

Public Safety

Efforts Made To Deter Crime

To help reduce crime in North Augusta, the Public Safety Department has taken measures to increase the visibility of patrol cars throughout the city.

Efforts are made to keep as many patrol cars on the streets as possible. To accomplish this, it is sometimes necessary for patrol officers to meet with one another, or their supervisors, at locations throughout the city. These meetings provide the officers an opportunity to exchange information, receive instructions, and submit incident reports to be taken to headquarters for filing. This permits the officers to maintain their patrol of the city, rather than spending additional time in the station preparing reports.

To maintain patrol visibility, these meetings are often held at shopping centers, major intersections or schools. From these locations, officers can quickly respond to emergency calls, or be contacted by a citizen in need of assistance. Additionally, the officers serve as a crime deterrent at the locations where they meet.

A second measure aimed at increasing visibility is patrol car identification. The department adopted the present blue and white vehicle markings in 1977. Recently, a new emergency lighting system was added which will not only increase visibility, but will make the public safety vehicles safer to operate under emergency conditions.



Patrol officers exchange information at a local shopping center.

Abandoned Vehicles Not Permitted In Residential Areas

Property owners are reminded that the open storage of abandoned automobiles on residential property is a violation of the City's Housing Code. An abandoned vehicle is one that is not in operating condition or not displaying a current license plate. Any such vehicle that is presently located on residential premises, unless stored in an enclosed building or garage, should be removed as soon as possible.

Your cooperation and assistance in this matter is appreciated. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Department of Codes Enforcement at 278-0817.

ADMINISTRATION

City of North Augusta - Incorporated 1906
Mayor-Council form of government, with City Administrator.

Mayor: Thomas W. Greene

Council: Edward O. Ergle
William L. Gray
Lark W. Jones
Earl Sasser
Ellen S. Smith
Alexander A. Valois

City Council meetings are held every first and third Monday at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building at 400 East Buena Vista Avenue.

CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.



Numerous neighborhoods are now participating in crime prevention program.

Neighborhood Watch Program Recommended

The Public Safety Department endorses the Neighborhood Watch Program as the most effective deterrent to residential larcenies and burglaries. The program is administered by the Crime Prevention Officer working in conjunction with property owners in a united effort to prevent crime.

To start the program in a neighborhood, residents meet and exchange information. The department's Crime Prevention Officer will meet with the residents and advise them on techniques to prevent thefts and crimes against persons.

Once the program is in place, neighbors watch over one another's property and alert the Public Safety Department if suspicious persons or activities are observed. This program has proven to be much more effective than expensive security systems, and has resulted in decreased crime in areas using the program.

To keep the program running smoothly, periodic meetings are needed to update information such as changes in work schedules, emergency contact numbers, and other information that will aid neighbors in detecting suspicious activity. Anyone interested in more detailed information about this program is asked to contact the Public Safety's Crime Prevention Office at 279-2123.

Motor Vehicle Tax and Registration Information

If you have just moved to North Augusta from another state, you have only 15 days to register your vehicle and purchase your automobile tag from the South Carolina Highway Department to avoid penalty.

There are several items that must be presented to the Highway Department before you can purchase your tag. These include:

--A paid tax receipt on your automobile. Your tax bill is prepared by the County Auditor. Taxes are paid to the County

Treasurer. Both offices are located at the Aiken County Courthouse in Aiken.

--A vehicle safety inspection sticker. There are several inspection stations in North Augusta.

--Proof of automobile liability insurance.

--Your automobile title.

With this material in hand, you are now ready to register your vehicle and purchase your tag. This can be done at the South Carolina Highway Department office located at 407 East Buena Vista Avenue in North Augusta.

City Completes Annexations

Two annexations approved by City Council on November 3, 1986, have resulted in the addition of 1,297.39 acres of land to the city limits. These two annexations, along with others in recent years, are expected to provide lands for development for the next 15 years.

The first of these annexations included 542.67 acres of property located at the northwest intersection of US 25 and Interstate 20. This undeveloped tract presently has an assessed valuation of \$15,450. At the present tax rate of 88 mills, this property will add \$1,360 in additional revenue to the City's general operating fund.

The second annexation included 18 properties totaling 754.72 acres located on West Martintown Road at Interstate 20. While the majority of this land is undeveloped at present, the annexation does include one commercial building (Chevron Oil), four residential dwellings, and the 104 unit Willow Wick apartment complex. The annexation will increase the residential population of the City by 207 persons and provide approximately \$20,000 in real and personal property taxes.

