Bessemer City
NORTH CAROLINA EST.1893
City with a Heart



December 2023
City Newsletter

Elected Officials:
Becky S. Smith, Mayor
Dan Boling; Michael Brooks, Ward 1*
Nellie Floyd, Ward 2
Joe Will; Allen Hook, Ward 3*
Brenda Boyd, Ward 4
Brent Guffey, Ward 5
Donnie Griffin, Ward 6

City Manager:
Joshua M. Ross, MPA

**New Elected Officials will be sworn in and transition at the December 11th, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting.*

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Municipal Election Results

On November 7, 2023 Bessemer City, along with municipalities across the state, had local elections. Positions up for election were the office of Mayor and City Council Wards 1, 3, and 4. Local elections are administered by the Gaston County Board of Elections. Election results are as follows:

CITY OF BESSEMER CITY MAYOR

NAME ON BALLOT	BALLOT COUNT	PERCENT
☑ Becky Steelman Smith	270	46.31%
Michael Meeks, Sr.	141	24.19%
Aaron Grosdidier	103	17.67%
David A. Davis	36	6.17%
John Bridgeman	29	4.97%
Write-In (Miscellaneous)	4	0.51%
Christopher Burch (Write-In)	1	.17%

CITY OF BESSEMER CITY COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 01

NAME ON BALLOT	BALLOT COUNT	PERCENT
☑ Michael Brooks	363	62.26%
D. C. (Little Dan) Boling	216	37.05%
Write-In (Miscellaneous)	4	0.69%

CITY OF BESSEMER CITY COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 03

NAME ON BALLOT	BALLOT COUNT	PERCENT
☑ Allen Hook	501	95.98%
Write-In (Miscellaneous)	18	3.45%
Joshua Bolding (Write-In)	1	.19%
Aleeya Brown (Write-In)	1	.19%
Repearler Brown (Write-In)	1	.19%

CITY OF BESSEMER CITY COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 04

NAME ON BALLOT	BALLOT COUNT	PERCENT
☑ Brenda B. Boyd	273	47.56%
Robert Johnson	197	34.32%
Tanner Inman	101	17.60%
Write-In (Miscellaneous)	2	0.35%
John Bridgeman II (Write-In)	1	.17%

Votings Statistics

585
Citizens Voted in the 2023 Municipal Election



17.87%
Registered Voters in Bessemer City voted in the 2023 Municipal Election





Winning elected officials will officially be sworn into office at the Monday, December 11, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM. For more information about Bessemer City elected officials, please visit:

www.bessemercity.com/mayor-city-council/

Scan Here-->

Nellie Floyd Appointed to City Council

On Monday, November 13th, 2023 at the Regular City Council Meeting, Mayor Smith swore in newly appointed Councilwoman Nellie Floyd. Ms. Floyd was unanimously approved by Council to finish the term of late Council Member Kay McCathen, who passed away in October.

Ms. Floyd is from Bessemer City and has lived here for over 40 years. During the swear in ceremony, Ms. Floyd was accompanied by her family as she took the oath of office.

Councilwoman Floyd represents Ward 2 in Bessemer City.



Check out the City's Ward Map at:

https://bessemercity.com/download/city-ward-map/

<-- SCAN HERE

City Appointed Board Vacancies

The City is now accepting applications from individuals interested in serving on Council-Appointed Board and Commissions! There are vacancies on the following boards:

*Bessemer City ABC Board
*Bessemer City Planning Board/Board of Adjustment
*Bessemer City Downtown Development Board
*Bessemer City Parks and Recreation Board

If you are interested, please complete an application online at www.bessemercity.com/forms-documents/.

SCAN HERE -->

City Calendar

Events & Programs:

Breakfast With Santa* (Community Center)
Saturday, December 9th, 2023.

Senior Bingo* (Community Center)
Monday, December 18th, 2023

*Tickets Required; contact the Parks and Rec. Department for details (704) 629-5111

Important Reminders:

City Utility Bill Due
Sunday, December 10, 2023

Trash Pickup Delays
CHRISTMAS- *Trash pickup will be delayed by one day for Monday and Tuesday routes the week of Christmas.*

Monday's route will be picked up on Tuesday.
Tuesday's route will be picked up on Wednesday.
Thursday's route will still be picked up on Thursday.

