

OCTOBER**NOVEMBER****DECEMBER**

6 Planning Board Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall	1 Daylight savings time ends “fall” back one hour! Check smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors!	12 Light Up Lowell 2 pm – 6 pm Christmas Parade 3 pm
12 Columbus Day – Federal Holiday (City offices will be open)	3 General Election	14 Council Meeting 7 pm, City Hall
12 Council Meeting, 7 pm City Hall	6 Teacher workday	22 Lowell Women’s Club Meeting, 7 pm, Community Center
15 Senior trip to Shatley Springs	9 Council Meeting 7 pm, City Hall	23-25 Christmas Holiday, City Offices closed, Wednesday trash will be picked up with Tuesday’s route. Please have Wednesday’s trash out on Tuesday.
16 Teacher work day	11 (Wednesday) Holiday, Veterans Day, City offices closed. Wednesday trash collections will be picked up Thursday	28 Master Planning Committee, 6 pm, City Hall
24 Family Fun Walk 10 am, City Hall Octoberfest, 10 am - 4 pm, downtown Fireworks show, dusk, Harold Rankin Park	19 Senior luncheon, Woodlawn Baptist	
26 Master Planning Committee 6 pm, City Hall	23 Master Planning Committee 6 pm, City Hall	
27 Lowell Women’s Club meeting, 7 pm, Community Center	24 Lowell Women’s Club meeting, 7 pm, Community Center	
29 Treat Walk, 3 pm, City Hall	25 No school	
31 Halloween	26, 27 Thanksgiving Holiday, offices closed	

Contact Information**Mayor**

Larry Simonds 704-868-6201

City Council

Shane Robinson 704-824-1971

Terry Benson 704-824-0539

Martha Burris 704-823-9129

Rickie Bush 704-860-5288

Sam Mitchem, Jr. 704-824-8251

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City Clerk

Beverly Harris 704-824-3518

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Mark Buchanan 704-824-8540

Fire Chief

Scott Moore 704-824-3357

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Recreation Director

Zip Stowe 704-824-0099

Planning Department

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After-hours non-emergency

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Website = www.lowellnc.comFire Department website = www.lowellfd.com**Lowell, NC**
The Patriotic City

The City Of Lowell newsletter is published quarterly to inform the residents of Lowell about their city and related activities. Questions and comments should be directed to the City Manager’s Office, 101 West First Street, Lowell, NC 28098

City of Lowell
101 West First Street
Lowell, NC 28098

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Lowell City Newsletter News & Information For October, November & December, 2015

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The most important date to keep in mind is November 3rd, when all citizens have the opportunity to vote for municipal candidates. The Lowell polling place is the Presbyterian Church of Lowell Activity Center at 300 E. Second Street (across from the post office). Please call the Gaston County Board of Elections if you have any questions regarding absentee voting, early voting, voter registration, etc. at 704-852-6005.

Candidates for office in Lowell are as follows:

Mayor: (*select one*) Larry Simonds, Sr., Sandy Railey

City Council: (*select five*) Josh (“Shane”) Robinson, Terry Benson, Sam Mitchem, Kirby Case, Sr., Kenneth Chitwood, James Lloyd Dockery, Kenneth Ervin, Candace Funderburk, Michael Gault, Thomas Gillespie, Jeffrey (“Scott”) Green, Martha Ray, Penny Stubbs, David Turner.

CITIZEN’S MASTER PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Lowell Master Planning Committee and work groups continue to meet on a regular basis. The most recent accomplishment has been the new signs going up at major gateways to Lowell. They feature a bold and colorful look and a new slogan. The signs are a result of work by the Lowell Master Planning Committee and are made possible by an anonymous donor. The signs were hand-painted by local artist Roger Ray. Additional efforts will be made to spruce these signs up in the near future.



Committee members, pictured from left to right are John Cantrell, Thomas Gillespie, Chuck Starr, Margie Parker, David Jennings, Martha Burris, Candy Funderburk, Cheritta Benson, Penny Stubbs, Sandy Railey, Kim Collins, Ed Jackson and Pam Smith.

Not pictured are Sam Boyles and Dick Roberts.

LOWELL LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE

In late July, Lowell launched a new web site. Thanks to the efforts of City Clerk Beverly Harris, in partnership with a computer consultant and our very own I.T. expert Mark Whitten, the new website is designed to be more user-friendly and easier to navigate.



The City's Facebook page is also updated regularly with City news and events.

NEWS FROM THE LOWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

On Saturday October 23rd, at 6 pm, the Lowell Volunteer Fire Department, in partnership with the Gaston College Fire Training Program, will conduct a "controlled burn" of a dilapidated house located at 216 Oakland Drive. The purpose of this controlled burn is to remove the dilapidated house and to provide a real-life training exercise for firefighters to ensure they are always prepared for the real thing!

