

TOWN OF PINETOPS NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2024

We hope all of you are having a great late winter, as we are starting to see and sense the coming of spring, amid the sometimes frosty mornings.

BUDGET TIME FOR THE TOWN

With this time of year comes the beginning of the budget season for your Town government. This is the time of year that your Town staff and Board of Commissioners begin discussing and preparing the Town budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Town operates on a July to June fiscal year; this means the budget begins on July 1 of each year and ends on the last day of June. The Town typically holds several budget workshops/retreats throughout the period between mid-February to June to carefully craft and finalize the budget. In June of each year, the official public hearing is held for final approval of the budget.

All of the workshops throughout this process are open meetings and the public is welcomed to attend; however, there is typically no public input or comment, except for at the June final public hearing. Of course, if any of our residents have any questions or input regarding the budget, they are invited to call or visit Town Hall and the Town Administrator at any time. The dates and times of these workshops will be posted on the website and at Town Hall when they are scheduled.

LAND USE CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING IN TOWN, APPROVAL REQUIRED

Thinking of building a new house, an addition, a garage, a shed, or other structure, then you will most likely need a Zoning Permit from the Town of Pinetops as your first step. As does most Towns/Cities, The Town of Pinetops has a comprehensive Zoning Ordinance that regulates the use of land and structures. These regulations apply within Town limits as well as up to a one-mile radius surrounding the Town limits, in what is called the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction, or ETJ. So, before you begin a project, please don't forget to check with Town Hall to see if your project will require a Zoning permit.

The zoning regulations are intended to provide requirements and procedures to govern the development and use of land and structures and to promote public health, safety, and the general welfare of the community. The guidelines are also intended, among other things, to provide economic, social, and aesthetic advantages and to preserve or enhance the character of each zoning district and to ensure the most appropriate use of land throughout the town for the benefit of all.

MANAGING YOUR REFUSE BINS

Please remember to bring your trash and recycling bins back to their proper places near your home, garage, or other storage area away from the curbside after they have been emptied. Also, don't forget to have them out no later than 7:00 AM on the day they are scheduled to be picked up to ensure they are collected. We thank you for your cooperation in keeping our community looking neat and uncluttered!

THANKS!

Thanks to all the residents who have heeded our recent messages to make certain that only acceptable recyclable items are in the recycling (blue) bins. There has been some improvement. However, there is still much room for improvement, as the Town is still receiving fines more than it should! We ask all to review the guidelines again (on reverse of this document for convenience). Help us make this a success for the environment and our community.

As always, stop by or contact Town Hall with any questions you may have on these and any other topics.