

TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

February 2018

Editor: Logan T. Shook
Town Manager



Happy Valentine's
Day from the Town
of Cahaj's Mountain!

The Town of Cahaj's Mountain – *"It's Good To Be Home"*

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Cahaj's Mountain hope everyone enjoyed a great start to 2018! The Council has been working on several new ventures to improve the Town. For all the information about these new projects, see the contents section to the left for the appropriate pages.

Contents

Overview	1
Public Comment	2
Town Park Survey	2
Castle Bridge	3
Sanitary Sewer System	3
ORC Announcement	3

Meeting Dates & Location

- ◆ **Town Council:** First Tuesday of each month at Town Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Planning Board:** Second Thursday of each month at Town Hall at 5:30 p.m. as needed
- ◆ Your Council Members from left to right:

Councilman

Lloyd Robbins

Councilwoman

Cheryl Pritchard

Councilman

Jeff Bolick

Mayor

Ronnie Setzer

Mayor Pro Tem

Allen Stewart



"It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." - Harry S. Truman



New Public Comment Period Rules for Town Council Meetings

The Town of Cahaj’s Mountain always looks for ways to improve the processes of government. During our most recent election, it became obvious the Town had room for improvement in the way it administers the Public Comment Period. After several discussions and proposals of public comment etiquette, the Town Council agreed on a set of rules for the Public Comment Period. The new set of rules was adopted at the December 11th, 2017 council meeting. The Public Comment rules document is on cajahsmtn.com for your review.

Town Park Survey

The Town Council voted in October 2017 to purchase 101 Merrywood Drive. The Council agreed to use the land for the Town’s first park. The park will, including the parking lot, cover about an acre. Mayor Pro Tem Allen Stewart has worked with planners from the Western Piedmont Council of Governments to decide the best course of action for the park.



The Town hopes to secure a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant. This grant would pay half of the costs to construct the park, saving the Town useful funds for additional projects. The PARTF grant application requires the Town to go through a series of steps to validate the

application, one of which is having the Town’s **citizens take part in a survey.**

Cajah’s Mountain will have two options for citizens **to complete the PARTF Grant survey:** print it off of the Town website, on the homepage of cajahsmtn.com, and email it to townmgr@cajahmtn.com or pick up one at Town Hall and submit it to the Town Manager. The last day to submit the survey is Wednesday, February 28th, 2018. All surveys will go to the Western Piedmont Council of Governments on March 1st, 2018. The Council will also allow the public to give input during a public hearing on Monday, March 5th, 2018. Here are a few of the options people can choose to have considered in the park:

- Picnic Tables
- Swings
- Crawl Tubes
- Playgrounds
- Tennis Court
- Seating
- Slides
- BBQ Grilles
- Play Houses
- Climbers



These are just a few of the options listed on the survey. While not all of the items will get a spot at the park, we do want to customize the list of options to suite you, are citizens. Please stop in between the hours of 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday through Friday to pick up the survey. And do not hesitate to try the online option at cajahsmtn.com

Castle Bridge Closing

Over 9,000 people travel across Castle Bridge every day. The bridge serves as a connector between Burke County and Caldwell County on Connelly Springs Road. The bridge was constructed in 1961 and allows many people the access they need to get medical care, to go shopping, and to get to work. And many of those affected are you all, our citizens.



Many are asking, “why is the bridge closing?” A recent inspection revealed that the steel beams have deteriorated. The beams have reached a point of no return and must be replaced. This is for the health, safety, and welfare of everyone who use the bridge. The repair work will take 14-18 months and begins summer 2018.



There are several other questions that can be answered by the DOT Castle Bridge Project FAQ report. This report is posted on the homepage of cajahsmtn.com. The report contains a detour map, too. Emergency Services will be different, and NCDOT is currently working with EMS of both Caldwell County and Burke

County to work out the precise logistics. More information will be laid out at a public hearing during May or June. Please keep an eye out for the date and time of this meeting on the Town’s Facebook page. The project is under the supervision of Division 13 of DOT. A contact is listed on the FAQ sheet.

Watching What Goes Down Your Drain & Toilet

In 2017, the Town of Cahaj’s Mountain invested in the Town’s sanitary sewer system by rebuilding two existing sewer pumps and purchasing a third pump. This used thousands of dollars from the Town’s sewer enterprise fund.



However, the action of a few individuals can affect the price of your sewer bill. One of the rebuilt pumps was recently destroyed by a dumping of workshop rags into the sewer system. This cost thousands of dollars to repair and will ultimately be passed down to those who pay into the sewer system. Please spread the word to those you know about the proper use of our sanitary sewer system. Proper use of the sewer system is listed in the column to the right in every newsletter. Please review it thoroughly and make any necessary adjustments to your use of the system. People who violate the Sewer Use Ordinance are subject to fines and fees associated with repairs.

A Word from Our Sewer System ORC

Ordinary kitchen cooking grease is dangerous in the pipes beneath your home and in our sanitary sewage system. Over time grease build-up clogs pipes, reduces sewage flow, and acts as a magnet for other debris. Eventually this build-up can clog pipes enough to result in a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO). An SSO is the backup of raw sewage into the street, the environment or even into **your home** through your sinks, showers or toilets.

Help us to prolong the life of our sewer system by keeping grease out of the sewer system. When cooking with grease or oil, pour the used liquid into a can or canister for disposal. Once the hot grease has cooled, just toss it in the trash.

Wipe additional grease from pots, pans and plates with a paper towel before placing them in the sink or dishwasher.

By following these simple rules, we can prolong the life of our sewer system, keep sewer costs low, and keep sewage out of our pipes and homes.



Town of Cajah's Mountain
1800 Connelly Springs Road
Lenoir, NC 28645

Phone:
(828) 728-5053

Fax:
(828) 728-4166