NEW YEARS-*Trash pickup will be delayed by one day for Monday and Tuesday routes the week of New Years.*
Thursday route will still be picked up on Thursday.

Monday's route will be picked up on Tuesday.
Tuesday's route will be picked up on Wednesday.
Thursday's route will still be picked up on Thursday.

Closings:

Christmas
City Offices will be closed Monday, December 25, 2023 and Tuesday, December 26, 2023 in observance of Christmas.

New Year's Day
City offices will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2024 in observance of New Year's Day.

Public Meetings:

Bessemer City Planning Board/Board of Adjustment (City Hall)
Cancelled the Month of December

City Council Regular Session (City Hall)
Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Bessemer City Parks & Recreation Board (Community Center)
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Bessemer City Downtown Development (City Hall)
TBD- check online at www.bessemercity.com

Bessemer City ABC Board (ABC Store)
TBD- check online at www.bessemercity.com

City Council Work Session (City Hall)
No Work Session Meeting in December

Visit the Bessemer City Facebook Page to see photos of Christmas in the City, Annual Christmas Parade, and Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony!



Breakfast With Santa



Bessemer City Main Street- Downtown Business Celebration

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YOU ARE INVITED

BESSEMER CITY MAIN STREET

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS CELEBRATION

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
THE GROWTH AND NEW BUSINESSES
IN OUR DOWNTOWN AREA

BESSEMER CITY -CITY HALL
132 W. VIRGINIA AVE
BESSEMER CITY, NC 28016

WEDNESDAY 6 PM	6	DECEMBER 2023

RSVP BY DEC, 2ND TO
NHESTER@BESSEMERCITY.COM

A Christmas Tour of Bessemer City's Historic Churches

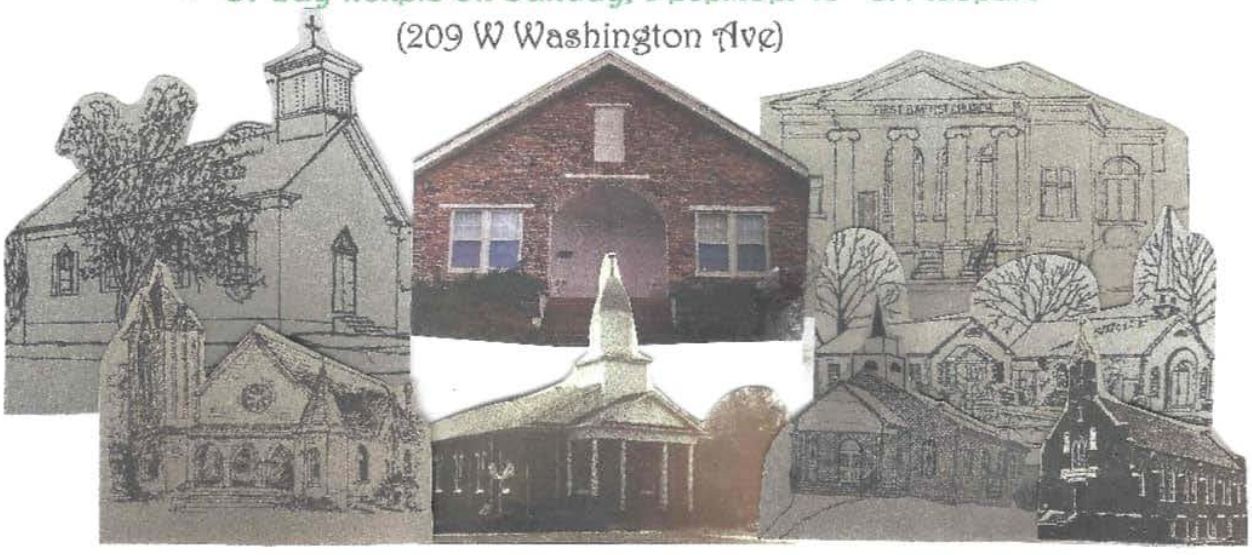
WHO: Bessemer City History & Arts Society

WHEN: Sunday, December 10, 2023

Time: 2:00pm-5:00pm Cost: $10.

