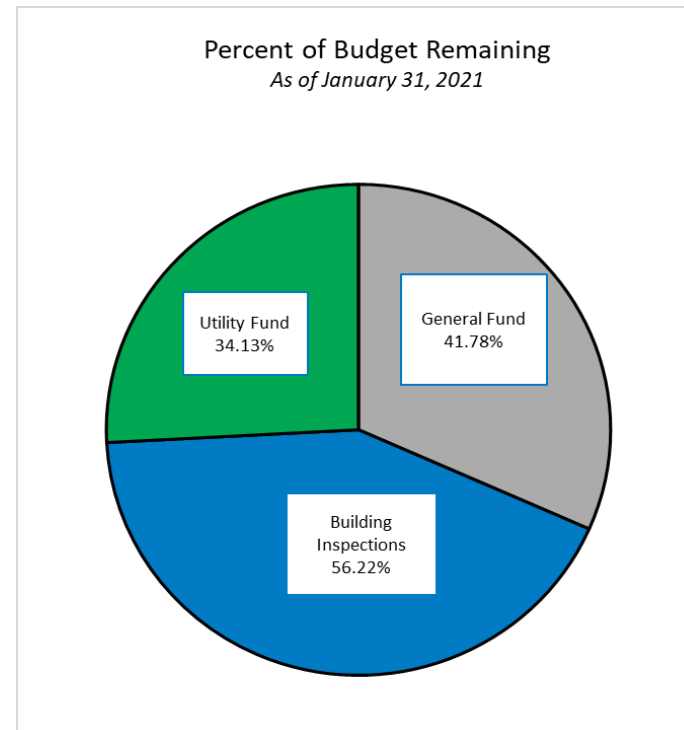
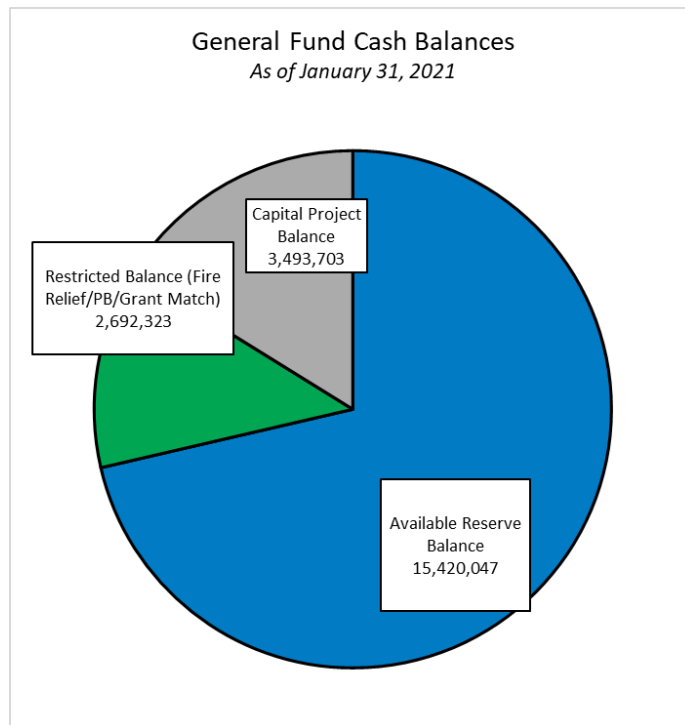
Department News

Finance staff continues to work with departments on preparation of the FY21/22 budget. Ms. Friedman virtually attended the NCCMT Region 3 Advisory Board Meeting. The department’s new program for accounts payable using AP Automation has had a successful transition for vendors and is improving efficiencies with vendor payments.

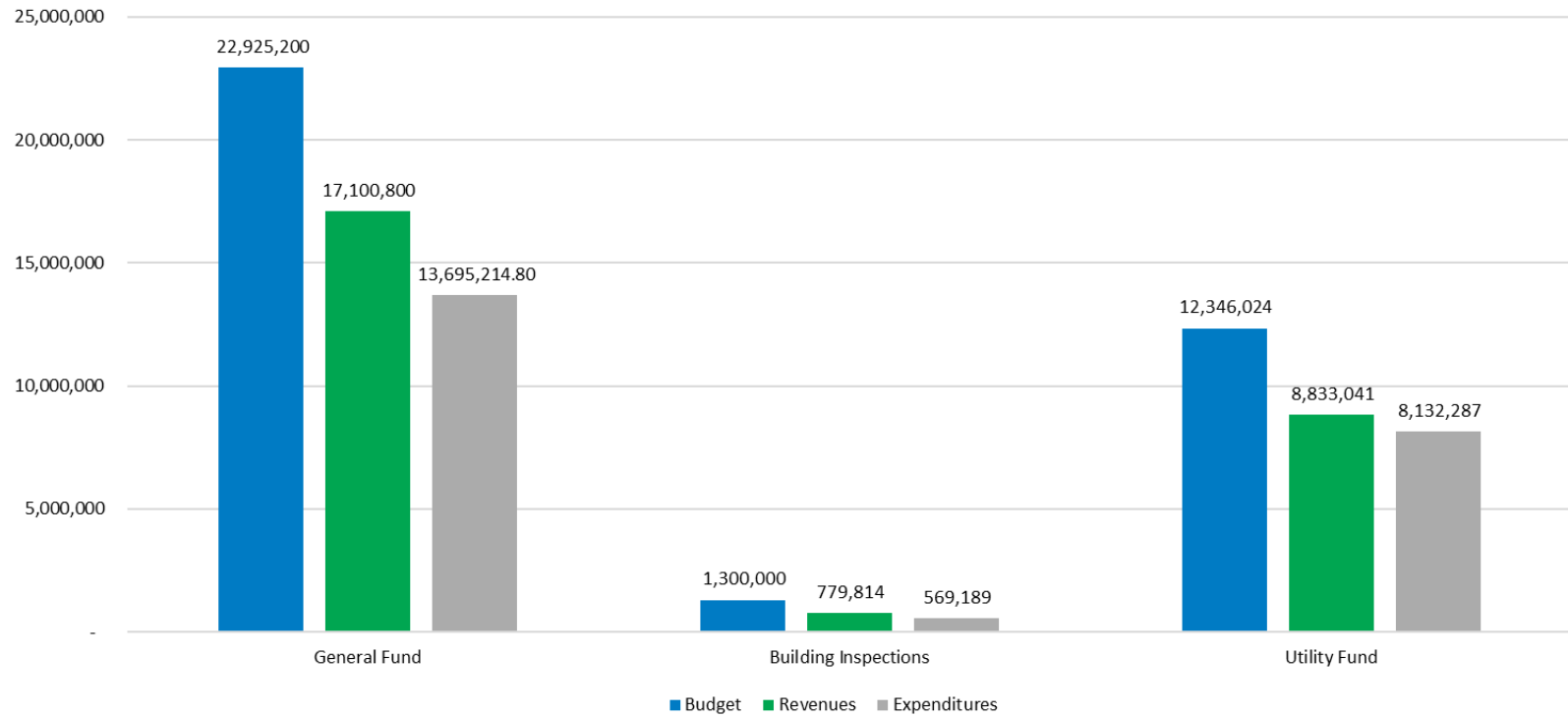
Audit Committee Meeting Summary

The Audit Committee did not meet in February, 2021.

Dashboard



Town of Leland Fiscal YTD Revenues & Expenditures
As of January 31, 2021



Financial Budget to Actual Report – January 31, 2021

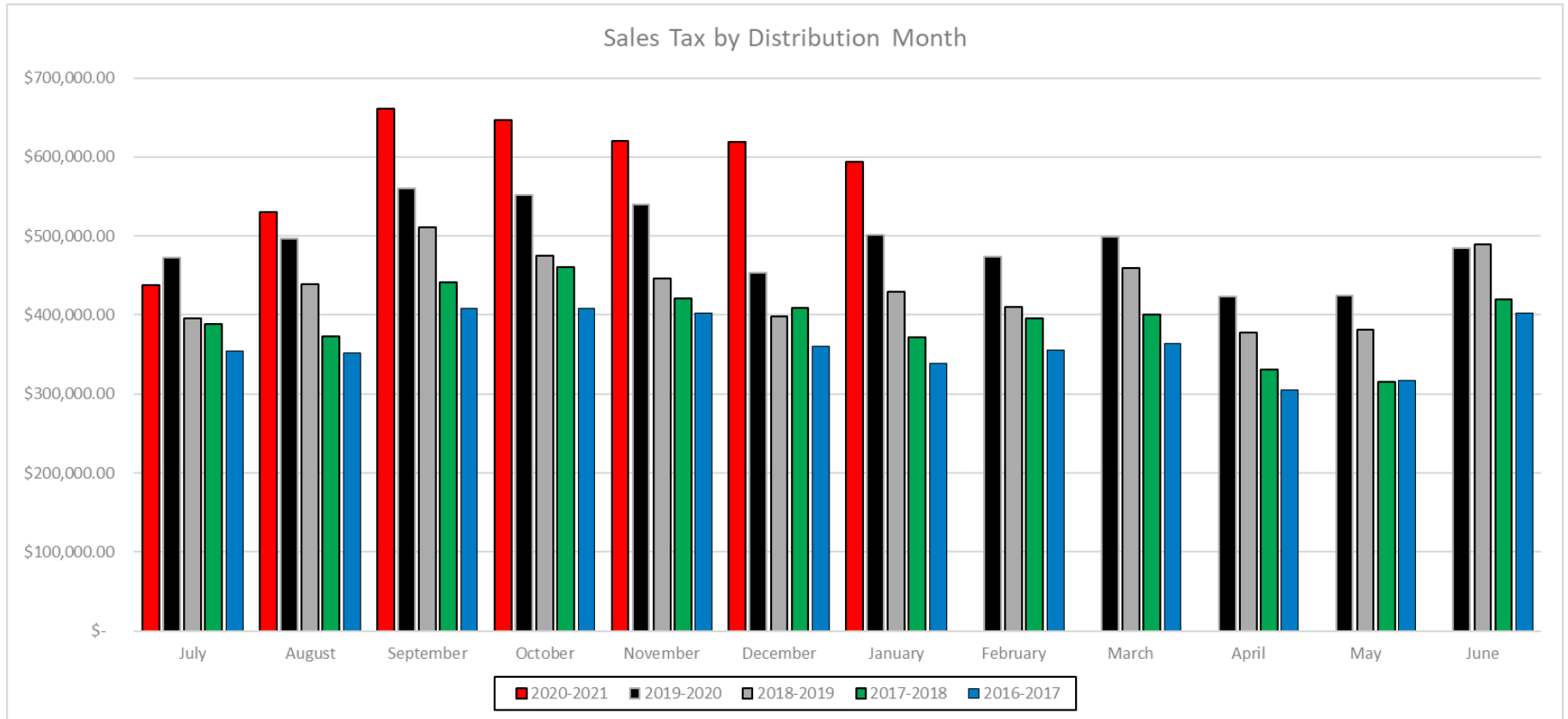
REVENUE							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
General Fund	20,680,000.00	23,200,200.00	3,724,900.87	17,100,800.16	-	(6,099,399.84)	26.29%
Building Inspections	1,300,000.00	1,300,000.00	129,221.66	779,813.67	-	(520,186.33)	40.01%
Utility Fund	8,000,000.00	12,346,024.35	551,333.09	8,833,041.07	-	(3,512,983.28)	28.45%
Report Total	29,980,000.00	36,846,224.35	4,405,455.62	26,713,654.90	-	(10,132,569.45)	27.50%

