



VILLAGE of WHISPERING PINES

MANAGER'S REPORT – MONTHLY

November 6, 2020

- Upcoming Events
 - Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, Village Hall Closed
 - Hazardous Waste Collection Event, Saturday, November 21 @ Pinecrest HS
 - Thanksgiving, November 26 & 27, Village Hall Closed
 - WPF RD Santa Parade, Saturday, December 5, 1pm-5pm
 - Village Christmas Tree Lighting, Saturday, December 5, 5pm
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Monday, November 9, Conceptual Master Plan Review
 - 2pm – 4pm & 6pm – 8pm
 - Thursday, November 12, Village Council Meeting, 6pm
 - Wednesday, November 18, Planning & Zoning, 4:30pm
 - Thursday, November 19, Village Council Work Session, 2pm
- Capital Project Update
 - Spring Valley Spillway – NO CHANGE
 - Still waiting on our “official” certificate to impound water.
 - Cardinal Lake Dam maintenance/repair
 - The Village Engineer is still awaiting notification from NC Dam Safety that our application has been approved. BobK is prepared to move forward as soon as possible.
 - Thagard Dam Repair Project
 - The Village Engineer received the report from the geotechnical engineer, and he has requested several revisions and clarifications. The Village Engineer anticipates receiving the revised report next week.
- Coronavirus Response (COVID-19)
 - Executive Order No. (EO) 170 (also referred to as “Phase 3 Extended”) remains in effect and is set to expire on Friday, November 13.



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- Drive-thru Trick-or-Treat was a tremendous success. Thanks to our Public Works Department for the creativity and effort with setting it up and Estelle for coordinating this successful event.
- Public Works Department
 - The new dump truck has arrived.
- Fire Rescue Department (FRD)
 - ISO Rating – see attached press release.
 - Purchased 100 smoke alarms with a \$1,500 donation from the WPF RD Association.
 - Conducted our semi-annual door-to-door smoke alarm campaign within the fire district on October 31.
 - Attempted contact – 76
 - Made contact – 48
 - Tested smoke alarm – 2
 - Replaced battery - 13
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
 - The CERT training program culminated on Monday, October 26, with a live exercise involving simulated live power lines down, a small fire, and multiple injured victims.
- Code Enforcement
 - The following is a summary of code enforcement activities for the month of October.



<u>Violation</u>	<u>#</u>
• Boat	5
• Debris	1
• Property Nuisance	1



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|--------------------|-----------|
| • Trailer | 8 |
| • Trash | 43 |
| • Travel Trailer | 2 |
| • Yard Nuisance | 1 |
| • Other | <u>10</u> |
| • TOTAL VIOLATIONS | 71 |
- Administrative/Personnel Matters
 - 1st Quarter Financial Statement provided to Village Council via email
 - Vacant Positions
 - One (1) Public Works Specialist
 - One (1) Police Officer
 - Staff is taking action to fill the vacant positions.
 - Geneser lawsuit ref: Hummingbird Lane Update – the Village Attorney emailed a copy of the signed order last week. The Cherrys' have until November 24, 2020 to file a Notice of Appeal.
 - Batchelor lawsuit ref: Hummingbird Lane Update – NO CHANGE
 - The November & December Village Schedule, Event, & Meeting Calendar is attached.



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FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT
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Whispering Pines Fire Rescue Receives Lower ISO Rating

Whispering Pines, NC, October 26, 2020 - The Whispering Pines Fire Rescue Department (WPFRD) was recently notified by North Carolina Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey of their new fire rating of 3.

The new designation goes into effect February 1, 2021. The inspection, conducted by officials with the Department of Insurance Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), is required on a regular basis as part of the North Carolina Response Rating System (NCRRS). Among other things, the inspection looks for proper staffing levels, sufficient equipment, proper maintenance of equipment, communications capabilities, and availability of a water source.

"We knew we had worked hard and were optimistic we would improve upon our previous rating, but to receive a 3, we are ecstatic" said Fire Rescue Chief Rich Lambdin. "This dramatic improvement would not have been possible without our Village Council's efforts and commitment to improving our department's resources and especially our staffing levels. WPFRD personnel devoted many hours of preparation to make sure that we were prepared for the inspection. It's also important to note that this was a community effort as the local water systems, especially Carolina Water Service, Moore County Public Safety (911) & Fire Marshal are included in the overall rating."

The NCRRS rating system ranges from one (highest) to 10 (not recognized as a certified fire department by the state), with most rural departments falling into the 9S category. While lower ratings do not necessarily indicate poor service, a higher rating does suggest that a department is overall better equipped to respond to fires in its district. Higher ratings can also significantly lower homeowner's insurance rates in that fire district. According to the OSFM, as of October 31, 2019, only 120 departments out of 1520 evaluations statewide were rated 3 or higher, which puts the district in the top 12% of North Carolina fire districts. The department was previously rated 6.

"I'd like to congratulate Chief Lambdin for the department's performance and for the hard work of all the department personnel," said Commissioner Causey. "The residents in the Village and the fire district should rest easy knowing they have a fine group of firefighters protecting them and their property in case of an emergency."

Chief Lambdin added that residents of the fire district should check with their insurance companies after February 1 to see if the new rating lowers their insurance rates. "Insurance rates are generally lower with better ratings," he said. "We encourage residents and business owners to see if there's a change in their annual premium. We anticipate that commercial and retail properties will definitely see a difference."

If you would like more information on the rating or the WPFRD, please contact Chief Rich Lambdin.