

Monthly Newsletter of Forsyth County, Georgia

JULY 2016

Millage Rate Public Hearings Scheduled

Forsyth County's Board of Commissioners will hold three public hearings regarding the county's tentatively adopted millage rates, and all citizens are invited and encouraged to attend. The hearings will be held in Suite 220 of the County Administration Building at 110 E. Main Street in Cumming. The Board of Commissioners has announced its intention to maintain the county's millage rates currently in place with no change. Adoption of the millage rates is slated for July 21 at 7 p.m. Visit forsythco.com for more information.

Thursday, July 7, 11 a.m. Thursday, July 7, 5 p.m. Thursday, July 21, 6 p.m.

Comprehensive Plan Update Process Continues

Throughout June, community members continued to give input to the county's Comprehensive Plan update process, *Foster Forsyth*, via in-person and the online versions of the Implementation Workshop, as well as resident-led group discussions of the county's future through the Meeting in a Box input tool.



The insight community members have provided to date on issues related to economic development, housing, transportation and land use was distilled into a set of draft community priorities and character areas, which were vetted at the Implementation Workshops in June. The input collected via these meetings and other input channels will help guide the planning team and project committees in refinement of the key themes and recommendations to be incorporated in the draft plan being developed over July and August.

In August, *Foster Forsyth* will hold two open houses, giving community members an opportunity to review the draft plan and offer feedback to refine it. These open houses will feature the same format and materials, offering two opportunities to participate:

- Monday, August 29, 4-8 p.m.: County Administration Building, Commissioners Meeting Room (Suite 220)
- Wednesday, August 31, 4-8 p.m.: County Administration Building, Commissioners Meeting Room (Suite 220)

For more information on identified priorities, character areas, the Comprehensive Plan update process and upcoming events, visit www.fosterforsyth.com.

Have Some Summer Fun at the Spray Pad at Old Atlanta Park



Hours of operation: May 28 – August 3 Tuesday through Saturday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m. (closed Sundays for private rentals and Mondays for maintenance)

Hours of operation: August 4 – September 5 Tuesday through Friday: 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.

(closed Sundays for private rentals and Mondays for maintenance)

Daily admission for the spray pad is \$2 per person (1 year old and up); cash or check only. Adults are free with paying child (dry deck only). Annual individual passes are available for \$30, and annual family passes are available for \$60.

Old Atlanta Park is located at 810 Nichols Road in Suwanee. For more information, visit www.forsythco.com/parks or call (770) 205-4646.

Commissioner's Corner

As you'll read about in this edition, the Board of Commissioners will host three public hearings in July regarding the millage rates that will fund the county's 2017 budget. Forsyth continues to have one of the lowest millage rates among metro Atlanta counties and the board has tentatively adopted a millage rate that maintains the rate currently in place. We work diligently to keep the tax burden on citizens as low as possible while still providing the excellent county services and amenities that contribute to the great quality of life we enjoy here in Forsyth County.

While it is a critical part of the county's budgeting, adoption of the millage rates is just one component of the nearly yearround budget process. The process begins each spring with many meetings among staff, department heads, officials, the Finance Committee and Board of Commissioners held throughout the year, prior to adoption of the budget toward the end of each year. Because we take our role as stewards of tax dollars so seriously, very careful attention is paid to all aspects of the county's budget. I encourage you to attend one of this month's public hearings regarding the millage rates to learn more about this part of the county's budget.

Sincerely,

R.J. (Pete) Amos, Chairman

Our Commissioners

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July Events

July 4 Government Offices Closed for Independence Day

July 5 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

July 7 Millage Rate Public Hearings

July 7 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting/Public Hearings

> July 12 Board of Commissioners Work Session

July 21 Millage Rate Public Hearings

July 21 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

July 26 Board of Commissioners Work Session

July 26 Planning Commission Meeting

Meeting and event dates are subject to change. To receive the most current information, visit forsythco.com.



Forsyth County Department of Communications 110 E. Main Street, Suite 210 | Cumming, GA 30040 (770) 781-2101 | forsytheo.com TV Forsyth - Comcast Channel 23 and AT&T Channel 99

Voting Information for July 26 County Commission District 5 Republican Primary Runoff

Forsyth County registered voters residing in District 5 who either did not vote in the May 24 Primary, voted a NonPartisan Ballot in the May 24 Primary or voted a Republican Ballot in the May 24 Primary may cast their ballot in the County Commission District 5 Republican Primary Runoff during Advance Voting (weekdays, July 5-22, and Saturday, July 16) or on Election Day (Tuesday, July 26). Those registered voters residing in District 5 who voted a Democratic Ballot in the May 24 Primary are not eligible to vote in the Runoff.

Advance Voting at the County Administration Building, 110 E. Main Street in Cumming Weekdays, July 5-22, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (please note there is no voting on Monday, July 4) Saturday, July 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

> Election Day at District 5 Voters' Assigned Precinct Tuesday, July 26, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, call (770) 781-2118, ext. 9 or visit forsythco.com.

Pick Up a Copy! Annual Reports Now Available



2015 Forsyth County Annual Report

Learn more about your county government and recent projects and accomplishments. Copies of the report can be picked up at the County Administration Building located at 110 E. Main Street in Cumming.

2015 Forsyth County Fire Department Annual Report Learn about your Fire Department's divisions, facilities, apparatus and more. Copies of this report can be picked up at the County Administration Building located at 110 E. Main Street in Cumming, the Public Safety Complex located at 3520 Settingdown Road or any fire station.

Both reports can be viewed online at forsythco.com.

