

Winter 2022

Dayton Discovery

Official Newsletter of the Town of Dayton, VA

Mayor's Message *Cary Jackson*

Happy New Year Dayton! 2021 was another year that challenged us as individuals and a community, but I continue to be impressed by our residents' and business community's resilience. We enjoyed our annual Redbud Festival, Muddler, Dayton Days and the Summer Concert Series. We ended the year with the highest attendance ever at our Christmas parade! It was fantastic to see so many residents and visitors lining the decorated streets of our town. The evening culminated with hot cocoa, Christmas tree lighting, and caroling at Dove Park. Events like these are what make living in Dayton special.

I'd also like to celebrate the accomplishments of our town staff and council during 2021. The long-awaited Mill Street project was completed, water and sewer lines continue to be repaired and replaced, new sidewalks and repairs to existing sidewalks continue, and ideally, council will approve a contract for the construction of the new water treatment plant at our February meeting.

Looking ahead through the coming winter months, please be vigilant and continue our fight against the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a mask and practicing social distancing.

Given how challenging 2020 & 2021 have been for all of us, it feels especially important to express our hopes and dreams for brighter days ahead in 2022, not only as individuals, but collectively, as members of this special community.



Discovering Main Street in Dayton



We all know we have a gem of a small town and a thriving, creative business community. The holiday season certainly reminded us of how unique our town is through the merchant-hosted "Small Town Christmas", the Town's Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting, The Dayton Market customer appreciation days, various individual business events, and festive light decorating. How many towns can even say they repelled an intrusion by the Grinch through its cheer? Amongst the excitement of the season, we were also fortunate in 2021 to have several new businesses join the town, welcomed the hiring of Economic Development Coordinator, Meggie Roche, successfully resumed hosting our signature events, finalized design of the Wayfinding program, and continued to provide the Façade Enhancement Grant Program.

Another major initiative that emerged last year was exploring the Main Street Approach by bringing various business owners, community members and Town representatives together to collaborate on economic development goals. (Continued on page 2.)

In this issue...

Community Survey

Manager's Message

Chief's Corner

Water Treatment
Plant Update

Discovering Main
Street

Winter Weather
Reminder

Town Alerts

Festival Date
Announcements

And more!

Go Green - Go Paperless!

To receive Dayton Discovery electronically, email events@daytonva.us

Make your voice heard!



Scan now to
take the
survey!

On behalf of the Dayton Planning Commission, the Town is continuing to collect responses to the 2022 Community Input Survey.

If you haven't already done so, please take about 15 minutes to take the survey, which may be taken online through the Town's website or by scanning the QR Code. Paper copies may be picked up at the Town Hall during regular business hours or you may contact the Town Hall and request that one be mailed to you.

The Planning Commission will begin their review of the survey results at their January meeting. The Commission will also host a meeting to hear additional community input during their regular monthly meeting set for March 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. Please check our website for updates on future meetings and the status of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Attend the Community Input Session at the March 17th Planning Commission Meeting! 6:00 pm @ Town Hall

Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Underway

The Town of Dayton provides safe drinking water to approximately 650 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. The Cargill processing facility is the largest water customer by a significant margin. Cargill uses almost 80% of the water the Town produces. The Town treats water from three well sources and the Town also has the ability to pull water from Silver Lake which we do very sparingly. There are times when we need to purchase water from the county as well.

Our current plant was constructed in 2000. In recent years, we have had performance and maintenance issues, with the filter modules being replaced at least once. As performance drops, more chemical cleanings and maintenance are needed, and the rate at which we can treat the water is reduced.

The plant upgrade will allow us to restore capacity and provide a system with greater reliability than the existing system. A study was completed in April, 2020 after which recommendations were made. The Preliminary Engineering Report was approved by the Virginia Department of Health in 2020. The total cost of the plant upgrade was estimated to be \$3.8 million. We planned to purchase the equipment with existing investments on-hand. We applied for financing for the construction and installation portion of the project (~1.9 million) through VDH. Since that time, we have received American Rescue Plan Act Funds (~\$1.7 million) and plan to finance the entire project ourselves. The equipment for the plant has been ordered and is expected to be ready for shipment in June. Bids for the construction and installation of the new building and equipment are due in February. Assuming we receive good bids, we should be able to award a contract at the February 14 Town Council meeting. As with all industries currently, there may be supply chain issues related to pipe or building materials; however, we project that the new equipment will be up and running by the end of this year.



Pictured: The Town's current water treatment tanks.

Manager's Message *Angela Lawrence*

Happy New Year!

My hopes for 2022 revolve around the concept of community. Community has several different definitions and meanings. It isn't just where we live, it is how we interact and relate to one another. We live in our individual neighborhoods, which are part of the greater Dayton community. We also participate in faith communities and/or social communities. Living in a community reminds us that our actions affect others, that we are all connected to each other and to the environment in which we live. It means there is give and take, and that we are working together for the common good, and respecting and loving each other. We may not agree with each other, but we can strive to listen and understand one another and reflect on how we contribute to community. I am proud to live in and work for the Dayton community. Rest assured that the Town Council, appointed board and commission members, and staff understand the love and pride people have for this community. We will continue to work in community for the greater good.

As we wrap up another challenging year, I want to take time to thank everyone in the community and on our staff for your patience, understanding, resilience, hard work, and contributions to the community. We are better because of each one of you! I can't wait to see what 2022 brings!

