

Greetings Chadbourn

A Happy New Year to all.

On January 8th, our Town hosted a reception for retiring Town employee LP Suggs with 40 years of dedicated service and NC House of Representative elect Ken Waddell. LP is the kind of person every business wants to have. He was always available when needed. Mayor (retired) Ken Waddell took the oath of office to represent NC House District 46 in Raleigh from the Honorable Judge Jack Hooks. We thank all attendees and those who worked to make the evening a success.

We have one opening on our Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and one in the Planning Zoning Board. This is a great way to serve our community. The Parks & Recreation board meets quarterly. The Planning Board meets when they have cases to review. If you are interested in serving on either of these boards, you may obtain an application at Town Hall or the Town's website (www.townofchadbourn.com).

The next utility bills will have a different look. You will no longer receive a post card, but your bill will come in an envelope like your other bills. The same information will be shown and a return envelope will be included. In the coming weeks, we will be accepting credit card payments. There will be a fee included with the use of a credit card, which will be charged by the company handling the payment.

On January 28 at 1 pm, the Town Council will hold a workshop to discuss changes to our Business Privilege Tax schedule. One of the options is a tax based on gross income. We do recognize our business base and will take every measure to be fair. A second meeting will be held in February for business owners and managers to present to Town Council recommendations and listen to feedback from them. At our March 5th meeting, we will have a public hearing on the proposed tax prior to voting.

Our Parks and Recreation basketball season has started. Games are played at the Chadbourn Elementary School gym on each Saturday beginning at 9 am. There is a \$1.00 entrance fee to help cover the expense of the gym rental and janitor. We thank Robert Brown and his volunteers. Please help support this program and our Parks and Recreation program.

Council welcomes back Donald Ray Bass. He was selected to replace myself and will serve until the November election. At that time, he will have to run for the remaining two years of my term. If I choose to remain as Mayor, I will have to run for the remaining two years of former Mayor Waddell's term as well.

January 21st was the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday and the Presidential Inauguration. It is important to recognize the historical significance of this day. I hope that everyone took this as a day of service. Dr. King wrote this in his "Letter from Birmingham City Jail": "We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. . . We must use time creatively, and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right."

Please remember our teachers and children, elected officials at all levels and those who serve our county.