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
Governing Body	411,000.00	411,000.00	55,949.97	205,240.55	21,958.89	183,800.56	44.72%
Administration	1,187,000.00	1,187,000.00	88,198.88	708,367.13	3,302.89	475,329.98	40.04%
Information Technology	1,133,000.00	1,133,000.00	70,225.06	600,686.99	67,240.04	465,072.97	41.05%
Human Resources	314,000.00	314,000.00	20,147.06	153,858.23	10,812.63	149,329.14	47.56%
Finance	515,000.00	515,000.00	47,312.28	278,364.73	6,478.83	230,156.44	44.69%
Building Inspections	1,300,000.00	1,300,000.00	65,293.37	468,697.99	100,490.87	730,811.14	56.22%
Planning	740,000.00	740,000.00	57,949.92	295,421.83	154,616.04	289,962.13	39.18%
Economic Development	200,000.00	200,000.00	6,555.36	73,371.15	9,579.43	117,049.42	58.52%
P&R & Cultural Arts	1,220,000.00	1,220,000.00	47,272.85	326,971.14	44,341.16	848,687.70	69.56%
Grounds & Facilities	1,371,000.00	1,393,200.00	73,666.56	703,835.25	112,099.44	577,265.31	41.43%
Public Services	2,649,000.00	2,834,000.00	155,020.49	1,034,997.27	552,121.41	1,246,881.32	44.00%
Police	3,924,000.00	3,924,000.00	266,790.13	1,961,771.01	316,543.48	1,645,685.51	41.94%
Emergency Management	183,000.00	303,000.00	11,001.87	171,172.84	21,224.15	110,603.01	36.50%
Fire	4,698,000.00	4,726,000.00	235,922.54	2,412,689.78	159,322.72	2,153,987.50	45.58%
Debt Services	1,935,000.00	1,935,000.00	270,719.98	1,298,972.98	-	636,027.02	32.87%
Transfers	200,000.00	2,365,000.00	-	1,989,852.81	-	375,147.19	15.86%
General Fund	21,980,000.00	24,500,200.00	1,472,026.32	12,684,271.68	1,580,131.98	10,235,796.34	41.78%

UTILITY ENTERPRISE EXPENSES							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
Utility Fund	8,000,000.00	12,346,024.35	1,181,042.24	7,894,155.10	238,132.29	4,213,736.96	34.13%

FY Sales Tax Distribution – February, 2021

These amounts represent the month/year the Town received the funds from NCDOR.



Intradepartmental and Interdepartmental Budget Transfers – February, 2021

There were no transfers in February, 2021.

Grant News – February, 2021

Grants Awaiting Notification

- NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program – Contractor services for creating Resilience Strategy for the Town, \$30,000 average award (no match).
- Governor’s Crime Commission Byrne JAG – Agency weapons replacement, \$24,500 (no match).
- AFG FY20 – Mobile Air Compressor for SCBA cylinders, \$145,000 (10% match).

Grants Awarded

- N/A

Grants Not Awarded

- N/A

Purchase Orders Issued by the Town Manager in Excess of \$50,000 – February, 2021

There were no Purchase orders issued by the Town Manager exceeding \$50,000 in February, 2021.

Department News

Several supervisor training sessions will be scheduled and completed over the next month with Town staff. Department staff have finalized the 2021 Equal Employment Opportunity Plan and have finalized planning for the new compensation management plan.

Personnel Updates

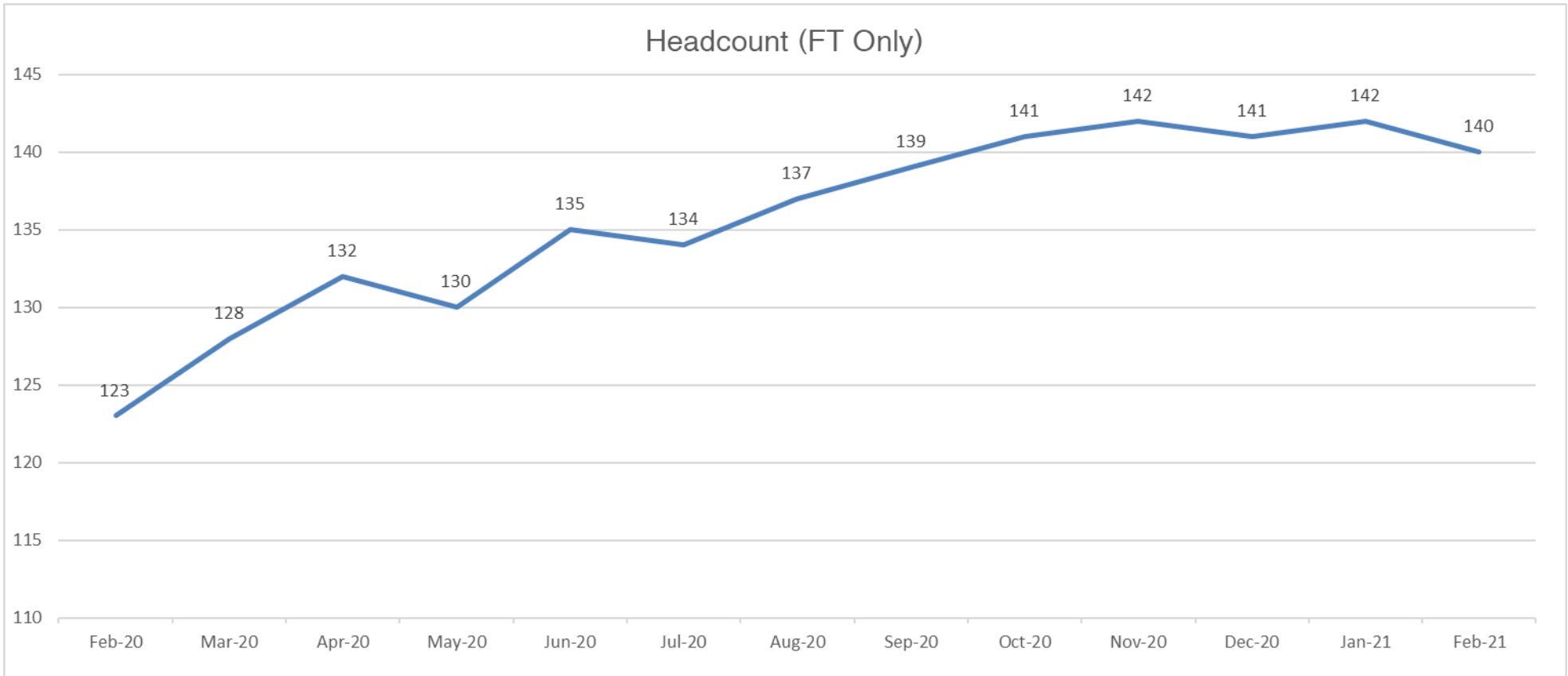
Name of Employee	Department	Type of Change	Date of Change	Position Title	From Position	To Position
Christina Failing	Human Resources	Resignation	2/2/2021	HR Assistant		
Ernie Hernandez	Planning and Inspections	Promotion	2/6/2021		Fire Inspector	Building Inspection Supervisor
Kirsti Armstong	Operation Services	Promotion	2/20/2021		Arts Administrative Assistant	Program Coordinator
Lauren Rogers	Operation Services	Promotion	2/20/2021		Pottery Coordinator	Program Coordinator
Joshua Long	Administration	Resignation	2/26/2021	Administrative Assistant		

Workers Comp Data

Number of Incidents	Loss Time (Y or N)	Brief Description of Incident and Injury/Illness
0		

