

Mr. Danny Edwards, Mayor

Mr. Danny Woodward, Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Sarai Melendez, Councilwoman
Mr. Keith Pace, Councilman
Mr. Tyler Jordan, Councilman

Mr. Grant Keehn, Councilman
Mr. David Underwood, Councilman
Mr. Michael Kozlarek, City Attorney
Mr. Timothy B. Burton, City Administrator

TO: Mayor and Council

RE: July Monthly Report

DATE: August 10, 2023

Please find enclosed an update on the City's recent activities for the month of July 2023, along with departmental monthly reports.

Administration

Events: Hosted annual Independence Fest

Stumphouse Park: Corporal Parker Scruggs has been selected as Park Ranger and has begun working at Stumphouse Park with Joanna White.

Stumphouse Park, Ross Mountain Entrance: Parking lot graveled and details being finalized.

Waterline Improvement: Plans are at 90% and should be submitted for permitting soon.

Comprehensive Plan Update: The first Open House and Focus Group meeting was held. To date, 86 people have engaged.

Finance/Procurement/City Clerk

Budget reports have been assembled and posted on the City's website.

FY 23 Audit process underway. Concluded review of front billing office and continuing to compile end of year budget closeout documents.



CITY OF WALHALLA

Community Development

206 N Church St. • P.O. Box 1099 • Walhalla, SC 29691 • (864)-723-4141 • Fax (864) 638-4357 • www.CityofWalhalla.com

July 2023 Monthly Report

1. Worked with four (4) potential new businesses (conducted 2 walk-throughs)
2. BZA meeting met July 24th at 5:30PM and reviewed 1 appeal, 2 special exceptions and 3 variances
3. Hosted first open house and focus group meeting for the Comprehensive Plan update
4. Permit administration (see totals below)
5. Fielded additional calls/emails/walk-ins regarding grants, signs, new business process, set-backs, land use allowances, food trucks, code violations, business licenses, Downtown Design Guidelines, mobile homes and variances.

Applications/Violations Processed, July 2023

Request	Monthly Totals
Zoning Permits	4
Violations (IPMC, Sign, Zoning, etc.)	2
Variances	1
Subdivision Permits (Preliminary/Final)	0
Special Exceptions	0
Sign Permits	0
Rezoning Requests	0
Food Truck Permits	0
Fence Permits	0
Demolition Permits	0
Appeals	0

Main Street Walhalla
Catie Fisher
8/15/23

Hispanic Heritage Festival
September 16th, 12pm-6pm

Location: Brown Square

- South Carolina Arts Commission has approved funding for City of Walhalla's **Hispanic Heritage Festival** grant application in the amount of **\$3,540.00**.
- This is a 1:1 match with a total of \$7,080 dedicated to the Festival.
- Current partners with the planning of the festival include: Main Street Walhalla, Oconee County Public Library, City of Walhalla and volunteers from the community.
- Applications for vendors are available in English and Spanish.
- For information on how to volunteer for this event or future events please email Catie Fisher at cfisher@cityofwalhalla.com

Main Street America USDA Project in SC

*Walhalla, Laurens and Camden Main Street programs were selected to participate in a USDA project led by Matthew Wagner, Ph.D, Chief Program Officer for Main Street America. This project included selecting 5 small businesses from each of our downtown areas to participate in an assessment questionnaire, a focus group and in person interviews with Dr. Wagner. *The Assessment questionnaire included the following general topics: Overall business profile, workforce/HR, finance, sales/marketing, technology, business operations, business model shifts, location/place and how they solve and/or find solutions.*

*This was created to achieve the following **goals**:

- Better understand the comprehensive nature of challenge types impacting Main Street businesses.
- Understand best approaches and processes for gaining that knowledge
- Understand best approaches and processes for connecting small businesses to both the education and technical/financial resources they may need.
- Positioning Main Street programs to be that key connector/convener for small business
- Developing an efficient diagnostic tool that saves time and money for small businesses to develop their unique set of solutions and connections to education and resources required to implement.

*Main Street Walhalla selected 5 small businesses in the downtown area to participate in this project. They have all finished the assessment questionnaire and their in person interviews with online focus groups to follow soon.

Below is information provided by Dr. Wagner.

