

Town of Pittsboro
Status of Projects and Other News
February 11, 2013

PROJECT: Hillsboro St Water Main Transmission Line Replacement Project

UPDATE: *(Please see weekly progress report from Becky Smith, Hydrostructures)

The contractor completed connections in the traffic circle, following leaks to the old water main on the north and east sides of the traffic circle. Installation of the cross line began on Hanks Street. Inclement weather canceled work the project during the evening of February 8. NCDOT indicates that paving of 15/501 will not begin before mid-April, at the earliest.

PROJECT: Improvements on 15/501 at Springdale Drive

UPDATE: Staff has collected an estimate (approximately \$7,500) and details for speed tables similar in appearance and specification to the Town of Chapel Hill models. Staff is also recommending resurfacing of Springdale St. at an estimated cost of \$24,000. The Powell Bill would cover money for the speed tables and the resurfacing. Staff will be approaching you with more detail on February 25, 2013.

PROJECT: Chief of Police – Hiring Process

UPDATE: The Chief of Police position was posted in the North Carolina League of Municipalities, the North Carolina Police Chief's Association, the North Carolina Executive Association and USA COPS (a national periodical). At the time of this writing, I have received 35 resumes (and probably more by the time we meet on 2/11/13).

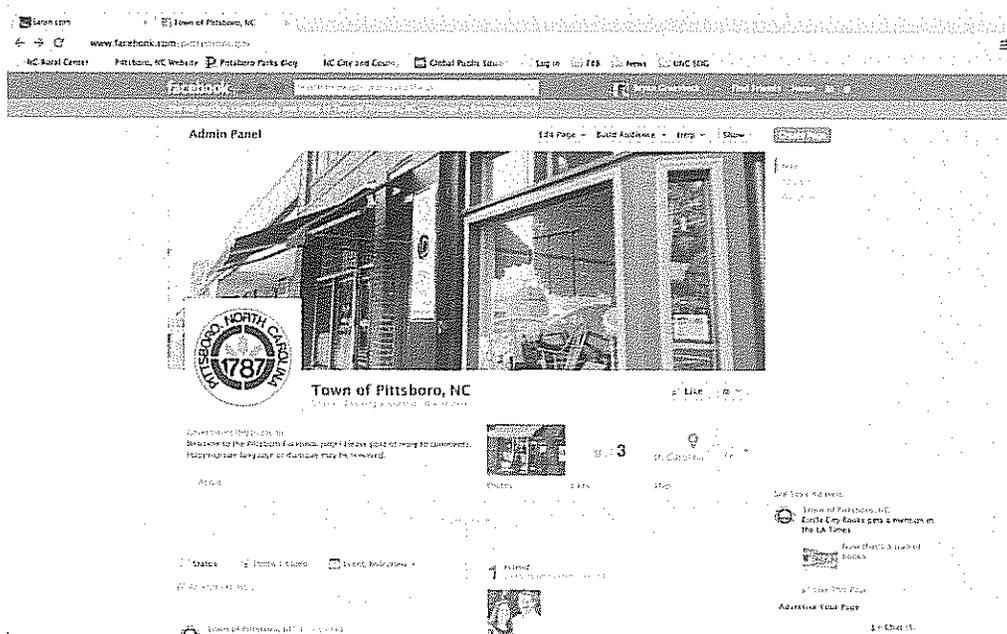
The following people have graciously agreed to lend their time and support in the hiring process: Commissioner Beth Turner, Commissioner Jay Farrell, Bobby Scurlock, Rev. Anthony Davis, Major Mike Roberson and Chief David Collins. Members of this group are planning to meet on Wednesday, February 13 at 6:30pm to discuss desired attributes and skills of the next Chief of Police. This direction will allow me to select a group of candidates for the Selection Committee to review during a subsequent meeting. At that point, I would ask members of the Selection Committee to provide input to help further narrow the possible range of candidates for the purpose of conducting interviews.

PROJECT: Town Space Committee

UPDATE: Commissioners Baldwin and Farrell and I met on January 30, 2013 to discuss different options and strategies for locating Town administrative operations. In essence, we agreed that there is the short-term concern of locating an Engineer in the existing Town Hall or “off-campus” as well as a longer-term issue of completely relocating the police department and/or all other Town administrative functions – Manager, Finance, Clerk, etc. The short-term issues can be resolved quickly, while relocating or expanding the Town Hall may take a few years to complete. A couple of additional off-campus options were mentioned to relocate the Planning and Engineering Departments.

PROJECT: Town of Pittsboro Facebook Page

UPDATE: During a recent Board of Commissioners meeting we discussed establishing a Facebook page to provide updates and Town related news. I went “live” with a Town of Pittsboro Facebook site and added some basic content. The live page (minus the “Admin Panel”) should look something like this screenshot:



Any member of the web-surfing public can view the page by simply navigating to <http://www.facebook.com/pittsboronc.gov>. Facebook users can “Like” the page to receive status updates from the Town. Right now, I am the only administrator. Let me know if you want to share this responsibility. As an administrator, you would have the ability to make Town-related announcements – I would only ask that we agree to some basic ground rules. We will need to develop a concise “social media policy” to help regulate the information that is shared by the staff and public. I will recommend some draft policy language for your review at an upcoming meeting.

OTHER NEWS:

- I attended a seminar on wastewater finance at UNC's School of Government on February 5 and 6 and gathered some great info on setting rates, managing debt and seeking ways to fund projects. On February 6 and 7, I attended the annual North Carolina City and County Management Association Winter Seminar and shared in some interesting discussion regarding new legislation in Raleigh, Council-Manager relations, social media, and natural disaster planning. Both events were great opportunities for me to step back and talk about best practices with other managers.