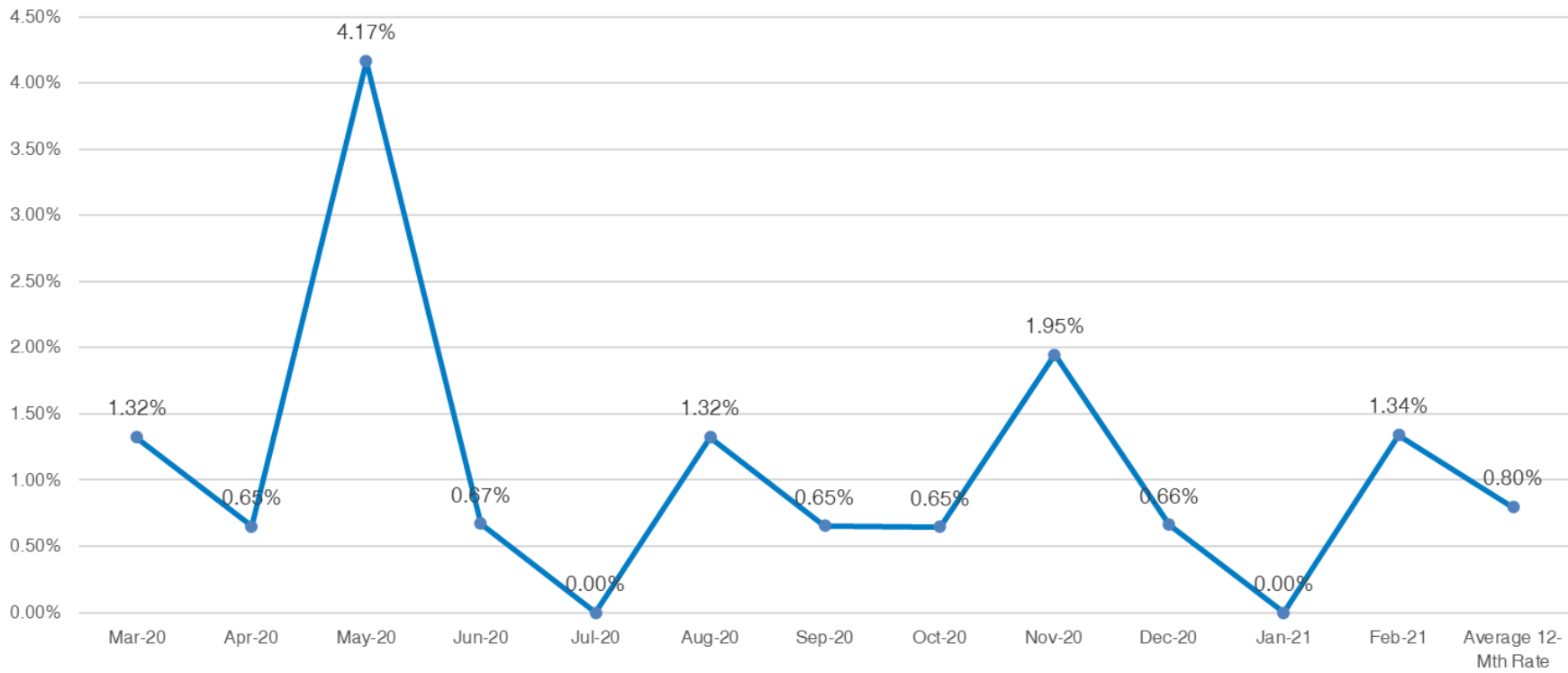
Dashboard

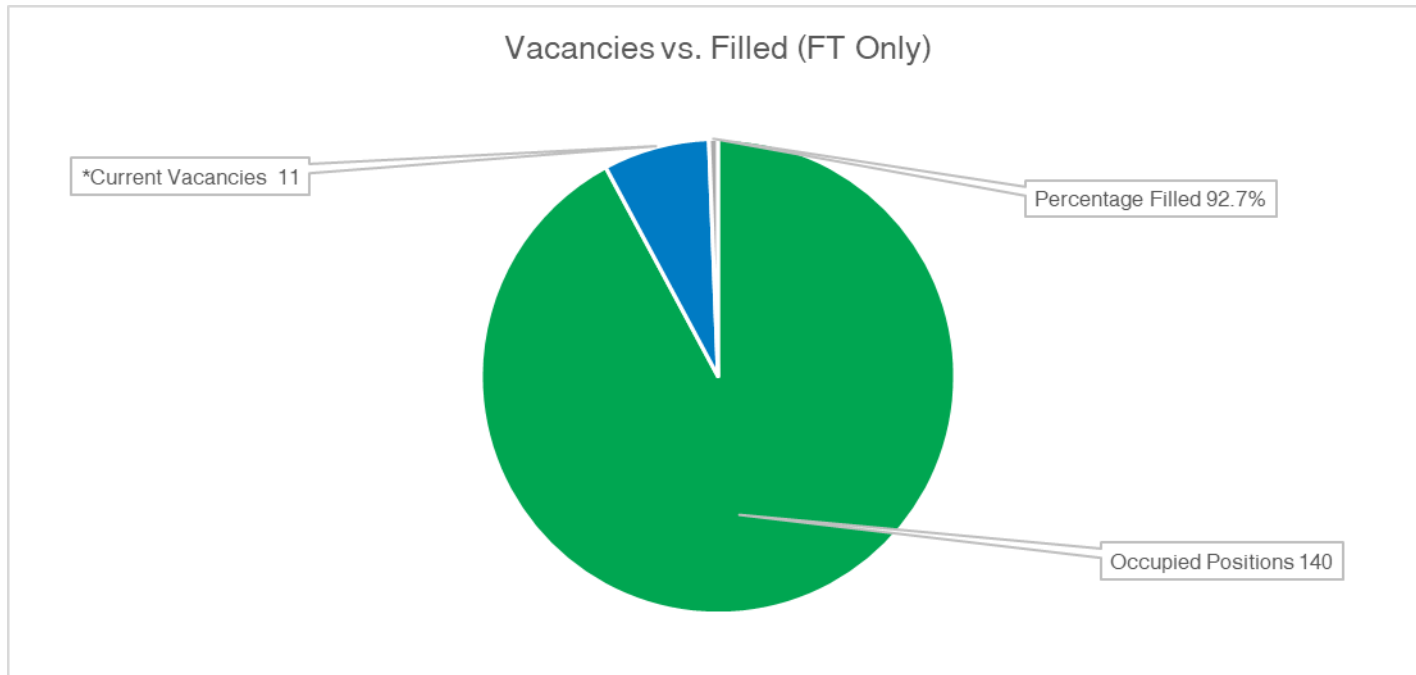
Headcount (FT Only)



All Employees (FT and PT)

Turnover Rate





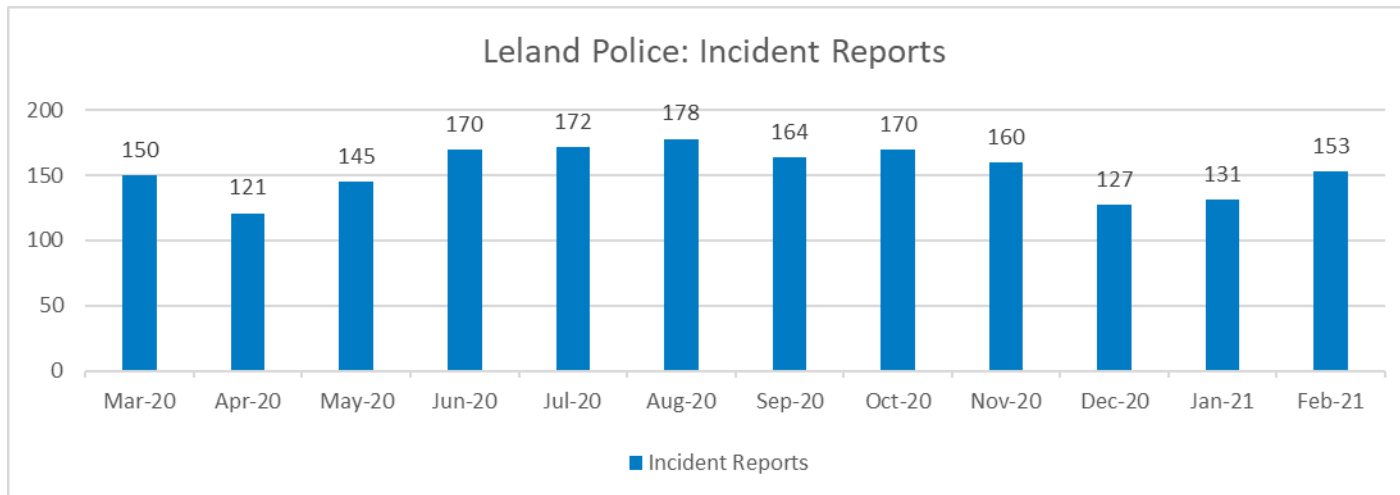
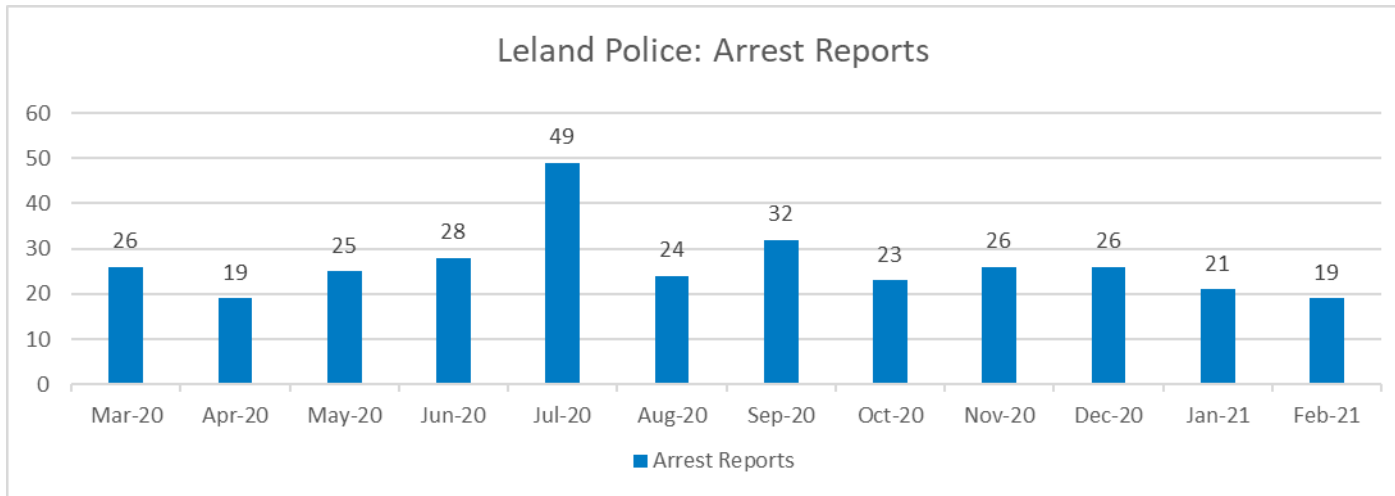
Department News

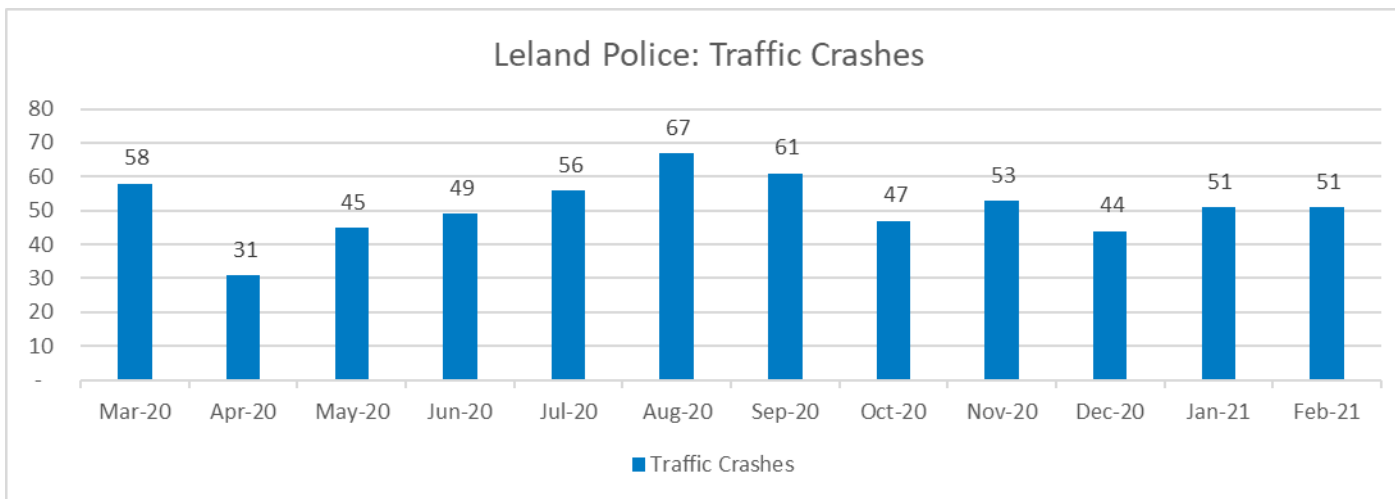
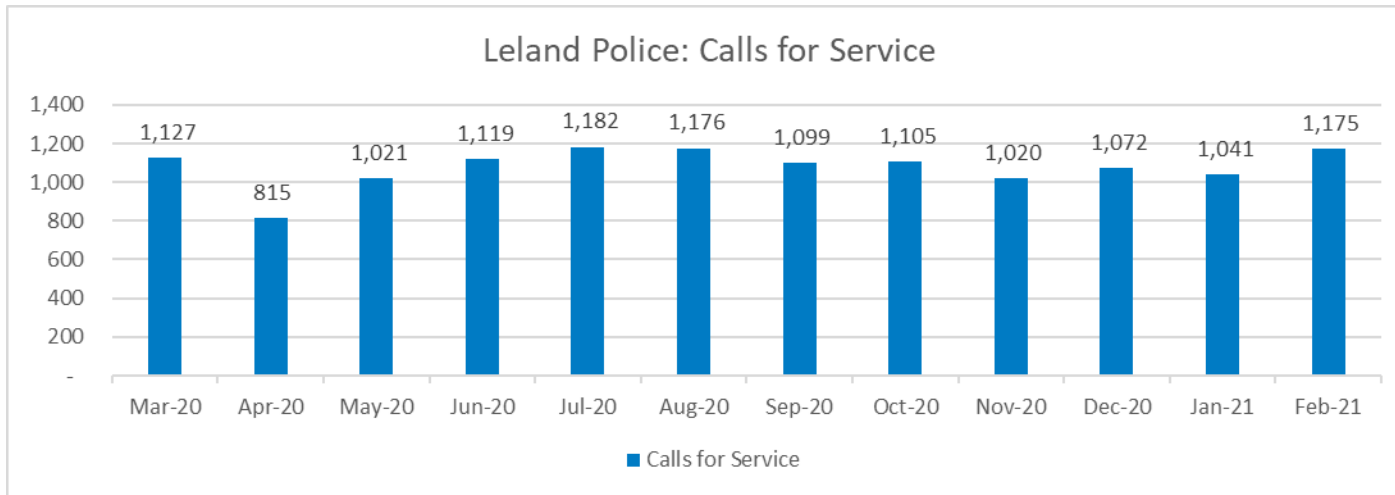
As part of its continued efforts to increase community safety and awareness, the Leland Police Department has launched a new interactive online tool called CrimeMapping. This is a public site that allows residents to easily access and analyze crime reports. Users can isolate certain areas – such as their street, block, or neighborhood – or expand their searches to include all reports within Town limits. The Department has also started implementing new policy and procedures which will only enhance the level of service that staff is providing to the community.