Recent Shifts/Challenges for Small Business Owners

- 53% of small businesses did not have a digital commerce component to their business. And of those that did, it represented less than 10 percent;(MSA Study 2021)
- High employee quit rates in December 2021:
Food Services 6.9 % and Retail Trade at 4.9%, two sectors commonly found along Main Streets; (BLS Data)
- New Business formation grew 48% from January 2020 to December 2021; (U.S. Census)
- 73% of small business owners expect to pivot their business model again in 2022; (American Express)
- The retail automation market is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 15.41% over the forecast period of 2021-2026; (Mordor Intelligence)

Hurdles to the solutions for small business owners

While there are opportunities for educational programming and direct technical assistance to address these needs, successful implementation is predicated on small business owners:

1. Knowing where to find this information.
2. Knowing what questions to ask to get the information most pertinent to their personalized needs.
3. Having the time to search for information and solutions.
4. Understanding the solutions
5. Having the resources and know-how to execute on any given solution.

Hurdles for the Providers

- Given the nature of small business technical assistance, there are extensive challenges and geographic constraints to meeting the needs of the over 30 million small businesses in the U.S., particularly given existing technical service delivery models in rural areas.
- Purely online is confusing and cluttered...almost too much information
- Online is much better if you already know exactly what you need.
- In person is limited by scale
 - For example, there are 1,200 Small Business Development Centers throughout the country, but even if each center could manage 250 business engagements each year, that would only represent 1% of the overall small business market.
- In person can be limited by the cost to deliver the service or the time versus impact equation.
 - For example, while most SBDCs are open to anyone, they have migrated to classes for beginners and going deeper for fewer clients.

FREE EVENT!

MUSIC | FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS
DANCING | KID'S ACTIVITIES

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH celebration

SEPTEMBER 16TH
12-6PM

BROWN SQUARE, WALHALLA
S. COLLEGE ST. & MAIN ST.
MAINSTREETWALHALLA.COM

NEW TIMES

10 AM - 2 PM

Main Street Walhalla Cruise-In
Now 10 AM to 2 PM on the 4th Saturday through September 2023
Come Out and Join Us

July 22nd August 26th September 23rd

Brown Square Parking Lot, corner of Main and College Streets, Walhalla

For More Information: mainstreetwalhalla@gmail.com

FARMERS MARKET

WALHALLA

~EVERY SATURDAY~
MAY 13 - AUG. 26
8AM-11AM

SPONSORED BY: LOCATION: 101 E. NORTH BROAD ST.
WALHALLA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

FOR NEWS & UPDATES VISIT
WWW.MAINSTREETWALHALLA.COM

CONTACT: MAINSTREETWALHALLA@GMAIL.COM

City of Walhalla Fire Department

Home of the Mountaineer Engine Co. Est. 1871

Fire Chiefs Monthly Report

July 2023

FIRE-EMS

Incident Response-

We responded to 122 calls for service. 55 were fire calls and 67 were medical/rescue calls. During the month we were on multiple calls 28% of the time. We provided 120 instances of mutual aid. 46 calls were inside the City and 76 calls were either in the unincorporated area or another district. The average on scene time was 54 minutes. Both career and volunteer staff spent 403 hours on incidents.

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u># Incidents</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Fires	5	4.10%
Overpressure rupture, explosion- no fire	2	1.64%
Rescue & EMS	55	45.08%
Hazardous Conditions	24	19.67%
Service Call	26	21.31%
Good Intent Call	5	4.10%
False Alarm and False Call	3	2.46%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	2	1.64%
Special Incident	0	0.00%
Total	122	100.00%

Operations/Training-

Staff, both career and volunteer, trained for a total of 293 hours during the month.

The department has 2 full time firefighter openings. These positions are posted on the City webpage and the department's Facebook page.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Fire Marshal-

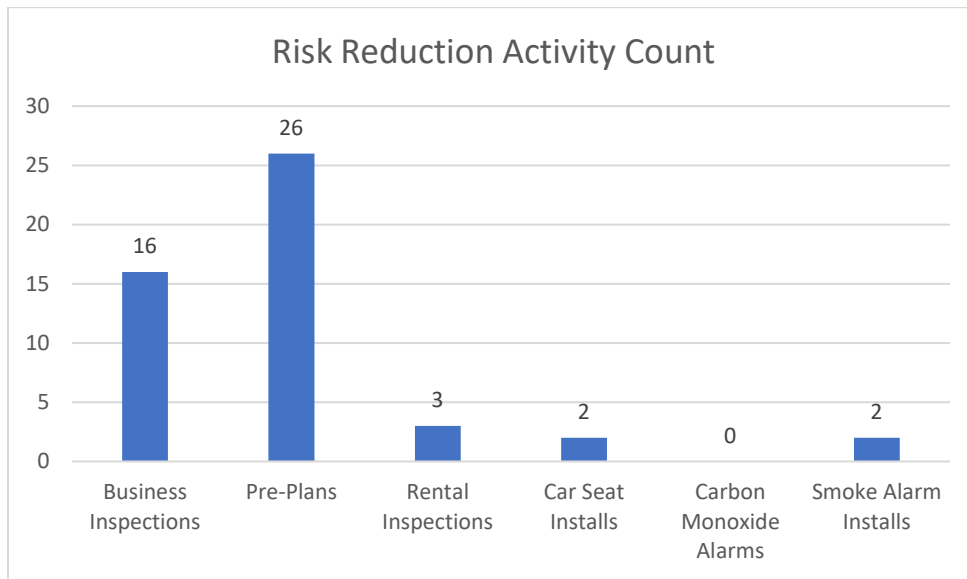
Continuing to complete pre-fire plans and business inspections. Completing re-inspections as needed.

