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Subject: Town Council Update from Cheryl - December 2020 Edition
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Cheryl Stallings

Apex Town Council
Improving Quality of Life for Our Community



Hello Neighbors and Friends –

I hope you have been able to enjoy the holiday season. I am grateful for the many essential workers and town employees in our midst who keep our town running smoothly. Thanks to those of you who have offered support to our neighbors and businesses in need during this challenging year. We must remain vigilant over these next several months and continue with COVID-19 health and safety measures as we work to get vaccines distributed. Remember to keep wearing those masks, wash your hands frequently, and physically distance 6 feet apart from others when you are out in public. Additional help is on the horizon as we transition into 2021. Stay strong as we work together to keep our community as healthy as possible.

Town Council Meeting News

At our December 1st meeting, Council received an update on the development of the Town's Affordable Housing Plan. The presentation was provided by Long Range Planning Manager Shannon Cox (who also was recently named the Apex Employee of the Year!) and consultants from HR&A Advisors, Inc. who have been assisting the Town in this work. You can review the [Draft Plan](#) and see the [virtual presentation](#) here.

The Draft Town of Apex Affordable Housing Plan will be presented at two upcoming public hearings:

Planning Board Public Hearing

Monday, January 11, 2021

4:30 PM

Remote meeting

Planning Board Remote Review of Additional Comments and Vote

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

5:00 PM

Remote meeting

Town Council Public Hearing

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

6:00 PM

2nd Floor, Apex Town Hall, 73 Hunter Street

The public is invited to speak at either or both hearings. View the [Public Notice](#) here for complete details about how to participate.





Long Range Planner Jenna Shouse also presented updates on the Town of Apex Wayfinding Signage Program. This project will provide consistent, attractive, and informative signs throughout Apex that will provide important information to residents and visitors about key destinations as well as parking. Residents can complete an on-line survey and offer input on the gateway sign options by January 8th.

In exciting business economic development news, Council approved the conveyance of approximately 10 acres of the Cash Corporate Center (CCC) located at 2100 Production Drive. A new employer is coming to town, and this company will be the first occupant of the 121-acre industrial site. One of my goals as a Council member and as a member of the Economic Development Committee is to help facilitate more business development and economic opportunity for our residents and town. Learn more about the CCC [here](#).

At our December 15th meeting, we received our June 30, 2020 financial report from our independent auditor. In spite of the challenges with COVID this year, the Town's finances are relatively sound. You can review the auditor's report [here](#).

In additional economic development news, Council approved the conveyance of approximately 26 acres of the Cash Corporate Center (CCC) for another employer coming to Apex. This company will be the second one to occupy part of the 121-acre light industrial site in our Town. It is gratifying

to see that the vision for the CCC is becoming a reality with more business development and employment opportunity coming to Apex.

Assistant Town Manager Shawn Purvis and Budget & Management Analyst Amanda Grogan next reminded citizens via a public hearing that it is time for us to be thinking about our next budget cycle for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. We have a very competent budget and finance team, and we are currently seeking input from citizens about your preferences for priorities in the next budget cycle. Residents can learn more about our current operating budget and complete an on-line survey about your 2021-2022 [budget priorities](#) now through February 5th.



As we continue to try and support our residents and businesses experiencing financial hardship from this year, Council has prevented utility disconnections throughout the pandemic. We extended this decision through 2/28/21 and directed staff to develop a utility assistance program similar to the recently expired County program called [WakeHELPS](#). Residents have the option to set up a payment plan with the Town if they need more flexibility in paying their utility bills. Additionally, Apex residents can provide financial assistance to their neighbors in need with their utility bills through the [Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program](#).

In areas of new business, Council approved a Title VI nondiscrimination policy statement and grievance procedure, which are compliance requirements with the NC Department of Transportation to receive state and

requirements from the NC Department of Transportation to receive state and federal transportation funds. The [Statement](#) and [grievance procedure](#) can be found here.

And finally, Council approved 1 million dollars in loans to the [Broadstone Walk](#) affordable housing project. Broadstone Walk is a DHIC, Inc. proposed 164-unit affordable housing complex for families on S. Hughes Street near the intersection of the Apex Peakway. DHIC, Inc. is a reputable non-profit organization that develops attractive, safe, and affordable homes for people with modest to limited incomes. Additional funding from Wake County will also be involved with this project. The money that Apex contributes to the project will come from the Town's Affordable Housing fund across two budget cycles.

Other Meetings, Community Events, and Outreach

On December 3rd, I gathered with the Mayor and other Council Members at the downtown Depot for the annual Christmas Tree lighting. This event was livestreamed for the public.





Another livestreamed event was the Town Employee annual holiday celebration this year on December 9th. The Mayor, Council, and a few staff members gathered at Town Hall for this virtual event. Staff members were recognized for their years of service to the Town with donated door prize drawings throughout the event. Council members also had the opportunity to offer words of gratitude and appreciation to Town Staff and Employees for the exceptional public service offered our residents during a challenging year.

On December 18th, I enjoyed attending the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of the Stop & Go convenience store at 1900 E. Williams Street. It was an honor to meet owner Mr. Gandhi and his family, and I wish them much success in their new business venture in Apex.

In closing, I wish you all a very safe and healthy transition into the New Year. May 2021 be a year of hope, healing, and good will to all.
- Cheryl





Our Vision

- A community unified in the stewardship of our small town charm, natural environment, and a future where all succeed.

Our Mission

- Provide exceptional public service that cultivates opportunity for the individual and community to live, thrive, and reach their peak.

Strategic Goals

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