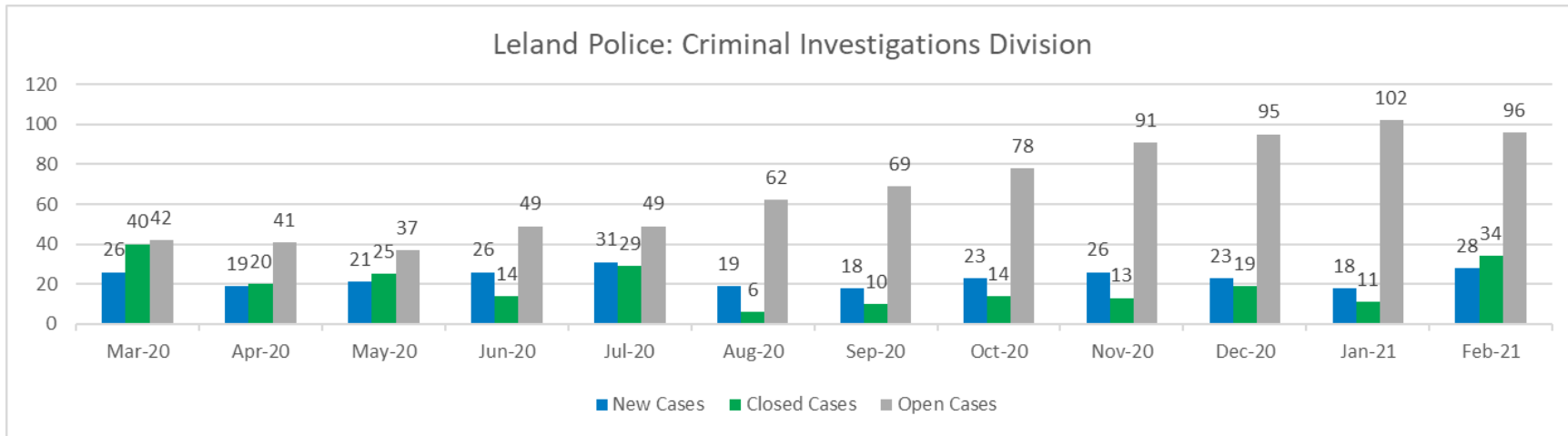
In other news, Chief Brad Shirley successfully completed the Leadership Certificate Program through the North Carolina Justice Academy. This program requires successful completion of 400 hours of instruction in leadership-related topics. Lieutenant Almond, Sergeant Kazee, and Sergeant Reid successfully completed Supervisory Liability Training through Cape Fear Community College. Officers Mercado, Piniewski, Roberts, and Whitmire successfully completed Standardized Field Sobriety Test Training through the Forensic Alcohol Branch. This training provides our officers the knowledge and skills to detect impaired drivers while on shift. Officer Barbery, Master Officer McElroy, and Senior Officer Purvis have successfully completed Special Weapons and Tactics 1 (SWAT) training through the North Carolina Justice Academy. This training is required for our officers to be a part of the Cape Fear Regional SWAT Team.

Dashboard

	Animal Services Report						
	Complaints	Cats Picked up	Dogs Picked up	Transported	Traps	Citations	Bites
Mar-20	28	0	3	3	2	0	1
Apr-20	33	2	3	4	0	0	4
May-20	38	2	1	3	0	0	4
Jun-20	51	5	3	8	4	0	5
Jul-20	57	22	2	24	20	0	1
Aug-20	42	7	4	9	5	0	2
Sep-20	27	4	1	5	2	0	1
Oct-20	53	13	7	20	14	5	6
Nov-20	49	7	4	10	4	2	4
Dec-20	34	4	12	16	2	1	2
Jan-21	32	1	1	2	7	0	1
Feb-21	33	5	3	8	4	0	2
Totals	477	72	44	112	64	8	33





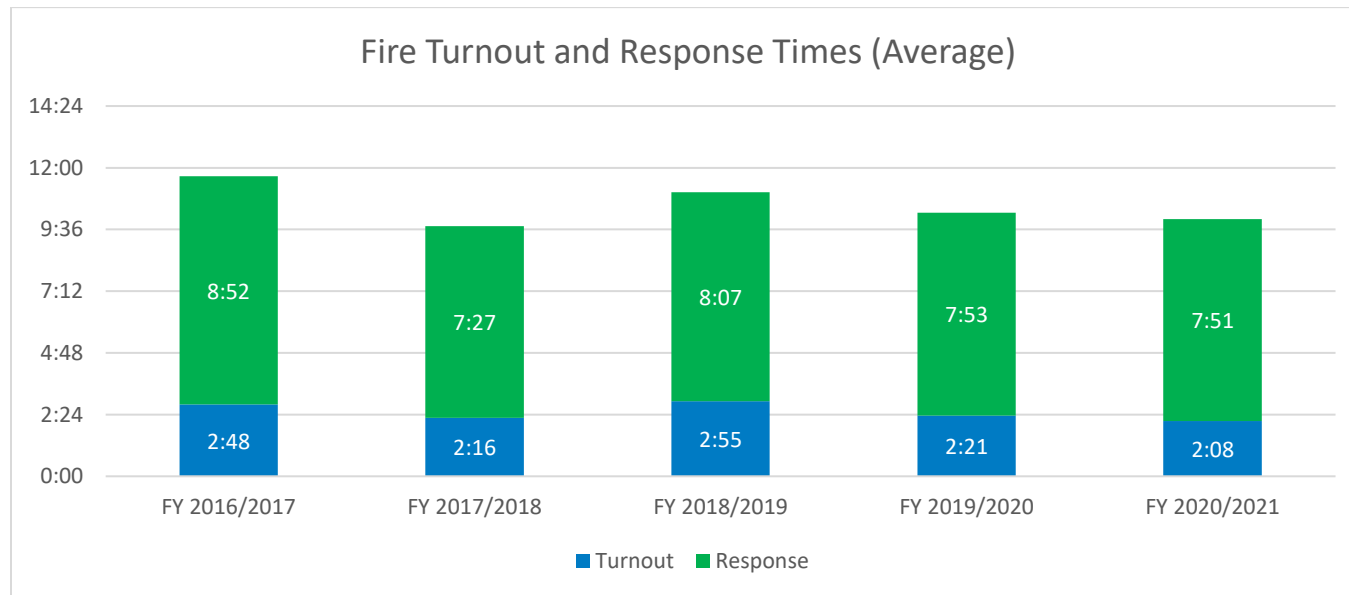


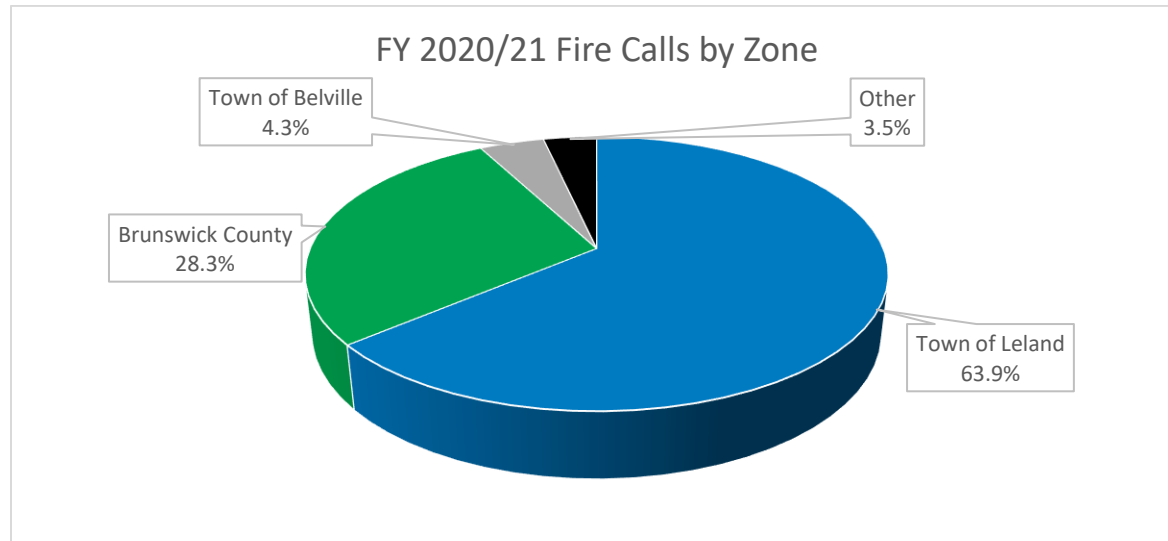
Department News

During the month of February, work on new Station 53 on Old Lanvale Road began, and staff began developing revised response districts based on this new station, as well as moving the current Station 51 from Village Road to the Municipal Operations Campus on Hwy. 74/76. Data provided by Town GIS indicates that the addition and movement of these two stations will greatly reduce the department’s response times.

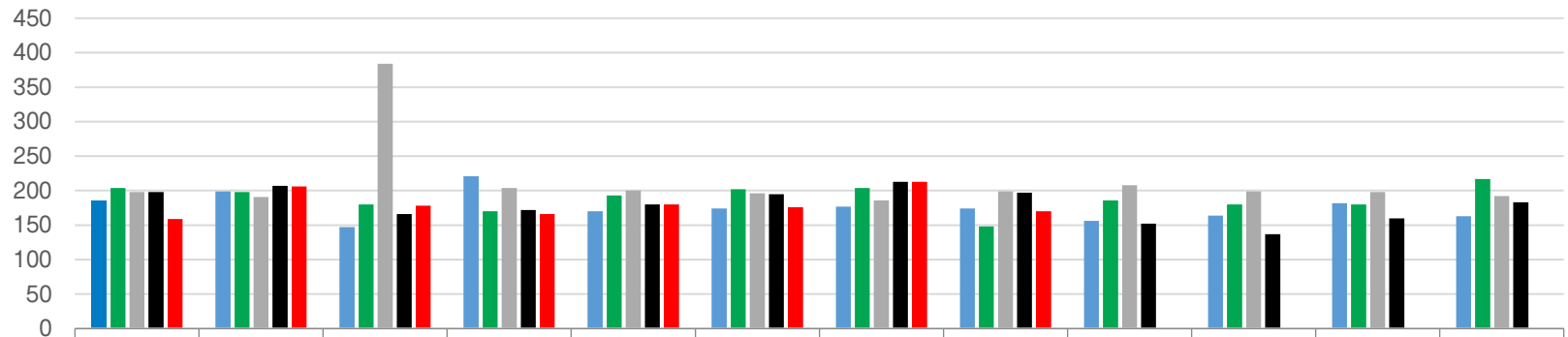
The department has also begun the process of receiving applications and interviewing prospects for the three new Captains positions at Station 53 and has opened the process for the Fire Apparatus Engineer positions. Staff have been developing a mentorship/training program for the new/promoted captains and engineers that will outline knowledge, skills, and abilities in a Position Task Book, that they will need to learn and develop for their positions. They will also be assigned to an experienced captain or engineer as a mentor to assist them through the process. There will also be a training program for the new firefighter positions.