These two areas were annexed by the petition method. S.C. law provides that any area or property which is contiguous to a city or town may be annexed by filing with the municipal governing body a petition signed by 75% or more of the freeholders owning 75% or more of the assessed valuation of the real property in the area requesting annexation. Upon the agreement of the governing body to accept the petition and annex the area,

and the enactment of an ordinance declaring the area annexed, the annexation is complete.

The City's land area now totals approximately 15.2 square miles.

Business License Applications Due February 1st

North Augusta Business License applications for calendar year 1987 will be mailed out the last week of December, 1986. When the application is received, it should be carefully examined to confirm the information presently on file with the City. Changes or additions should be noted on the application. Once properly completed, the application should be signed and returned to the Finance Department with the business license fee. All applications are due by February 1, 1987. A 10% penalty will be added to any license application received after this date. Within ten days of receiving a properly completed business license application and correct fee, the Finance Department will mail the license to the business.

If you have any questions concerning the business license application process, please contact the Finance Department at 279-0330.

BASKETBALL / SOCCER SIGN UPS

BASKETBALL: Late registration for the following 1986-87 Youth Basketball leagues will be accepted through December 19th at the Parks and Recreation office on East Buena Vista Avenue between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. The registration fee of \$20.00 for City residents and \$25.00 for non-resident participants includes a team picture and jersey.

Boys		Girls
8 & 9	14 & 15	8, 9 & 10
10 & 11	16 - 18	11, 12 & 13
12 & 13		14 - 18

The age cut-off date for each league is November 1st.

SPRING SOCCER: Registration for the Spring Soccer League will be held on Friday, January 16; Saturday, January 17; and Saturday, January 24 at the Parks and Recreation office on East Buena Vista Avenue. The hours will be from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Friday, and from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each Saturday.

Recreation Soccer Age Groups

- 5 years old
- Under 8 years old
- Under 10 years old
- Under 12 years old
- Under 14 years old
- Under 17 years old

Classic League Age Groups

- Under 12 years old
- Under 14 years old
- Under 17 years old

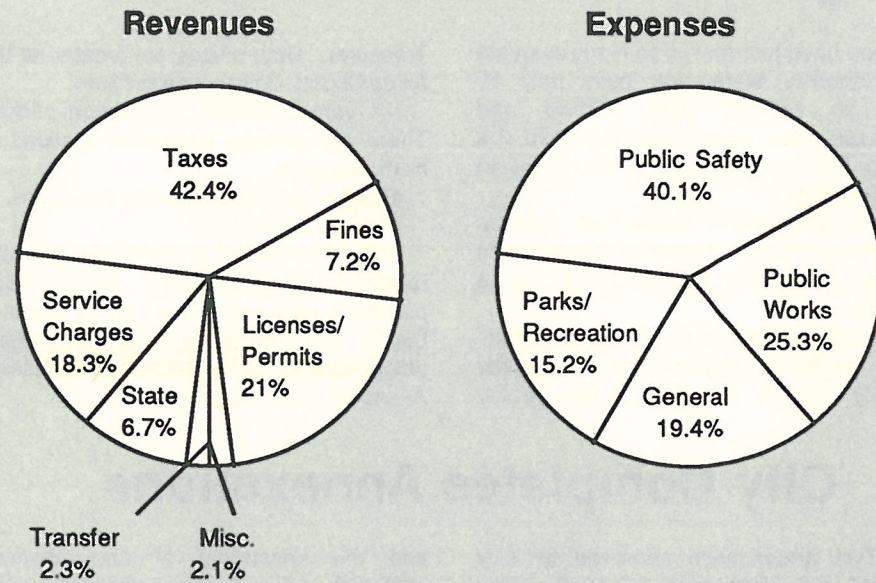
City Awarded Certificate of Achievement

The city of North Augusta has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for 1985. This is the fourth consecutive year that the City has received this award.

The Certificate of Achievement, awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized financial report promoting full disclosure of its financial status. Such reports must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A copy of the CAFR is available for public inspection at the Municipal Building between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

1987 GENERAL FUND SUMMARY



Revenue Sources/Expenditure Levels - The above charts show the major areas of revenues and expenditures as approved by City Council in the 1987 General Fund budget described on page one.

