

City Manager's Report
Brian J. Borne, City Manager
Week Ending October 14, 2022

Downtown

Matthew C. Black, Director, Downtown Department

Downtown Parking Survey Going Live Today:

The survey about Downtown parking is going live on October 14, 2022! Please visit the links below and share information to your social media pages. In sharing, please copy the information verbatim so that information can remain unbiased as possible.

The City of Monroe strives to provide the best experience to everyone who visits Downtown for various purposes. The City is in the process of evaluating our Downtown parking system. This evaluation will analyze existing parking conditions and recommend solutions to improve Downtown parking. Below are the links to the online surveys.

English:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZY3T9V8>

Spanish:

<https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/ZCXQTFL>

Fire

Ron Fowler, Chief, Fire Department

Goulston's Safe and Sound Week

Monroe Firefighters recently participated in Goulston Technology's Safe and Sound week. The week included fire extinguisher training for Goulston employees and a safety fair where employees were able to gather information on smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, hands only CPR and child passenger seat safety.



East Elementary School Community Helpers Day

Monroe Firefighters from Quint 2, B-Shift visited East Elementary School for their Community Helpers Day. The children enjoyed learning from the firefighters, police officers and EMS personnel that were there and enjoyed seeing their vehicles and emergency equipment.



Fire Explorers

The new school year brought new recruitment for Monroe's Fire Explorer Program. We had 24 Explorers, which included many new faces, at our September meeting. Thank you to Union County Communications for providing our training on dispatching and how 911 works.



Storm Preparation for Hurricane Ian

Emergency Management Officials and representatives from various first responder agencies were meeting in the days leading up to Hurricane Ian in preparation for possible impacts the storm could have brought to our community. During the storm, Monroe Fire and Police personnel were in the County's Emergency Operation Center and the Fire Department had additional staffing on duty to form two swift water rescue teams. Thankfully there were no serious impacts from Hurricane Ian for our area. We continue to remember those in other areas who were devastated by the storm.



Citizen's Academy

Firefighters hosted the Monroe Citizen's Academy at Fire Station 4 on October 3, 2022. Attendees enjoyed a firefighter cooked meal in the Fire Station complete with homemade desserts while they learned about the various services the Fire Department provides. The attendees were also given opportunities to tour the equipment, ride in the aircraft rescue and firefighting unit and go up in the aerial ladder. The evening wrapped up with a ride back to City Hall in a fire apparatus.



Human Resources

Debra C. Reed, Director, Human Resources Department

Flu Shots:

The City of Monroe has partnered with Community Health Services of Union County to provide flu shots to City employees – full time, part-time, retirees and Council Members. The Flu Clinic is scheduled for October 21, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Old Armory Community Center. Please schedule an appointment by contacting your Administrative Assistant.

Blood Drive:

The City of Monroe along with American Red Cross hosted a blood drive on September 22, 2022 at the Monroe Aquatics Center. There were 25 units of blood collected during the event. This has a potential to save the lives of up to 75 people!

Health Risk Assessments

The City of Monroe collaborated with Piedmont Pharmaceutical Care Network (PPCN)/ eHealth Screening Wellness again this year to provide health risk assessments to employees during the month of October.

Employee Appreciation Celebration:

The Employee Appreciation Celebration luncheon was held on September 13, 2022 at Belk Tonawanda Park and was well attended by 385 employees.

Citizens Academy:

The first session of the 2022 Citizens Academy was held on September 12, 2022 with nine attendees present. Citizens Academy is an eight-week program for citizens to become more aware of how City Departments function. Citizens Academy participants will graduate on November 8, 2022 and will be recognized at the November 8, 2022 City Council Regular Meeting.

Parks and Recreation

Ryan Jones, Director, Parks and Recreation

Active Adults:

The Friends of the Fitzgerald will revive their annual cookie sale at the Downtown Halloween Happenings on October 15, 2022. The Friends of the Fitzgerald is a volunteer group of members who raise money to purchase items that are outside of the Ellen Fitzgerald Senior Center's current operating budget. All proceeds go directly to the senior center to purchase needed items.

Members of the Senior Center teamed up with the Monroe Fire Department for BINGO on October 6, 2022. The Fire Department helped to provide information regarding fire safety to members, and awarded prizes!

On October 6, 2022, the Senior Singers travelled to Woodridge Assisted Living to sing for the residents there. This is a fun group who loves to lift others up through song.

Recently members read and discussed the book, “The Maid” by Nita Prose. Members enjoyed gathering and learning different perspectives on the book they read for review each month.

New Hire(s):

Aleshia Holland – The Ellen Fitzgerald Senior Center staff and members welcome Aleshia Holland as the new Senior Citizens Center Supervisor. She comes from the Stanly County Senior Center with over ten years of experience working with older adults. Aleshia passionate to serve the senior population.

Please click [HERE](#) for our monthly program calendar!

Athletics:

Youth Basketball registration is now open. Late registrations will be accepted until November 4, 2022. All late registrations are subject to a \$10 late fee.

Practices are tentatively scheduled to begin November 14, 2022. Games will begin December 3, 2022.