Dashboard





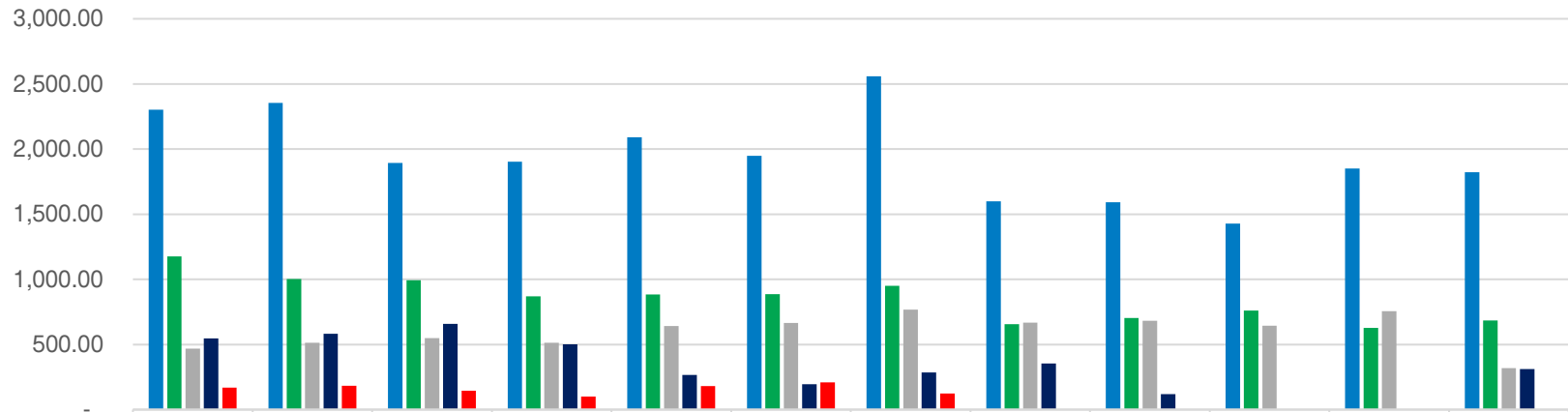
Fire Calls



	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
■ FY 2016/2017	186	199	147	221	170	174	177	174	156	164	182	163
■ FY 2017/2018	204	198	180	170	193	202	204	148	186	180	180	217
■ FY 2018/2019	198	191	384	204	200	196	186	199	208	199	198	192
■ FY 2019/2020	198	207	166	172	180	195	213	197	152	137	160	183
■ FY 2020/2021	159	206	178	166	180	176	213	170				

■ FY 2016/2017 ■ FY 2017/2018 ■ FY 2018/2019 ■ FY 2019/2020 ■ FY 2020/2021

Volunteer Hours



	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
■ FY 2016/2017	2,302.50	2,354.25	1,894.25	1,903.00	2,091.75	1,948.75	2,559.50	1,600.00	1,592.25	1,428.00	1,851.25	1,822.50
■ FY 2017/2018	1,175.25	1,001.75	992.00	870.00	885.00	885.50	949.75	655.75	703.50	760.50	627.25	684.25
■ FY 2018/2019	469.25	513.00	549.75	513.75	641.00	665.50	767.00	668.00	683.00	644.50	755.25	318.50
■ FY 2019/2020	547.00	582.25	658.00	501.00	266.00	195.00	285.50	354.00	119.00	-	-	312.00
■ FY2020/2021	168.00	183.00	145.00	99.25	180.25	210.00	123.00					

■ FY 2016/2017 ■ FY 2017/2018 ■ FY 2018/2019 ■ FY 2019/2020 ■ FY2020/2021

Department News

The department has continued working with individual departments to assess vulnerabilities to improve resiliency. We have received additional equipment and are working to improve safety training for employees and visitors alike.

Work Priorities

- Final completion of the spreadsheet of inventory for emergency management related items.
- Continued work on a list of inventory items and quantities checklist for disaster preparations.
- Work continues on the Town's first Hurricane Expo, tentatively scheduled for June 12, 2021.

Projects Completed

- None.

Significant Purchases

- None.

Department News

The new Citizen Problem Reporter software branded as Leland311.com is live and functioning well.

Staff are working to fill both the vacant Recreation Supervisor and the part-time Recreation Specialist positions. The job posting closed at the end of February and interviews will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Parks and Recreation Board Summary

The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

March 27, 2021 – Virtual Youth Arts Awards Ceremony

March 30 – April 1, 2021 – Drive-thru Egg Hunt

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Updates

The first spring session of programs began on March 1, 2021. The community has shown great interest with many programs filled to capacity, including kayak tours, gardening, pottery, and yoga. Staff continues to monitor the safety of group settings and class sizes remain appropriately reduced.

In celebration of Youth Arts Month in March, the LCAC is hosting the annual Youth Arts Showcase, displaying artwork from Brunswick County students. Winners of the showcase will be announced at the virtual awards ceremony on March 27, 2021. Free creative projects bags are also available for pickup at the LCAC during the month of March.

The very popular annual Egg Hunt has been safely modified into a drive-thru event this year and will take place on March 30 – April 1, 2021. Pre-registration is required for each vehicle and will be limited to 100 vehicles per night. Children in each pre-registered vehicle at this free event will be guaranteed a bag of candy-filled eggs.

Grounds/Facilities Updates

Work Priorities

- Facilitate the grounding and bonding project at Town Hall
- Facilitate GPS tracking installs on all Town vehicles
- Complete the office renovations at the LCAC
- Install new mirrors in the Fitness Center at Town Hall
- Upgrade the lighting at the MOC
- Replace air filters in all Town facilities

Projects Completed

- Completed the drainage project and trimmed the wax myrtles at Westgate Nature Park
- Pressure washed the building, sidewalks, and windows at Town Hall
- Installed new blinds and an ice machine and repaired the water heater at the Westport fire station
- Removed the old building signs at the MOC
- Pressure washed the playground equipment at Founders and Westgate Nature Parks
- Repaired the roof at the LCAC

Significant Purchases

None

Department News

Ernie Hernandez, who has been the Town's Fire Inspector since July 2019, was promoted to Inspection Supervisor, a new position within the department. In this role, Mr. Hernandez takes over direct supervision of the building inspectors and reports directly to Daniel Knoch, Chief Building Official.

Brenda Cartwright, Permit Technician, completed the England Training Permit Technician Class. Ms. Cartwright is now studying for the ICC Permit Technician Exam to become an ICC certified permit technician.

Matt Kirkland, Senior Planner, attended the Planning Effective Projects for Coastal Communities seminar. This course was intended to sharpen information gathering, project planning, and evaluation skills, and improve one's ability and confidence to build in the accountability and strategic thinking needed to achieve project success.

Ben Andrea, Director, and Brandon Eaton, Code Enforcement Officer, virtually attended the NC Association of Zoning Officials mid-winter workshop. Workshop topics included techniques and strategies for office and field work during the COVID-19 pandemic and legislative updates.

Andrew Neylon, Planner II, has been elected to serve as the Chair of the regional FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) group. The CRS group includes representatives of local jurisdictions that are currently in or intending to apply to be in the FEMA CRS. Mr. Neylon is leading the effort to get Leland into the FEMA CRS, which will reduce flood insurance rates for property owners in the Town.

Ernie Hernandez, Inspections Supervisor, had the following accomplishments in February:

- Completed Food Truck Fire Life Safety: Considerations for Street Vendors, Fairs, and Festivals webinar course given by the International Association of Fire Chiefs.
- Completed the Home Fire Sprinkler webinar given by the North Carolina Fire Sprinkler Coalition.
- Completed the Blazemaster Fire Protection Systems Webinar given by Johnson Controls.
- Attended the Perspective Appreciation Discussion Forum given by the Wilmington Fire Department.
- Completed Chapter 160D NCCOQB online continuing education course.
- Received probationary level I certificates in plumbing and building.
- Received technical supervision and instruction on inspections from Eric Heunemann: 4 hours of residential building inspections; 3 hours of residential underslab plumbing Inspections; 30 minutes of commercial capture and containment test inspections.
- Received technical supervision and instruction on inspections from Daniel Knoch: 2.5 hours of residential plumbing code review; 1.5 hours of building level II code review; 3 hours of residential underslab plumbing Inspections; 5 hours of residential slab Inspections; 1 hour of commercial capture and containment test inspections.

Eric Heunemann, Building Inspector III, had the following accomplishments in February:

- Provided technical supervision and instruction on inspections to other building inspectors: 7.5 hours of residential building/plumbing inspections with Ernie and 2 hours of commercial mechanical inspections with John.
- Started 6 credit hours of continuing education in fire prevention.

Chris Flessner, Building Inspector I, had the following accomplishments in February:

- Completed NC Energy Conservation Code Module 6 Residential (Mechanical) online continuing education course.
- Completed Chapter 160D NCCOQB online continuing education course.
- Passed building level I state test.

Jon Gemmell, Building Inspector II, had the following accomplishments in February:

- Provided 2 hours of instruction on electrical and transformer theory to all inspectors.
- Provided technical supervision and instruction on inspections to other building inspectors: 2 hours of residential plumbing inspections with Mike Beard.

Josh Van Pelt, Building Inspector I, had the following accomplishments in February:

- Completed CS3962: 2018 Code College in Boone, NC.
- Completed Chapter 160D NCCOQB online continuing education course.
- Completed preliminary inspections and requested mechanical, plumbing, and building level 2 probationary certificates.

Planning Board Meeting Summary

The Planning Board met on February 23, 2021 and heard the following items:

1. Preliminary Subdivision Plat – The Planning Board voted to approve a proposed subdivision of a 2.77-acre parcel in the Brunswick Forest Commercial Village between Emerge Ortho and Wendy's.
2. Rezoning Request – The Planning Board voted 6-1 to approve a rezoning request by Louis and Janice Purin (property owners) to rezone 0.46 acres at 9866 Wayne Street from R-15 to C-1.

The Planning Board's next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2021 at 6 PM.

Board of Adjustment Meeting Summary

The Board of Adjustment did not meet in February due to a lack of agenda items.

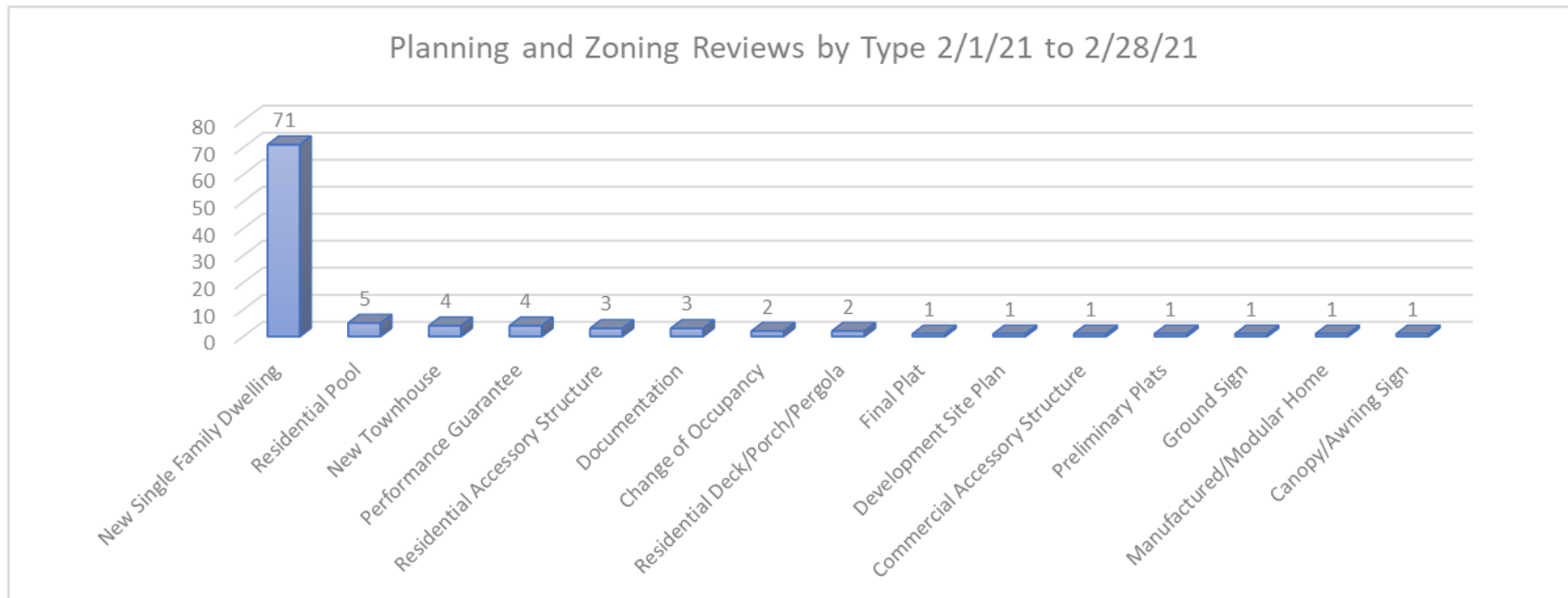
Current Planning Update

TRC Report

The Technical Review Committee (TRC) reviewed the following items:

1. Cookout Restaurant – Proposal for a 3,088 sq. ft. fast-food restaurant with drive thru on New Pointe Boulevard adjacent to Chick-fil-A restaurant.
2. Take 5 Oil Change – Proposal for a 3-bay car service station on New Point Boulevard adjacent to the proposed Cookout Restaurant.
3. Hawthorne Waterside Cottages – Proposal for 179 cottage units on a 25.36-acre parcel off Hewett-Burton Road, under the Performance Multifamily design requirements.