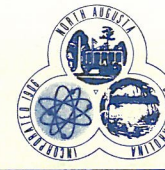
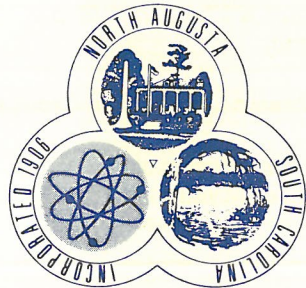
Revenue Sharing Program Ends

From October, 1972 to September, 1986, the City of North Augusta received funds from the federal government known as Federal Revenue Sharing. The Revenue Sharing program was one of the most popular federal programs with local governments because of limited administrative restrictions. During 1973, the first full year of Revenue Sharing, the city of North Augusta received \$210,553. In 1986, the last year of the program, the City received \$257,307.

During the early years, the City used its Revenue Sharing to pay for everything from employee salaries to heavy capital equipment purchases. For the past several years, however, revenue sharing funds have been used only for major capital improvements and equipment. The Municipal Building, the recently completed Community Center, and two fire trucks are examples of major items financed in part with Revenue Sharing funds.

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400 East Buena Vista Avenue, P.O. Box 6400, North Augusta, S.C. 29841
A Publication of the City of North Augusta, S.C.



North
Augusta

FORWARD

"COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE"

Vol. 1, No. 3

A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta

December, 1986

City Council Approves 1987 Municipal Budget

At its regular meeting on December 1, 1986, the North Augusta City Council gave final approval to the 1987 Consolidated Municipal Budget.

The budget includes no tax or service charge increases for the coming year. For the fifth consecutive year, the City's tax millage rate will remain at 88 mills. With the exception of maintaining the City's recently completed Community Center, there are no new services for 1987. The chart to the right shows the funds and functional areas of expenses for the 1987 Budget.

The General Fund is the main operating fund of the City. It is used to account for all financial resources designated for general government, public safety, public works, recreation and parks expenditures. The charts on page four show the sources of revenues and areas of expenditures for the General Fund.

The Water and Sewer System revenues are allocated totally to the expenses of the utility system. A summary of budgeted expenses in the utility system are as follows:

Personal Services	- 18.7%
Operations/Maintenance	- 28.9%
Capital Improvements	- 9.8%
Debt Service	- 42.6%

A copy of the 1987 Consolidated Municipal Budget is available for public inspection at the Municipal Building between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

1987 Consolidated Budget

	Personal Services	Operations/Maintenance	Capital	Debt Service	Total
General Fund	\$2,524,480	\$ 949,486	\$ 312,310	\$ ----	\$3,786,276
Firemen's Fund	----	18,000	----	----	18,000
Comm. Dev.	----	4,863	2,865	----	7,728
Capital Improvement	----	----	70,000	----	70,000
Economic Dev.	----	15,000	----	----	15,000
Water/Sewer System	525,685	814,815	276,615	1,199,504	2,816,619
TOTAL	\$3,050,165	\$1,802,164	\$ 661,790	\$1,119,504	\$6,713,623
	45.4%	26.8%	9.9%	17.9%	100%

Winter Base Sewer Rate Now In Effect

The City of North Augusta uses a system for calculating sewer service charges known as the Winter Base Sewer Rate System. This system uses three winter months of water usage to calculate sewer charges for the remaining nine months of the year. While these three months may vary depending on when your water meter is read, generally they are the months of December, January and February (bills received in January, February and March).

The Winter Base Rate System works as

follows. The customer is billed a sewer service charge based on actual consumption during each of the three winter base months. The consumption for these months is then averaged. The sewer rate is applied to this average, and the customer's sewer service charge then remains the same for each of the next nine months until the winter base cycle starts again. Customers new to the system with no winter base history are charged an amount equal to an average of all customers.

SANITATION HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS:

The Sanitation Department will be closed Thursday, December 25th and Friday, December 26th. Garbage normally collected on these days will be collected on Wednesday, December 24th. Yard trash will not be collected on these days.

NEW YEARS DAY:

The Sanitation Department will be closed Thursday, January 1st. Garbage normally collected on this day will be collected Wednesday, December 31st. Yard trash will not be collected on this day. Normal garbage and trash collections will resume on Friday, January 2nd.

The Sanitation Department employees thank you for your cooperation during these holidays.