City of Walhalla Fire Department

Home of the Mountaineer Engine Co. Est. 1871

Fire Prevention/Life Safety-

Completed the City Independence Festival and inspected the fireworks display. Inspected 8 vendors and the carnival as well before the event opened. Assisted with the logistical maneuvers of the city organizations present and provided medical standby for the event each day. Staff completed 7 public education events over the past month.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Major storms have been prevailing in the area lately and will continue to do so through the rest of the summer months. Please ensure that all easily movable debris or yard decorations are secured and put away for the storms.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Will Bates

Will Bates, Fire Chief



Walhalla Police Department
101 E. Main St.
Walhalla, SC 29691

Chief of Police Timothy J. Rice

Monthly Police Report-July 2023

July Events and Completed Training:

July 4th Independence Festival

Sgt Mark Mealy will attend Tri Tech Forensics Training

Operation Southern Slowdown – traffic enforcement campaign – statewide event.

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	1448
TRAINING HOURS	115 HOURS
Total Arrests	32 (Adult) 0 (Juvenile)
Extra Patrol / Business Checks	406

BREAKDOWN OF OVERTIME BY TYPE:

Shift Coverage	30.6 Hours
Court	15.5 Hours
Special Event Coverage	66.5 Hours
TOTAL OVERTIME	112.6 HOURS (previous month –38.6 hours)

Upcoming Events and Training and News:

Stumphouse Park Ranger: Corporal Parker Scruggs has been selected and has begun working at Stumphouse. He is transitioning in with Joanna White to get up and running.



Walhalla Police Department
101 E. Main St.
Walhalla, SC 29691

Chief of Police Timothy J. Rice

Monthly Reference Material

July 2023 – Month End Stats

Total Calls for Service: 1448

Total Traffic Stops: 309

Total Traffic Collisions: 15

Reports Filed:

Collision Reports: 7

Pursuit After-Action: 0

Incident Reports: 58

Response to Resistance: 2

TOTAL: 67

Citations/Warnings Issued:

Warnings: 216

Traffic Related: 104

Non-Traffic Related: 23

TOTAL: 343

Arrests:

Adults: 26

Juvenile Referrals: 0

TOTAL: 26

Extra Patrols: **TOTAL: 406**

WALHALLA PUBLIC WORKS 8-1-2023

The Public Works Department

July 1 thru 31, 2023 the City of Walhalla picked up:

239 -ton of residential garbage

102 -ton of commercial garbage

34-ton of recyclable brush

9 -ton C&D Waste

7-ton yard waste

Roll Carts for July

Delivered 32

Picked up 5

Repair/Replace 9

During the month of July our department continued picking up brush, leaves, trash, cleaning storm drains, trimming trees, cutting grass and other routine maintenance tasks. The Crane Carrier front load trash truck is still down (At S&P Truck Center for repairs) and we are having to use the knuckleboom to get dumpsters. I would like to thank the City of Seneca and Westminster. They have been able to help us one to two days a week with dumpsters which has helped us keep up. The new front load truck is built (Waiting on parts from Currato to complete) no delivery date yet. The rear load truck has the body but no chassis from Ford yet. We broke down from Independence Fest.

Thanks,

Russ Price



UTILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT JULY 2023

MONTHLY REPORT:

JULY 2023

New Water Taps – 0 – Waiting for materials

New Sewer Taps - 2

New water contracts - 25

Emergency Locates – 6

Meter box change outs - 8

Meter change outs – 19

Water Service Work Orders – 42

Sewer Work Orders - 5

New development service inquiries – 2

- We are still waiting for delivery of materials for new water taps, expected delivery is late August, early September. We do have several, approximately 12, waiting currently.
- Our DHEC sanitary survey was conducted on July 11th. The inspection went well, and we should receive our report soon.
- Design work is progressing on the Hwy 11 water line project. The plans are currently at 90%, and should be submitted for permitting soon.