Planning and Zoning Reviews



Other Information

Improvement Guarantees

Subdivision	Number of Agreements	Total per Agreement Type	Change from Previous Month
Adair Park			
Cash Bonds	1	\$188,258.13	\$0.00
Brunswick Forest			
Letters of Credit	16	\$2,289,155.62	-\$47,534.75
Grayson Park			
Cash Bonds	3	\$50,860.15	\$0.00
Surety Bonds	2	\$95,625.00	\$0.00
Lanvale Forest			
Cash Bonds	1	\$18,285.31	\$0.00
Mallory Creek			
Letters of Credit	2	\$168,250.00	\$0.00
Cash Bonds	7	\$1,114,776.75	\$0.00
Surety Bonds	2	\$292,492.70	\$0.00
Sessoms Way			
Letters of Credit	1	\$55,505.00	\$0.00
Skylars Cove			
Surety Bond	1	\$70,876.00	\$0.00
Summer Bay Villas			
Surety Bond	1	\$97,872.50	\$0.00
Tara Forest			
Cash Bonds	1	\$10,840.00	\$0.00
Total Letters of Credit	19	\$2,512,910.62	-\$47,534.75
Total Cash Bonds	13	\$1,383,020.34	\$0.00
Total Surety Bonds	6	\$556,866.20	\$0.00
Total Performance Guarantee Sureties	38	\$4,452,797.16	-\$47,534.75

Long Range Planning Update



Community Workshop #1

The first community workshop was held virtually on January 19, 2021. Eight-nine people joined to learn more about the project and provide their input during an interactive survey session. A document with [responses to questions and comments](#) received during the workshop is on the project website. [Results from the survey session](#) from the workshop are posted to the project website.

Public Survey #1 - Vision, Goals, Priorities

The first public survey remains open for public input. Over 200 people have responded to the survey so far! A link to [a live survey results dashboard](#) is on the project website. This survey will be closing on Sunday, March 21, 2021; please visit www.Leland2045.com for a link to take the survey.

Community Workshop #2

The second community workshop will be held virtually on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 6pm. This second workshop will kick off the next round of public engagement and present the draft vision and theme statements for feedback and also potential growth scenarios for Leland. Participants need to register in advance for the workshop; please visit www.Leland2045.com for instructions on how to register for the workshop.

Public Survey #2 - Vision, Goals, Priorities

The second public input survey will open shortly after the Community Workshop #2 and will present the same information provided during the second community workshop for public feedback, which will guide consensus on the preferred growth scenario that will lead the plan vision.

Public Engagement Hub

Leland has created a space in the Leland Town Hall called the Public Engagement Hub. The Hub offers an opportunity for residents to learn more about the project and provide input through a self-guided tour of interactive questions and activities. There's even an [activity for kids!](#) Please contact staff at abarefoot@townofleland.com to schedule a time to visit the Hub so we can ensure social distancing.

Media Coverage

Leland 2045 is getting great coverage by local media organizations! A link to each article is now on the project website at www.Leland2045.com.

Targeted Public Campaigns

Leland staff is using the Town's portable message trailer to advertise brief messages to raise awareness of the Leland 2045 project and drive people to the project website and survey. Locations are targeted based on geographic survey response. The trailer was first located in Grayson Park, which had the lowest survey respondents prior to the trailer being dispatched. After four days, Grayson Park had the highest number of survey respondents.

Local Business Support

Over 30 local businesses have agreed to help spread awareness of Leland 2045 by putting up flyers and having small cards with a link to the project website available for customers. Business owners that are willing to assist can contact staff at abarefoot@townofleland.com and publicity materials can be delivered.

Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

Leland and Design Workshop staff are finalizing strategies to gain input from various stakeholder groups in the community. Staff will be reaching out to groups to facilitate the engagement meetings. Please contact staff at abarefoot@townofleland.com if you are with a community group that would like to participate in an engagement meeting.

Engaging the Youth

Leland staff have been coordinating with Brunswick County Schools staff to have students participate in providing their input for community growth and development through targeted activities based on age groups. Youth engagement is targeted to occur beginning in April.

For all project information and updates, please visit www.Leland2045.com.

Transportation Planning Update

WMPO/NC DOT Traffic Impact Analysis Review Committee – Staff attended weekly meetings to provide input on scoping and the results of traffic impact analyses for four pending projects in the Westgate Drive/Ocean Gate Plaza area of Leland.



GIS Update

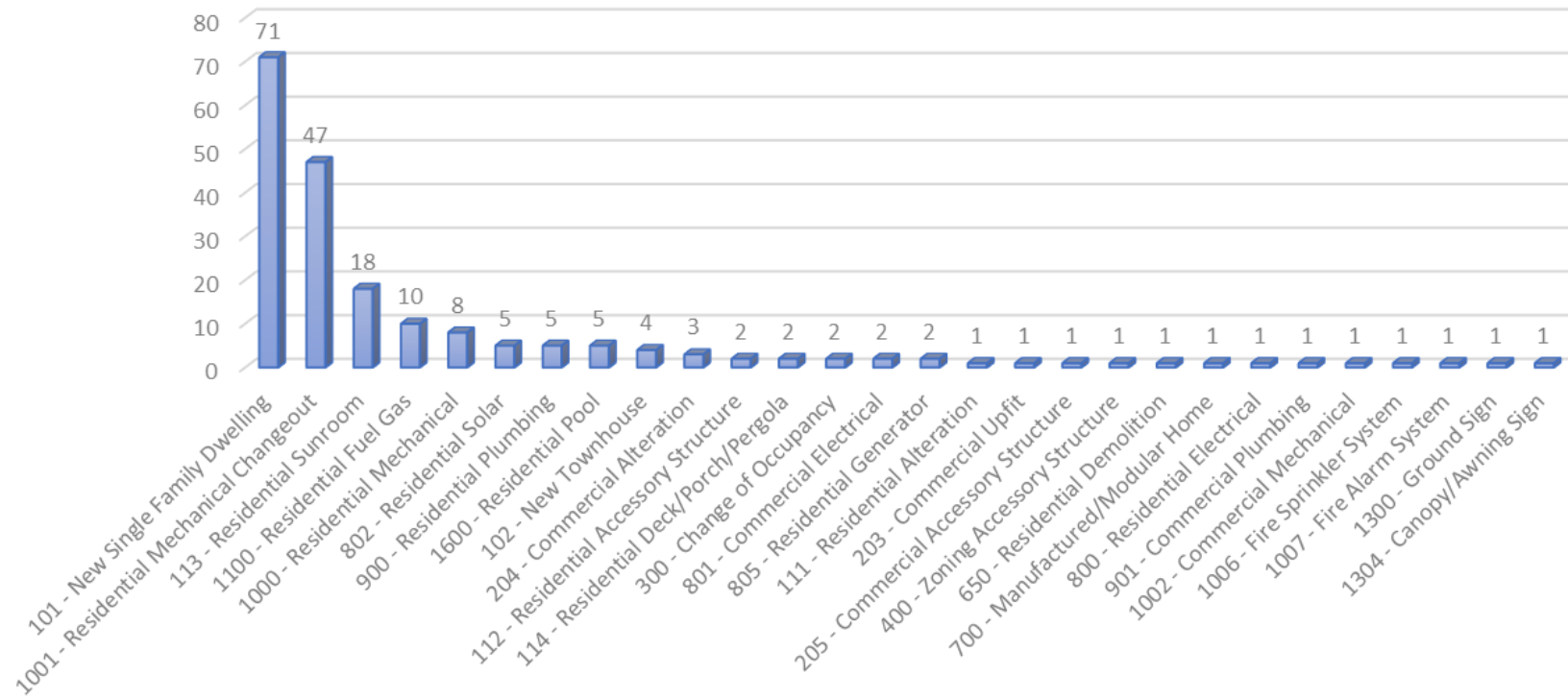
Staff finalized the GIS-based replacement for SeeClickFix, which went live on March 1, 2021. Within the first day of launching Leland 311, over 20 problems had been reported. Liz Galloway was featured on a WECT News special about the launch, and Mrs. Galloway and Hilary Snow, Leland Communications Officer, worked together to create a how-to guide for the system.

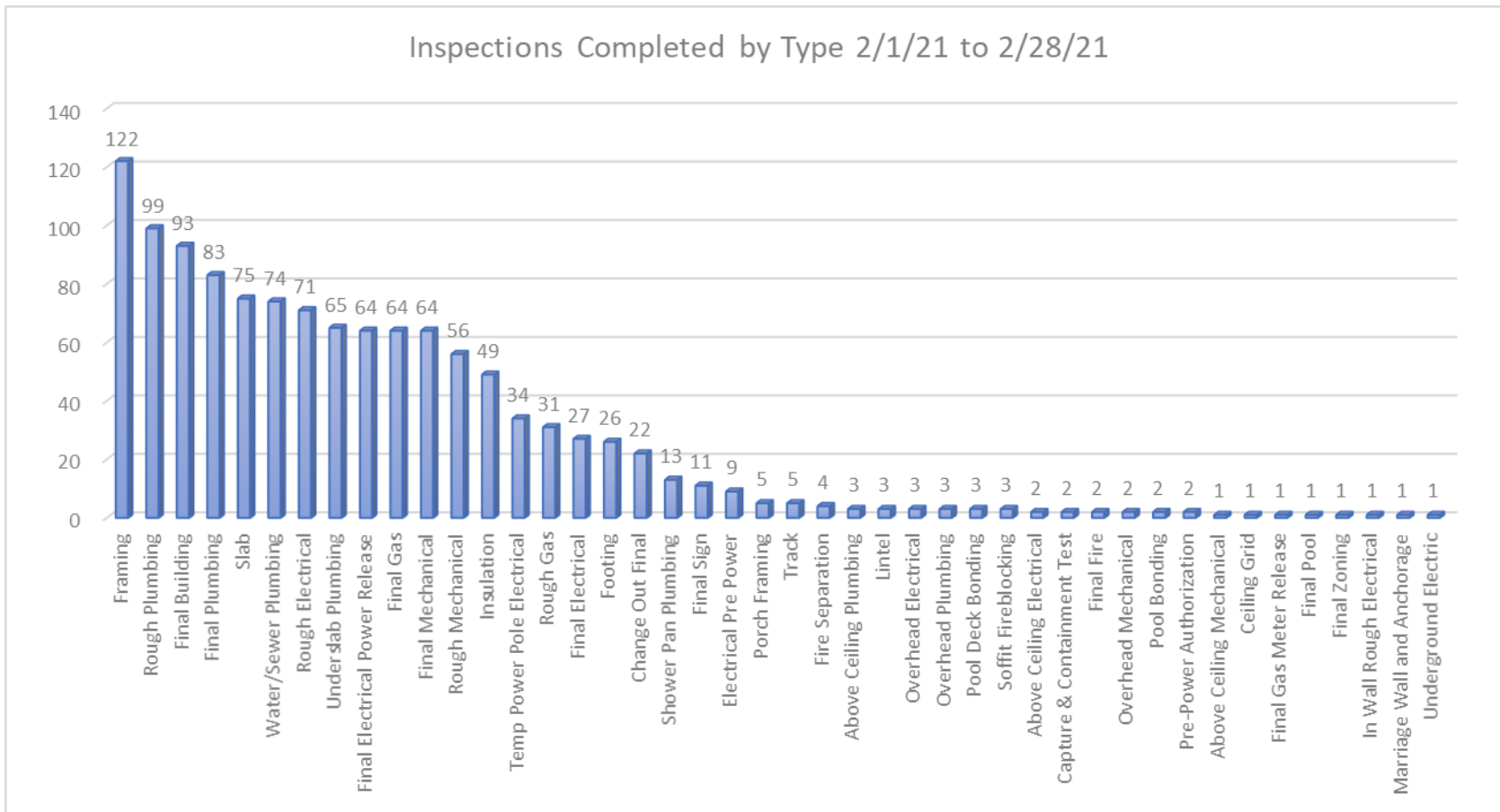
The new interface is now live at www.Leland311.com.

