



CITY OF
ELIZABETH CITY
HARBOR OF HOSPITALITY *North Carolina*

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Rich Olson, City Manager
REF: City Manager's Weekly FYI ~ June 12, 2020
COPY: Email Distribution

1. I am delighted to report on Monday morning, the City will begin installation of the first of our electric smart meters. We are teaming with Nexgrid and NexGen solutions to acquire and install the advanced meters capable of two-way communication, remote connect and disconnect, and on-demand usage reporting. The meters will allow the Electric Utility the ability to determine specific outages during inclement weather conditions, confirm new service requests with a few clicks, and immediately receive alerts in case of meter tampering or failure. The City is joining the hundreds of cities and counties already offering this type of rapid demand, fast response service to its customers. The team will gather at City Hall early Monday morning for a rallying salutation, joining of forces, and loading up of the first 200 meters to be installed. Starting earlier this month customers received an announcement flyer featuring S. Marty Meter, offering basic information about the project. If you have questions call Ms. Tammy Sharp at (252) 337-6870. All licensed contractors installing meters will have a City of Elizabeth City Identification badge, driving vehicles equipped with the City seal and decal. Installation crews will confirm their presence to each property owner before temporarily disconnecting electric service.
2. After 38+ years with the City of Elizabeth City, Chief Building Inspector, Stanley Ward has recently announced his retirement at the end of July. Mr. Ward holds a Level III Inspectors certificate in building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical trades. He is also a licensed electrician. Stanley has worked with six city managers, and numerous mayors and city council members over the years. Although the project has not completely materialized yet, Mr. Ward is excited that the City is one step

closer to an online permitting and payment system that will greatly benefit the Community Development Department. Inspectors Dwyane Harris and Alvin Rountree will continue the work in the building inspections division with a seamless transition. I would like to personally thank Mr. Ward for all of his years of service to the City and the hundreds of projects that he contributed to during his career.

3. This week, we received 5 reimbursement checks from FEMA totaling \$289,373.82. We received \$12,500 for the Airport Authority, \$103,341.67 for debris removal, \$128,059.62 for electric emergency services, \$35,788.92 for Emergency Operations Center (EOC) expenses, and \$9,645.17 for Water & Sewer emergency services. The only expenses outstanding are administrative and management expenses, which allows for submitting up to 5% of total costs to account for the time completing FEMA documentation and gathering information. This cap is \$14,500 and was filed with FEMA before June 30th. Cost reimbursement for the Public Safety Roof were denied.
4. This week, City staff began preparing the waiver to have the City removed from Executive Order 142. Our future cash flow projections indicate that the City will exhaust our cash on hand by August 1st and will not be able to meet our contractual agreement under our power purchase agreement. The only way to increase our cash flow in time to meet our obligations if Executive Order 142 is not waived; is a 25 to 30% electrical rate increase. City staff is NOT proposing an increase at this time; however, without the waiver that will be the reality. Staff's goal is to deliver the waiver to the Attorney General on Tuesday.
5. Last Friday, Land Planning Solutions submitted on behalf of SAT Development, LLC., phases 3 and 4 of Stockbridge at Tanglewood Subdivision. The proposed phases are located at the south end of Mount Everest Drive South. This proposal includes 178 single-family residential lots spread over 58.30 acres. These are the last two phases to complete the Stockbridge at Tanglewood subdivision project. This project will be reviewed virtually at our Technical Review Committee (TRC) meeting on June 23rd.
6. The City will be transitioning from MedCost insurance to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina as of July 1, 2020. Open Enrollment kick off will be Monday, June 15th with 4 Zoom meetings for all active full-time employees to attend. There will be a presentation from BCBS informing employees of their new medical, dental, and vision plans. The Robert Taylor Group will also be holding individualized enrollment sessions throughout the rest of the week via individualized Zoom meetings or face to face meetings. This will give employees the opportunity to meet new

broker staff, get familiar with the new Navigator system, and select the best benefit services for themselves and family.