Check on the annual report insert for more details regarding 2021 activities and accomplishments!



Discovering Main Street (Continued)

Dayton is already designated as an affiliate under the "Exploring Main Street" program by the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development, which comes with promotion and some technical assistance, and the next possible step could include establishing a community-driven non-profit organization. In December, a core group of those interested met at the Thomas House to discuss the year ahead, and it was determined that 2022 will focus on an informal group working together to coordinate events, beautification, and exploring whether developing a non-profit Dayton Main Street organization would be desirable in 2023.

So let's keep the momentum moving by rallying together to join business owners, residents, non-profits, and the Town to enhance Dayton even further through this public-private partnership. **Join the group at its next meeting on Monday, January 24th at 5:00 p.m. at the Dayton Tavern.**



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Chief's Corner

How the Grinch TRIED to Steal Christmas!

Everyone knows that Dayton has the most holiday cheer - especially the Grinch! Luckily for Dayton, when the Grinch showed up to steal our holiday cheer, our fantastic police department was there to save the day! After several break-in attempts at businesses around Town, the Grinch was safely taken into custody thanks to a tip from a resident! Better luck next year Mr. Grinch...



Welcoming our New Police Officers!

Officer Dean Roadcap started in October 2021. He was previously with the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Brian Cacciapaglia started in November 2021. He was previously with the Waynesboro Police Department.

Officer Colton Shifflett was hired in January 2022. He is currently going through training at Shenandoah Valley Criminal Justice Training Academy, and he will be sworn in in May.



Thank you Thomas House for hosting Coffee with a Cop!

On December 11, Officers chatted with local residents about keeping our community safe!

Welcoming New Council Member Bob Wolz

Welcome New Council member Bob Wolz, who was appointed to Council on November 8, 2021 to fill the unexpired term of Councilman Dale Rodgers who resigned from his seat September 30, 2021 as he moved out of Town. Bob and his wife, Michelle, moved to Dayton in 2020. They have two sons and two grandchildren. Bob works remotely for an international manufacturing company as a Project Manager with global responsibilities improving processes and equipment management. He holds two degrees; one in Business Management and one in Machine Shop Technology. His term will expire 12/31/2022.



Also, in November, there was a special election for another Council seat with an expiration date of 12/31/22. Susan Mathias, who had been previously appointed to this seat when Tara Worthy resigned, won this election and will continue to serve through 12/31/22.

We would like to also extend a warm welcome to Mr. Aaron Swindle as he was recently appointed to fill a vacant Planning Commission seat.

Sign up for Town alerts to be notified about water service interruptions, road closures, special events and more!

1. Go to www.daytonva.us
2. Click on the @ subscribe button in the black toolbar in the middle of the page
3. Enter your email address
4. Select the topics you would like to receive updates about
5. Click on "Subscribe me"

Snow Shoveling Reminder

Please remember to shovel the sidewalks located around your residence and/or business. Doing so is for your safety and the safety of others. Dayton Town Code states that "All persons occupying, owning, or having charge of any property within the town shall be required to remove the snow from the entire sidewalk in front of such property, within six daylight hours after the snow has ceased to fall."



Thank You!

The Board of Directors of Fort Harrison, Inc. extends its appreciation to all the Dayton volunteers who assisted in placing wreaths on the graves of veterans at the Wreaths Across America ceremony. Thanks also to the Town of Dayton, for allowing the storage of the wreaths and to the Pence Middle School Music Department for use of the school auditorium and for arranging the music for the program.

The land on which the cemetery is located was once the property of Daniel Harrison, one of the earliest settlers in Augusta (now Rockingham County). As a militia captain during the French and Indian War, Daniel Harrison would have been one of the first veterans in this community.

If anyone is aware of a veteran buried in the cemetery who did not have a wreath this year, please contact us at fortharrisonva@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCING THE RETURN OF DAYTON'S TWO HIGHLY ANTICIPATED ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVALS!



**SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022
10 AM - 4 PM**



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022
8:30 AM - 4 PM**

Vendor applications are now open. Please visit our website at www.daytonva.us and click on "Discover Dayton" and then "Events" for more information.

Upcoming Town Meetings

Planning Commission Meeting
January 20 @ 6:00 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting
February 14 @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission Meeting
February 17 @ 6:00 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting
March 14 @ 6:00 pm

**Planning Commission Meeting &
Public Input Session**
March 17 @ 6:00 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting
April 11 @ 6:00 pm

Town Meetings are now back to being in-person at Town Hall! But for those who still wish to tune in virtually, live streaming is now available. Check our website and social media for a link to watch the meetings.

Holiday Closings

George Washington Day:
February 21

Refuse Collection Schedule

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather or when a holiday falls on a weekday, collection may be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. Please check the Town's website and Facebook page for updates.

Household trash is collected on Fridays. Containers should be placed at the curb no earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the afternoon preceding the collection day and be removed to a point at the side or rear of the structure not later than 8:00 a.m. of the day following collection. **All waste must be placed in the provided tote.**

Yard debris is collected on Mondays.

Bulk/heavy items are collected on first Tuesday of month. Items must be put out no more than 48 hours ahead of time and must be placed at the curbside.

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Office/Drive Thru Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
24-hour drop box

www.daytonva.us

For after hours non-emergencies
pertaining to Town matters, please call
540-434-4436.