Building Inspections Update

Total Permits Issued	Total Inspections	Total Value of Construction
198	1,624	\$18,414,261

Permits Issued by Type 2/1/21 to 2/28/21





Code Enforcement Update

	Minimum Housing	Environmental	Stormwater	Zoning	Vehicle	Total
Cases Opened	0	8	1	4	0	13
Cases Closed	0	3	16	4	0	23
Active Cases	8	19	0	9	0	36

Department News

Mr. Vidmar was chosen by the Cape Fear Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) organization to participate in the 2021 Awards of Excellence as one of five judges. On February 24, 2021, the judges panel met to evaluate the nominations and select the winning projects. The annual CREW Awards recognize excellence and leadership in commercial real estate throughout the Cape Fear Region, including the City of Wilmington and the counties of New Hanover, Brunswick, Pender, Onslow, Duplin, Sampson, Columbus, and Bladen. Leland projects were selected as finalists in 2019 and 2020. This year, Leland submitted an entry in the Evolve award category for the Infovision Evolve Permitting Software that went live on November 2, 2020. The Evolve Award will be awarded to a company or team who has efficiently and successfully adapted their business strategies and practices in response to the COVID-19 health crisis and has evolved their business model and achieved success with it.

New Businesses

- Development site plans have been submitted to the Technical Review Committee for zoning review and approval by **Cook Out Restaurants** and **Take 5 Oil Change**. These two businesses are planning to build on the property located at the corner of Highway 17 and Ocean Gate Drive that was annexed by the Town on November 19, 2020.
- **Five Guys** opened its new restaurant in the Waterford Commercial Village.

New Construction/Development

- **Custom Home Furniture Galleries** broke ground on a two-story, 56,000 sf. furniture showroom in the Waterford Commercial Village across from Leland Station.
- **Tractor Supply** is planning to open its new store near the corner of Highway 17 and Carol Lynn Drive by the end of March.
- **Wendy's** opened its new restaurant at the corner of Highway 17 and Provision Parkway.

Economic Development Committee Meeting Summary

The Economic Development Committee did not meet in February.

NEWS

Second Cook Out location could come to Brunswick

Allison Ballard Wilmington StarNews

Published 5:47 p.m. ET Feb. 5, 2021 | Updated 5:47 p.m. ET Feb. 5, 2021

Leland is planning to vote on a development proposal to bring a Cook Out restaurant to a newly annexed part of town.

The plans include the burger chain and a Take 5 Oil Change business built on property at the corner of Highway 17 and Ocean Gate Dr. that was annexed in November.

More: Seafood, burgers and beer dominate Wilmington area's new restaurant options

More: What's missing in Wilmington? Your 22 places -- and our area alternatives.

If approved by the Technical Review Committee, it would be the second Cook Out in Brunswick County. The first opened in Shallotte at 4455 Main St. in January. The chain has three locations in New Hanover County, including one that is called both Cook Out and Taco Roos on South College Road.

That was due in part to its original Taco Roos name, however, it offers a full Cook Out menu.

On social: Get the latest food and drink news! Like our Port City Foodies Facebook page

Leland is also set to get a Five Guys burger restaurant in the Waterford Village shopping center. It's scheduled to open Feb. 15. Construction is also underway for a Wendy's in Brunswick Forest.

More: More food, shopping options coming to Leland

More: 'Sexy food': Leland restaurant blends Southern comfort with unique mentality

Brunswick County home sales sprint through the gate

By Cece Nunn, posted Feb 16, 2021 on WilmingtonBiz.com

Brunswick County's residential real estate sales shattered records in 2020 and continued its rapid upward trajectory in January, according to a recent report.

Total sales volume spiked 63% last month compared to January 2020, higher than any single-month sales total seen in 2019, according to data from the Brunswick County Association of Realtors.

"Our market obliterated all previous sales records last year, and our hot streak is continuing in 2021," said BCAR CEO Cynthia Walsh in a news release. "In January, we saw sharp increases in both homes sold and total sales volume, which nearly reached \$164 million."

That's an increase in sales volume from \$100 million in January 2020.

"All signs point to continued strong sales activity as we move toward spring," Walsh said.

The number of units sold in January jumped 34%, from 346 to 465. The median sales price increased 20% last month, from \$241,250 in January 2020 to \$289,000.

Average sale prices increased 21.6%, from \$289,867 to \$352,452.

The average sales price increase was due in part to a number of luxury sales: two homes for more than \$2 million, six for \$1 million or greater, and 67 homes in the \$500,000 to \$1 million price range, the report stated.

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New project in place to address Leland's rapid growth through 2045

By **Matthew Huddleston** - February 15, 2021 5:18 PM

LELAND, NC (WWAY) — Leland is one of the fastest growing towns in the country. The rapid growth has led town council members to start a new project laying out plans for the future.

"This project is an effort to lay the policy framework for how Leland will grow and develop over the next 25 years," Leland planning and inspections director Ben Andrea said.

For the past decade, Leland has experience unprecedented growth. Since 2010, the population of the town has nearly doubled.

Andrea believes the growth won't slow down any time soon.

"I think we're going to see our population continue to increase," Andrea said. "With that increase we're going to see an increase in diversity in our population, both in age and demographics. So the composition of the community is going to change. And that's going to drive how the community is going to grow, both residentially and from commercial perspective."

The rapid climb in residents has prompted the town of Leland to begin a project to plan out how the area should develop over the next two and a half decades.

Andrea says input from locals is vital to the project's success.

"It's very important that we get the community involved," Andrea added. "This is a vision for what the community wants to see for Leland's growth and development. So we encourage folks to get involved."

According to Andrea, the process of making your voice heard has been made very easy by the town.

"We just moved into the public engagement portion of this project," Andrea continued. "We held the first community workshop virtually on the 19th of January. We had about 100 people show up to the virtual community meeting. We also have an area in town hall open, called the public engagement

hub. That's the room that we're standing in now. This is an opportunity for folks to come and visit us in person and provide their input for the project."

The town of Leland has two more virtual workshops scheduled for March and August. Andrea says they plan to listen to every voice when making decisions for the town's future.

FROM THE WEB

Powered by ZergNet

The Villages at Brunswick Forest sells for \$16.8M

By Cece Nunn, posted Feb 4, 2021 on WilmingtonBiz.com

Most of a major commercial area in Leland is under new ownership.

The Yelverton family bought The Villages at Brunswick Forest, excluding some outparcels, for \$16.8 million in December from entities managed by Lord Baltimore Capital Partners LLC.

The Villages at Brunswick Forest is situated in front of the Brunswick Forest master-planned community in Leland.

The Yelvertons, who have homes in New Hanover County and Raleigh, have been in the real estate business for more than 50 years, said George Yelverton, but this is the first time they've owned a shopping center as an investment.

They bought the property as part of a 1031 exchange after selling Cameron Hills Apartments in Raleigh's Cameron Village.

The family owned the apartments for 25 years before selling it in 2020.

According to section 1031 of the federal tax code, a 1031 exchange allows a property owner to postpone paying tax on a gain if he or she reinvests sale proceeds in similar property as part of a qualifying like-kind exchange.

The Villages at Brunswick Forest appealed to the Yelvertons as an investment for a variety of reasons, including the fact that the thousands of residents in Brunswick Forest can get to the shopping area without leaving their community, giving it "huge growth potential," George Yelverton said.

The center is anchored by a Lowes Foods grocery store and includes restaurants, stores, salons and more.

"It's really a beautifully laid-out property, and so we like the fact that it was attractive and that it had built-in clientele. They've got to pass it to get anywhere in the world from their house," George Yelverton said, referring to Brunswick Forest residents.

Richard Cotton, a broker and managing director of Multifamily Realty Advisors, represented the Yelvertons in the transaction. Cotton also represented the family as the exclusive listing broker in the Cameron Hills Apartment

sale.

Wilmington-based commercial real estate firm Cape Fear Commercial is the new property manager for The Villages on behalf of the Yelvertons, with CFC broker Spruill Thompson as the leasing agent and CFC's Orry Dickard in charge of property management.

"We're 100% full right now," Thompson said Thursday. "The project was very well built and the tenants seem to be doing extremely well there. We're excited to work with them."

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Unwined on the Square Coming soon.

Unwined on the Square to Open Spring 2021

LELAND, NC. – Unwined on the Square, a new wine shop and yoga studio, will be opening in Spring 2021 in Harrington Square located in the Gateway District of Leland, North Carolina, just minutes away from Downtown Wilmington.

Amy and Brian Burkhardt, founders of Unwined on White in Wake Forest, North Carolina, plan to open their second location of Unwined in Leland. Unwined plans to have various yoga classes for all levels seven days a week. In addition to yoga, Unwined will carry boutique wines from around the world and serve certain wines by the glass. The Burkhardt's are committed to working with local, craft breweries from all over North Carolina to also serve beer and ciders.

Gary M. Vidar, Economic & Community Development Director of Leland, NC, said, "The Town of Leland is excited to hear about plans for this new wine lounge and yoga studio at Harrington Square. This is precisely the type of business we anticipated Harrington would attract when initial plans for the project were first presented to the Town by the developer."

To learn more about Unwined on the Square, follow us for construction and opening updates or email Amy Burkhardt directly at leland@unwinednc.com.

LOCATION

NEWS

How should Leland handle its population explosion? You help decide.

Emma Dill Wilmington StarNews

Published 6:00 a.m. ET Feb. 14, 2021 | Updated 3:12 p.m. ET Feb. 15, 2021

It's no secret that Leland is growing, and it's growing fast.

Over the last nine years, the town's population has increased approximately 74%, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Leland's population is growing faster than Brunswick County, which saw a nearly 33% population jump over the same time period. North Carolina, as a whole, saw a 10% population increase between 2010 and 2019.

Leland officials expect that growth to continue over the next 25 years. The town's population projections show the number of residents increasing by more than 215% from the town's 2019 population.

By 2045, the number of residents in the area could triple.

To prepare for that massive growth, the town has launched a comprehensive long-term planning effort that will establish a policy framework for future growth and development, said Ben Andrea, the town's planning director.

More: A park? More houses? Fate of Eagles Island remains uncertain

More: More food, shopping options coming to Leland

More: Brunswick creates 'Blueprint' for expected massive growth

The effort - called Leland 2045 - kicked off at the end of last year. The plan will review the area's housing and transportation needs and create a framework for future development, among other goals.

“We know that development is going to continue to occur around Leland,” Andrea said. “We want to have an idea of what that development should look like.”

The town is currently accepting public feedback on the plan, and will begin drafting the plan next month, according to a project schedule.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic poses challenges for public engagement, the town has hosted a community meeting on Zoom, which saw close to 100 participants, according to Andrea. They plan to hold another public meeting in March.

Planners have also set up a room at the Leland Town Hall where residents can make an appointment to provide feedback on the project.

Britt Pridgen went to the town hall to give his input Thursday. Pridgen has lived in Leland for more than 20 years and said he and other long-time residents believe it is important for the area to maintain its character.

“We feel like Leland is growing too fast and we want it to slow down and not lose the character of the old Leland that we love,” he said.

Pridgen said he wants the area to retain some of its rural atmosphere. He doesn't want to see it become as developed as nearby Wilmington.

“We’re here for a reason because we like it the way it is,” he said. “Don’t make our home like it is somewhere else.”

Jason Gaver, another Leland resident, moved to the area with his family in 2014.

Gaver is a member of the town's planning board and part of a 6-member focus group that is part of the planning process for Leland 2045.

Gaver said that he hopes the long-term plan will help guide "smart" growth in the area.

“We know that Leland is growing tremendously, and if we look at the statistics it’s probably going to continue to grow for many years to come,” he said. “I believe we need to make sure that as a community we are planning smartly.”

