

Town of Blacksburg

Memo

TO: Town of Blacksburg

FROM: Shane Childers, MBA, Assistant Town Administrator

DATE: September 8, 2026

SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Update – August 2026

The Administrator's Report is published each month for the Town of Blacksburg citizens to remain informed of Town activities and updates. This report is also provided at each regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting. Please contact me if you have questions or need additional

1. **Upcoming Changes in Services** - The Town has been working with MSI Services over the last several months for the disposal of yard debris. The Town will need to transition disposing of yard debris to the Cherokee County Landfill. All limbs, brush, etc. must be less than 6 feet in order to be collected and delivered to the Cherokee County Landfill.
2. **Town Events** - Town staff and volunteers have been working on the Iron City Festival, which will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. In addition to the Iron City Festival, there will also be a Blacksburg 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Blacksburg High School from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m., and Shop on Shelby hosted by the Blacksburg Business Association will be held on N. Shelby Street from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m. on September 12 as well. Planning has already begun on the Boo in the Burg Halloween event which will be held along Cherokee Street on October 31, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Participants are still needed to hand out candy/treats.
3. **Community Involvement & Outreach** - Town Administrator and staff member Brittiany Rape attended and participated in the Live Healthy Cherokee sub-committee on behavioral health, and Administrator Childers also participated in Live Healthy Cherokee Advisory Board. The Town, along with the Cherokee County Public Library, Live Healthy Cherokee, Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders held a ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration for a new self-monitoring blood pressure station at the Blacksburg Branch of the Cherokee County Library.
4. **Upgrades** - Town Administrator and staff member Brittiany Rape has been meeting regularly with Edmunds GovTech to integrate the new software for the Town, meeting with Aptegy to launch a new website and app for the Town to better communicate with residents and launching a new marketing and media campaign.
5. **Public Works Department Update** - Public Works staff continue routine maintenance and repair activities involving the Town's water system, parks, streets, and general roadway infrastructure. The Water Department, Town Administrator and others have been meeting regularly with USA Rare Earth and other stakeholders on how best to meet the water needs for USA Rare Earth. A total of roughly 1.3 million dollars were appropriated in the State Budget for a water line extension project along Hwy 5 and Jumping Branch Rd.
6. **Police Department Activity** - 245 Calls for service in July 2026
7. **Fire Department Activity** - 74 Calls for service in July 2026
8. **FY27 Budget Progress** - The Town completed the 4th Period of FY27. The Town has spent approximately 21.14% of the FY27 budget of \$7,124,294.