



Town of Pleasant Garden
4920 Alliance Church Road / PO Box 307
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

June 18, 2009

Fiscal Year 2009 / 2010 Revised Budget Message

Due to prudent financial management practices, annual revenues have consistently exceeded annual expenses through the years and the Town of Pleasant Garden has accumulated a significant undesignated fund balance, both in the General Fund operating reserves and in the Capital Reserve Fund. Even though the Town Council reduced the ad valorem tax rate by 50% for the 2008-09 fiscal year, current-year revenues are again projected to exceed expenses by at least \$50,000. Therefore, although the economy is in a deep recession that will likely reduce projected revenues in the 2009-10 fiscal year, the Town is in the enviable position of having a significant cushion that provides the ability to adequately meet the Town's financial obligations as well as to fund potential projects that the Town Council believes will benefit the Town and its citizens -- without adversely affecting the Town's excellent financial position.

Spending in the 2009-10 General Fund budget is reduced by 5.4% from the 2008-09 budget. Proposed funding for the Town's operations continues the employment of two fulltime positions, the Town Administrator/Clerk and the Assistant Clerk/Administrative Assistant. Routine costs for business operations and upkeep of the Town facilities are reduced even though the full expense for the animal control services contract with Guilford County is reinstated after a six-year reprieve. Funding is added to cover the costs of the 2009 municipal election, and the needs of the successful soccer program and other popular events such as Independence Day activities, the Christmas Parade, the Farmer's Market, Pet Day, the First Responders/Firemen's Appreciation Dinner, and Veteran's Appreciation Day are adequately addressed. Although there are some reductions in contributions to community organizations that have been funded in the past, the overall budget for Community Outreach has been significantly increased to provide money for Town-sponsored projects such as a part-time library, a local e-cycling event, and an expanded Blood Drive and health fair.

In the Capital Reserve Fund, \$1,910,572 is designated for a number of potential capital improvement projects, including Phase I of the Town Hall Site Plan, landscaping of the Town Hall property, meeting the capital requirements for the implementation of the Jordan Lake Rules, and other projects that may be determined in the future. It is a requirement of the NC General Statutes to designate this money for specific uses even if those designations are amended at a later date.

The Town of Pleasant Garden's proposed FY 2009 / 2010 budget is based on an ad valorem tax rate of \$.025/100 and is presented on the following pages.

Respectfully revised and re-submitted,
Sandy Carmany, Finance Officer