

Town of Blacksburg



Memo

TO: Town of Blacksburg

FROM: Shane Childers, MBA, Assistant Town Administrator

DATE: March 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Update – February 2023

The Administrators report will be published each month for the Town of Blacksburg Citizens to be informed of Town activities and updates. In addition, this report is provided at each regular scheduled Town Council Meeting. I am pleased to send you an update on the Town's recent activities for the month of November 2022. Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information at shane@townofblacksburg.com or 864-839-2332.

1. The Town was awarded the MASC Hometown Economic Development Grant for \$25,000 to contribute to the construction of the proposed Lime Street Park Amphitheater Stage. The town is identifying additional revenue sources and creating procurement documents within the new Fiscal Year.
2. The land has been cleared and Duke Energy has run the power extension to the Lime Street Park Amphitheater. The electrical contractor has constructed meter base stations from Duke Energy's base to the Amphitheater area. The trails at the Lime St. Park is in the process of being re-mulched.
3. The Town has worked with and will continue working with the Town's Attorney, Engineering Consultant and Planning and Zoning Commissioner to condense and refine the Zoning Map, Zoning definitions, and Zoning Ordinance Article Documents.
4. The Town utilized the recently completed Infrastructure Assessment and Evaluation to request funding totaling \$8 million in grant funding for water and sewer infrastructure improvements and upgrades from the SC Rural Infrastructure agency SCIIIP Program, with ACOG and Summit Engineering assisting in completing the application and grant narrative. The award of the grant will be in Q1 of 2023.
5. The Town has submitted an application which was due February 1, 2023, for a \$125,000 grant to the Appalachian Regional Commission to address the Exit 102 Force main existing conditions.
6. The Town has completed two AMI water meter propagation studies completed by Ferguson and Mueller for future capital infrastructure investment and operations and maintenance improvements. Administration is now evaluating the process on moving forward with upgrading infrastructure.
7. Town Administration has been working with the Town of Grover and investigating alternatives to serve several commercial customers in the Exit 106 area with water.
8. Town Administration continues working with the Town's Attorney to draft, evaluate and negotiate the possible sewer system transfer to the Gaffney Board of Public Works.
9. The Town Interim Administrator has been working on the Cherokee County Transit Feasibility Study steering committee in an effort to evaluate the needs and offer possible solutions to county wide transit services.
10. Town Interim Administrator has initiated communication with the S.C. DOT and the S.C. Housing Authority to evaluate options in an effort to move forward on correcting the Brugg St. bridge and drainage issue.
11. Town Public Works staff continue to conduct routine maintenance and repair to the Town's water, sewer, and roadway infrastructure. Public Works had 86 total work orders.
12. The Town has been working to receive competitive quotes for a highly needed upgrade to the Town's IT.
13. Town has completed ten months of the fiscal year 2023. The Town has spent approximately 77.2% of the current budget of \$3,375,000.
14. The Town of Blacksburg Police Department had 270 calls for service in February 2023, according to Cherokee County Dispatch monthly data.
15. The Blacksburg Volunteer Fire Department had 70 calls for service in February 2023, according to Cherokee County Dispatch monthly data.
16. The Town's Administration is still awaiting the FY22 preliminary audit findings, continuing to work with 120water to complete the lead and copper compliance process, attend training and other professional association meetings, Administration is continuing to respond to development inquiries and issuing zoning permits, FY24 Budget Process is in the final stages and Administration is reviewing the capital improvement project program and identifying potential grants applicable to the projects with the assistance from a third party engineering consultants.