Specifically, Gaver said he wants the plan to address the environmental impact of development, the area's stormwater runoff and connectivity between neighborhoods. He also said that he would like to see more "fair and affordable" housing brought to the area.

Other broad issues residents want to see addressed in the plan are job opportunities and economic development, alleviating traffic congestion and preserving the area's water quality, according to Andrea.

The Leland 2045 planning area extends far beyond the current town limits. The town opted for the larger geographic area to anticipate future expansion, Andrea said.

Although the planning extends more than two decades into the future, it will include various short-term goals and action items for the town.

“This plan isn’t just going to say, ‘We need to accomplish something by 2045.’ It’s going to give some guidance and some things that we need to do immediately,” he said.

As the public engagement period continues, it's critical that both newcomers and long-time Leland residents make their voice heard in planning for the area's future, Andrea said.

“This plan is creating a vision of what Leland should look like in the future and that plan really needs to come from the people that live here, the residents and the visitors to the area,” he said.

Reporter Emma Dill can be reached at 910-343-2096 or edill@gannett.com.

Real estate award finalists, achievement winners announced

By Cece Nunn, posted Mar 5, 2021 on WilmingtonBiz.com

Cape Fear Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) has announced the finalists and achievement award winners for its third annual Awards of Excellence, which are scheduled to be held April 29 at the Wilmington Convention Center.

The awards, which focus on the Cape Fear Region's commercial real estate sector, recognize excellence and leadership in commercial real estate, according to a Cape Fear CREW news release.

"We are excited about the amount of growth and the number of diverse projects in our region; there were many great contenders that have stood out," said Gale Wallace, president of Cape Fear CREW.

The finalists are:

Dealmaker Award:

Edgewater Commerce Park/421 Landmark Dr. Investment Sale
Pender Commerce Park Spec Warehouse/33 Acme Way Development
River Place Development, Leasing & Sales

Economic & Community Enhancement Award:

Polyhose/Project Cheddar; Pender County
Towne Place; Carolina Beach
Truist Place; Whiteville

Best Interior Award:

End of Days Distillery
Big Sky Design Office Space
Dr. Donald S. Bland DDS

Career Advancement for Women Award:

Maggi Apel and Vicky Janowski; WILMA's Women to Watch Leadership Initiative
Sheri Shaw, UNCW College of Health and Human Services, Assistant Dean for Student Success
Jenna Curry, Port City Young Professionals

Placemaking Award:

Bradley Creek Station
Live Oak Bank FitPark
Hi-Wire Brewing

New for 2020 is the Evolve Award, bestowed upon a company or team that has successfully adapted their business strategies and practices in response to the COVID-19 health crisis. The finalists for the Evolve Award are:

Town of Leland Department of Planning and Inspections – Infovision Software
Downtown Alive ILM
Live Oak Bank – Payment Protection Program Loans

The Board of Directors also named the winners of the individual achievement awards:

Impact Award Winner: Cindee Wolf, Design Solutions
Beth Quinn Excellence Award: Julie Andrews, Logan Homes

The awards event, where category winners will be announced, will be held in-person at 11 a.m. April 29 at the convention center and will be streamed to several additional in-person venues.

All in-person attendees and venues will be governed by COVID-19 guidelines at that time. Event information is available online (<http://www.capefearcrew.org>).

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Public Services Department Updates

Department News

COVID Update: All staff have been working regular schedules, while observing social distancing and additional cleaning protocols. Access to the Municipal Operations Center has been limited to superintendents and supervisors, with other technicians reporting directly to job sites in separate vehicles. Some staff in Town Hall are teleworking to minimize contact within the department.

Streets Updates

Work Priorities

- Minor street repair work is ongoing throughout the Town. Repairs on Shelmore Way continue with the contractor milling the roadway in preparation for asphalt. It is anticipated that asphalt will be placed in early March.
- Staff is focusing on sidewalk repairs and sinkhole repairs. Staff is also budgeting for a sidewalk assessment in the FY21/22 budget.
- Staff began installing the drainage infrastructure at the MOC starting with the main drainage system that runs through the site. To date, two new catch basins and 165' of pipe have been installed. Staff also began installing the road for the debris site at the MOC.
- Preformed Thermoplastic pavement marking materials have been delivered to the MOC. The process of updating stop bars and crosswalks throughout the Town will begin in the coming months.
- Leland311 was rolled out March 1, replacing SeeClickFix. Local news station WECT did a short story on the changeover filming the Street crew working at the MOC.
- The intersection of Lee Drive and Baldwin Drive has been repaved by an outside contractor to eliminate ponding and transition issues.
- Fairview road was closed on February 22 to install a new stamped concrete crosswalk to match the other crosswalks in the area. A detour is in place for local traffic. The work is progressing, and the road is anticipated to be reopened on or around March 10.

Initiatives

- Staff has formulated a fee-based plan for yard debris drop-off and haul away at the new MOC. The new yard debris site will begin operation in July pending Council approval of the FY21/22 budget.
- Staff has developed a street and road capital improvement plan and priority list. The top three projects are included in the FY21/22 budget and includes West Gate Drive, Bent Green Drive, and Palm Ridge Drive.

- Staff is reviewing Town-maintained gravel roads for possible paving. Staff is budgeting for the survey and design work associated with paving these roads in the FY21/22 budget.
- Staff is creating a streets design manual, which will include standard specifications and details to be used in the design and construction of new and rehabbed Town streets. Staff is scoping this project now which will be completed in 2021.

Project Notes

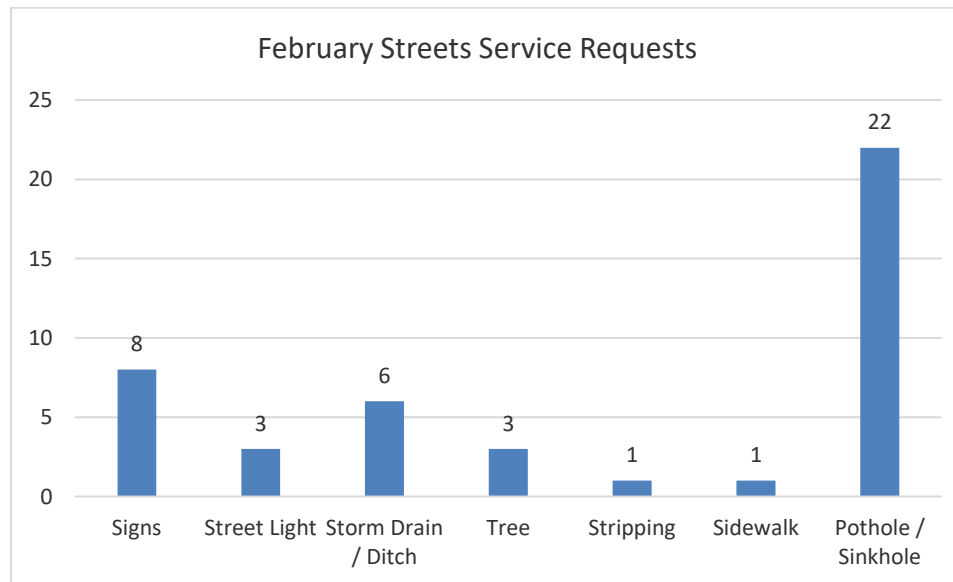
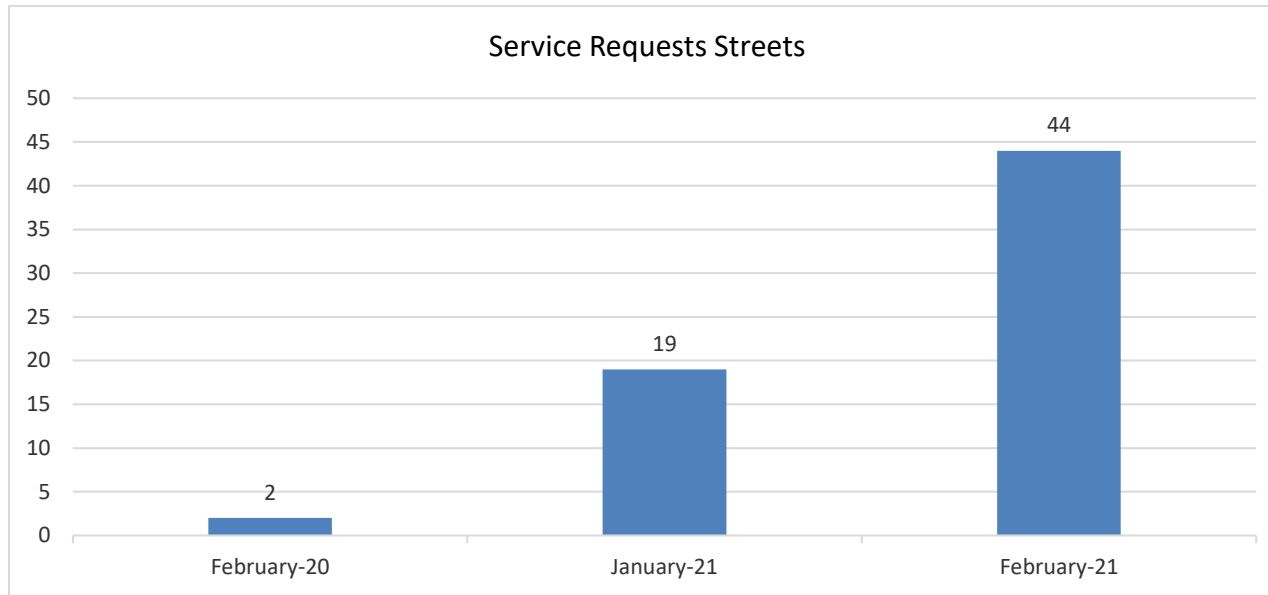
- The Town is working with Kittelson and Associates, Inc. on the design and construction documents for the Brunswick Forest Parkway and Low County Boulevard intersection project, which includes restriping Brunswick Forest Parkway and Low County Boulevard. The design for this project is complete and includes a roundabout at the northern most intersection of these streets. Staff bid this project in February but only received two responses and will be rebidding the project in March.
- Staff issued a task order to Cape Fear Engineering to complete a concept plan for the Olde Waterford Way extension to Olde Regent Way. The concept plan has been finalized and staff is meeting with property owners to discuss right-of-way acquisition.

Significant Purchases

- The dump truck for the Streets Division was delivered in February and has been put into operation.

Work Order summary

- Streets received 44 work orders in February, with most of them being pothole/sinkhole related.



Utilities Updates

Work Priorities

- Utilities began replacing impacted water meter registers in July, with approximately 425 registers replaced to date. In total, approximately 1,300 registers must be replaced. These replacements are required for accurate meter readings and are being provided at no cost to the Town due to issues associated with the manufacturer. 100 additional registers were received at the end of February and will be installed in March.
- Staff contracted with Pipeline Restoration to complete the annual 10% sanitary sewer line cleaning, which was completed in January. Staff has reviewed the inspection reports and is planning repairs for manholes that need to be rehabbed.
- Staff installed a new transfer switch at Lift Station #11.

Initiatives

- Staff is in the process of creating electronic mapping for all utility assets, currently obtaining as-built data that is being input into GIS by the GIS Intern.
- Staff is working on a Pump Station Failure Report, which will document the processes and procedures to be followed in case of a pump station failure. The goal is to complete this report in March.
- Staff has implemented a grease interceptor inspection program, with inspections ongoing and associated inspection reports being submitted to the users.

Project Notes

- Staff received the draft System Development Fee Study which is under review.
- Staff has contracted with McGill to complete the EPA Risk and Resiliency Assessment required for all water systems. This assessment is substantially complete and will be uploaded to the EPA website in the Spring.
- The Highway 17 Phase 2 Sewer Force Main and Lift Station project was awarded to Civil Works Contracting with construction starting in February.

Work Order summary

- Utilities received 131 work order requests in February, the majority of which were associated with occupant changes (57).