Planning and Development

Lisa Stiwinter, Director, Planning and Development

Permitting Division:

Permit Revenue- includes Building, Planning, Fire & Engineering:

<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>	<i>FY 2023</i> <i>7/1/22 – 9/30/22</i>
\$1,131,453.87	\$2,178,892.99	\$359,195.99

New Single Family Dwelling Permits Issued:

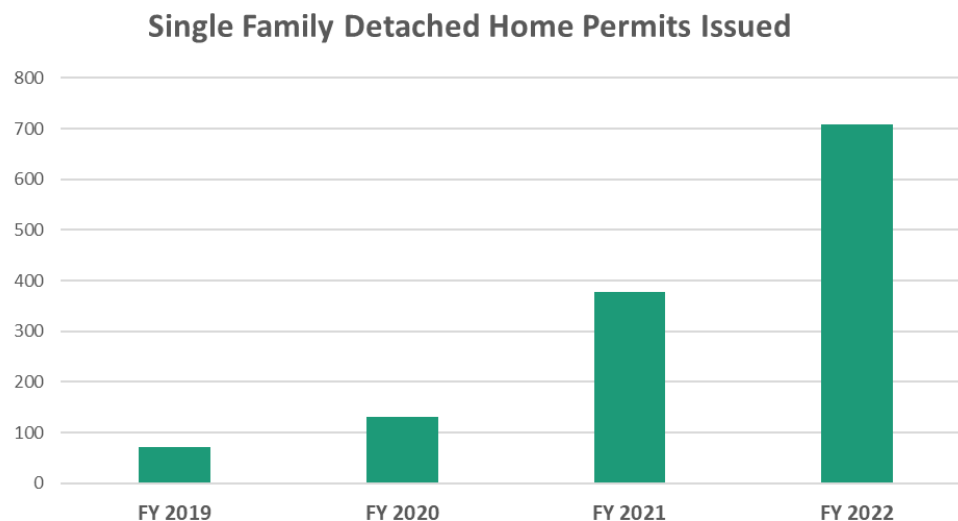
<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>	<i>FY 2023</i> <i>7/1/22 – 9/30/22</i>
378	707	105

September (Monthly) Total permit counts:

<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>
585	1107	415

Planning Division:

In early August the Mayor and City Council requested an item be placed on the September Strategic City Council agenda to discuss currently approved Residential Development projects due to the number of questions and comments being received from the Community. At the September 13, 2022 Strategic City Council meeting, the Planning and Development Director gave a presentation outlining the historic of residential growth, the residential development approval process, a summary of residential development approvals, and introduced the new interactive develop map. The Planning and Development Department has seen a substantial uptick in development submittals over the last several years, which is now leading to an increase in single family dwelling permits being issued.



The Planning and Development staff have had a goal to create an interactive map of all current development approvals within the City of Monroe for quite some time; however, due to the lack of staff resources and expertise we have not been able to accomplish this goal until now.

The planning division partnered with the Geographic Information Systems Division (GIS), which is housed in the Information Technology Department to create a GIS web map that allows public

access to all development projects that will be placed on the Planning and Development Department website. The map is currently still under construction; however, we hope to have this fully functioning in the near future.

Boards and Commission Open Seats:

The Board of Adjustment and Historic District Commission have open seats.

The Board of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial board. This Board hears and makes decisions on Special Use Permits, Variances, and Appeals.

The Historic District Commission makes quasi-judicial decisions on matters within the Historic District. You must either live in the district or have a demonstrated special interest, experience, or education in history, architectural, archaeology, or related fields to serve on this Commission.

Please note if you are interested in serving on one of these boards, you must attend at least two meetings prior to applying to serve on a Board. The application is on the City's website. If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Department at 704-282-4520.

New Hires:

Wilson Rivera, Code Enforcement Officer 1



Wilson Rivera joined the Planning and Development Department as a Code Enforcement Officer 1. Mr. Rivera comes to the City of Monroe from Florida where he served as a Sales Associate and Asset Protection Lead for the past two years where he learned valuable customer service, supervisory and security protection skills. Mr. Rivera also worked as a Juvenile Detention Officer with Seminole County Sheriff's Office for four years where he worked with juveniles and learned valuable security and enforcement skills. Additional skills Mr. Rivera brings to the table is certifications in First Aid and CPR and bilingual capabilities in Spanish and Portuguese. In his spare time, Mr. Rivera enjoys Jujitsu Martial Arts, spending time with his wife, cooking and traveling.

Andrew Lee, Building Inspector 1



Andrew Lee joined the Planning and Development Department as a Building Inspector I to the Planning and Development Department. Mr. Lee comes to the City of Monroe from Hinson Electric where he served as an Electrical Technician for the past eight years. During his position as an Electrical Technician, he gained valuable electrical skills from installation of electrical conduit and wiring for power, controls and lighting to interpreting the National Electric code, blueprints and drawings. Mr. Lee is a team player, displays leadership skills and is a quick learner. Mr. Lee is a native to Monroe and enjoys outdoor recreation, exercising and spending time with his wife.