



## CITY SNIPPETS

Information. Well Crafted.

### Firefighters Check City Hydrants

Over the next few months, firefighters will implement the annual hydrant inspection and maintenance program throughout the City of Hickory service area. During this process, firefighters and public utilities personnel will be working very close to busy streets while actually flowing water from hydrants. For the safety of all, motorists are encouraged to reduce their speed and exercise extreme caution when recognizing their path of travel will pass nearby hydrants being operated.



*Flowing Hydrants for Safety and Water Quality*

“Although firefighters check hydrants for various reasons, the main priority is to ensure that each hydrant is verified for usage in the event of a fire. While flowing each hydrant, firefighters also use instruments to calculate the amount of pressure and available water. This proactive approach is also important in maintaining the City’s current fire insurance rating,” stated Deputy Fire Chief Chad Fisher.

“An added benefit of this program is that flushing hydrants helps maintain water quality. However, as a consequence of flushing, sometimes this operation causes brief water discoloration. If this should occur, call the City of Hickory at 828-323-7500 to flush the main line. After the main line is cleared of discoloration, homeowners should turn on an outside spigot to clear up the water inside the residence. Refrain from using

hot water as soon as possible after experiencing discoloration to prevent the hot water heater from getting discolored,” stated Public Utilities Director Shawn Pennell.

Since there are more than 2,000 hydrants located in the city, this process will take several months to complete. Although checking these hydrants will take place on weekdays from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., occasionally, firefighters may have to make various checks during weekends and after-hours when it is impractical or not feasible to do so during the weekday.



If you want to be notified when hydrants will be flowed in your area, please sign up to receive CodeRED Alerts through Catawba County’s Community Alert Program. Sign up, or update your contact information, for CodeRED Alerts by clicking the link under “Request” under the “How Do I” navigation tab on the City’s website, [www.HickoryNC.gov](http://www.HickoryNC.gov). For additional information or questions, please contact Hickory Public Utilities at 828-323-7427 or Deputy Fire Chief Chad Fisher at 828-323-7420.

### Swimming Pool & Lawn Sprinkler Information

With warm weather just around the corner, please keep these instructions in mind when filling up your swimming pool or turning on your sprinkler system.

#### Pool Fill Adjustments

Remember to call at least one business day BEFORE filling your swimming pool from the ground up so you may receive an adjustment on the sewer charge on your water bill. Our staff MUST read your water meter before and after the pool is filled to ensure an accurate volume. Call Collections at 828-323-7424 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. ➡



ADDRESS

76 North Center Street

WEBSITE

HickoryNC.gov

PHONE

828-323-7400

ISSUE

March 2023

## HICKORY CITY COUNCIL

April 4 & 18 at 7 p.m.

Julian G. Whitener  
Municipal Building (City Hall)  
[HickoryNC.gov](http://HickoryNC.gov)

## EASTER EGG HUNTS

Saturday, April 1

Ages 0-6: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Ages 7-12: 8-9 p.m.

Henry Fork River Park

## CHAMBER CLASSICS: THE BALOURDET QUARTET

Saturday, April 1

7:30 p.m.

Drendel Auditorium, SALT Block  
[WPSymphony.org](http://WPSymphony.org)

## GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 7

City Offices Closed

## DOWNTOWN HICKORY FARMERS MARKET

Regular Season begins April 15

Saturdays: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Wednesdays: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Sails on the Square  
[HickoryFarmersMarket.com](http://HickoryFarmersMarket.com)

## HICKORY HOPS

Saturday, April 15

1-6 p.m.

Downtown Hickory  
[HickoryHops.com](http://HickoryHops.com)

## NCDOT SPRING LITTER SWEEP

April 15-29

## CHARITY CHASE

Saturday, April 22

7 a.m.

Downtown Hickory  
[CharityChase.com](http://CharityChase.com)

## MASTERWORKS: THE NEW COLOSSUS

Saturday, April 22

7:30 p.m.

P.E. Monroe Auditorium, LRU  
[WPSymphony.org](http://WPSymphony.org)

## GREEN FEST

Saturday, April 29

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Sails on the Square

For more events, please visit  
[HickoryEventsCalendar.com](http://HickoryEventsCalendar.com)

## Lawn Sprinkler Meters

It's spring, and green grass and lawn sprinklers go hand in hand. The City of Hickory must be contacted to activate irrigation meters to avoid the potential for tampering charges being added for meters that are found with consumption that were turned on by an unauthorized person. To activate a lawn sprinkler meter, call Collections at 828-323-7424 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Also, remember to call Collections at the end of the season to inactivate the service and discontinue monthly base charges.



## Rev. Dr. Anthony Freeman Joins Hickory City Council, Representing Ward 4

Rev. Dr. Anthony Freeman was selected by the Hickory City Council to fill the Ward 4 vacancy. At the Feb. 7 meeting, Hickory City Council voted unanimously to appoint Freeman to the Ward 4 seat on the council. Freeman is the pastor of Clinton Tabernacle A.M.E. Zion Church.

The appointment came after Hickory City Council interviewed six highly qualified and passionate candidates, who submitted letters of interest for the vacancy, during a special called meeting on Feb. 6.

Freeman fills the Ward 4 seat that became vacant following the resignation of Councilman David Williams, who announced in January that he would be moving out of his ward and stepping down from the council. Freeman will serve as the Ward 4 Alderman until the City of Hickory's next general election in November. Freeman was officially sworn into office on Feb. 21.



Rev. Dr. Anthony Freeman

Hickory City Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Hickory City Hall. All City Council meetings are open to the public. For more information about Hickory City Council, upcoming meetings, agendas and minutes, please visit [www.hickorync.gov/city-council](http://www.hickorync.gov/city-council).

## Save the Date for Green Fest



The City of Hickory and Community Appearance Commission will celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day during the Downtown Hickory Farmers Market on Saturday, April 29. Visit the community booth for giveaways and information about environmental stewardship.



City of Hickory, NC -  
Government



@CityofHickory  
@HkyWellCrafted



HickoryWellCrafted