Winter time is the time to fire up the fireplaces, turn on the furnace, and get those space heaters out of storage. This can increase the risk of residential fire, so follow manufacturer's instructions when heating your home during the cold weather. See the City's webpage and Facebook page for safety tips. If you have any questions or require assistance, please call the Lowell Volunteer Fire Department at 704-824-3357.

NEWS FROM THE LOWELL LIBRARY

Library supervisor Shannon Potter has left the Lowell Branch and you will now find her at the Belmont library. We thank her for her service to Lowell and its residents. Please welcome the new Lowell branch supervisors Rene Crump and Chad Eller, who will be sharing supervising duties, beginning October 5th.

All libraries are closed on October 12th for a staff development day. Beginning October 13th, operating hours at the Lowell branch will change to Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10am to 6pm. It will be open 12pm to 8pm on Tuesdays. Please call the library at 704-824-1266 if you have any questions.

NEWS FROM THE LOWELL PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Recreation Commission Meetings are typically held at the Lowell Community Center, 501 West First Street, on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm, as business requires. Please call City Hall as the schedule for meetings is subject to change based upon the schedules of Commission members.

FALL SOCCER: July 2015 through November 2015

- The fall soccer program is available for boys and girls ages 3 to 14 years old.
- Practices for the fall soccer program will be held at Harold Rankin Park beginning in early August and will continue throughout the season.
- Regular season matches begin in the third week of August and run through mid-October, with playoffs being held in the third week of October.
- Banquets are held in early November.
- Typically, Lowell fields as many as 10 teams and as many as 80 participants for the fall soccer program.
- The program is coordinated with neighboring towns and cities.



BASKETBALL: November 2015 through March 2016

- The basketball program is available for the following age groups: The girls and boys basketball program is for ages 3 to 14; the girls only basketball program is for girls ages 9 to 12.
- Registration will start during the first week of November and will continue through the first week of December.

- Open practice sessions and team practice will be provided at the Lowell Boys and Girls Club on North Main Street beginning in early December and running throughout the basketball season.
- Games will begin in the first week of January and will run through the last week of February.
- Playoffs will take place in the first and second weeks of March, and team banquets will be scheduled for mid-March.
- Typically there are seven Lowell teams participating in the program along with teams from other neighboring municipalities. In the 2014/2015 program, 75 children participated in the Lowell teams.



Please visit Lowell's website for specific registration dates, times and game schedules.

6TH ANNUAL OCTOBERFEST

Don't miss the food, music, fun and fireworks in downtown Lowell, Saturday, October 24th

The day will begin with a one mile Family Fun Walk at 9:30 am. The Lowell Elementary School PTO, the Lowell Women's Club, and the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club in Lowell will all equally benefit from the proceeds from registration fees.



Registration begins at 8:30 am. Registration fee is \$10.00, due on date of event prior to start of race. Ages 10 & under are free when accompanied by a paying adult. All walkers will receive a commemorative medal and will be registered to win a cash prize or one of various prizes donated from merchants. A drawing will be held on stage at Oktoberfest at 11:30 am.

The festival will take place from 10:00 am-4:00 pm and will include vendors, kids' activities, hay rides and free entertainment. Wristbands are \$2.00 which include bounce houses and the hay ride. Musical entertainment includes Roger Waters and also the Bobby Ray Bittle Band.

The festivities will be capped off by a fireworks display to be held at dusk at Harold Rankin Park.

CALLING ALL SENIORS!

The Lowell Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a trip to Shatley Springs on October 15th. The cost for this trip is \$10.00 per person for transportation only. Participants need to bring additional money for food. This trip is limited to 24 persons, so please sign up and pay on or before October 9th. You may sign up and pay at City Hall Monday through Friday from 8:00am-5pm.

The next Senior luncheon will be held on Thursday, November 19th at Woodlawn Baptist Church at 11 am. Join your friends and neighbors for a great lunch, bingo and prizes, fun and friendship! Listen for the telephone announcement for registration instructions for this event.



7TH ANNUAL LIGHT UP LOWELL Saturday December 12th, 2 pm – 6 pm

The Fire Department will participate with their Annual Santa Ride/ Treat bags as part of the parade and Light Up Lowell, also on December 12th.

Enjoy the annual Christmas Parade followed by Light Up Lowell in the center of downtown. See some of your favorites from last year! There will be food vendors, crafts and entertainers and, of course, Santa will hear children's wishes in his sleigh! The celebration will be capped off with Santa Claus' symbolic lighting of the Christmas Tree! If you or your organization would like to participate in this free event, call 704-824-0099.



MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Got wheels? Deliver meals for the Gaston County Adult Nutrition Program! Spend one hour a month delivering a smile and a hot lunch to homebound elderly. Help is help is needed in Lowell. Call 704-862-7676 to volunteer.