Please join us as we journey back to the roots of our church history

- Sip on cider, bid in a Silent Auction, or buy miscellaneous items at $1. To $2.'s
- Then journey on a self guided tour of seven of our historic churches
- Enjoy refreshments at First United Methodist Church
- Ask about advance ticket sales here
- Or buy tickets on Sunday, December 10th at Museum (209 W Washington Ave)



Light Up Bessemer City

Light Up Bessemer City is an annual Christmas decorating contest that encourages citizens and businesses to get into the holiday spirit! The City coordinates with a judges panel to select winners in various categories.



Visit www.bessemercity.com/lightup2023 to apply today and for more information about this contest!





General Reminders from the City

Utility Payments: Utility bills are due the 10th of each month. Late fees are assessed on the 11th (15%) and utility cut off occurs after the 19th of the month. The City provides multiple options for utility payment:

In-Person: cash, check, debit and credit (note- 3% merchant fee applies for debit and credit payments) are accepted at the City Hall Annex during business hours (M-F 8am-12:30 pm & 1:30pm-5:00pm)

Drop Box: cash, money order, and checks can be placed in the night-drop box outside of City Hall Annex. Please include account number and address with payment.

Drive-Thru: cash, check, money orders and credit payments can be accepted at the City Hall Annex drive-thru during business hours (M-F 8am-12:30 pm & 1:30 pm-5pm)

Online Bill Pay: debit and credit payments are accepted through our online bill pay system ($2 + 3% merchant fee). Visit us online at www.bessemercity.com for details.

ACH Draft Payments: setup automatic ACH payments with your financial institution with the City. The City and its third-party administrator does not charge for this service.

Code Enforcement: The City's Code Enforcement Division works diligently to address all code violations in accordance to local ordinances and North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS). To report a violation, please call (704) 629-5542 and selection option 4.

For more information on City codes, including the Code of Ordinances and Land Development Code (LDC), visit:

bessemercity.com/administration/city-codes/

<-- Scan Here

Your Water Department Reminds You To Keep Drains "FOG" Free



To ensure our sewer drains remain free of fats, oils, and grease which cause clogged lines and drains please try the following:

Use coffee grounds or kitty litter (or even some leftover powder laundry detergent) to absorb the oil and/or grease, and then dispose in the trash can. Use paper towels to wipe out greasy pots and pans after the fats, oils, or grease have cooled down.

Pour any leftover fats, oils, or grease into an empty coffee can or plastic container after they have cooled down and dispose in the trash can. Your children can have fun making a grease can by painting or coloring the outside of the can!

Please try to keep our sewer lines and drains clean and costs for clean-up and repairs at a minimum. Keep the Grease Gang away! Note: Please remember to let the fats, oils, or grease cool down before pouring into newspaper, cans, etc.

Questions?

Call Customer Service at (704) 629-5542

Development Updates

Visit www.bessemercity.com/development-projects/ for more details on these projects and others!

Foundry Commercial: 280,000 square foot industrial project has been completed and awarded a Certificate of Occupancy (C.O.). This space is currently being marketed for lease. The property is currently being marketed for new business.

Edgewood 85 Commerce Park: a 1,000,000 square foot industrial park scheduled to start in 2024 located off of Edgewood Road in Bessemer City.

Lennar Homes: a 162 unit single family home project located off Costner School Road. The site is currently being graded and infrastructure install is scheduled to start in 2024.

Development Spotlight: Kintegra Health

Kintegra Health is pleased to announce the recent commencement of construction of the 10,000 sq. ft. Medical Clinic, Dental Clinic, Behavioral Health Counseling Center, and Pharmacy on the 4 acres site, 308 East Virginia Avenue in Bessemer City. The existing Medical Only Clinic, located at 119 W. Pennsylvania Ave, was originally constructed in 1928.
While the building has undergone renovations, and provided primary medical care services for decades, its layout is not conducive to expand services consistent with modern integrated medical practices. The new clinic, located on the main thoroughfare, is two blocks from the existing clinic.

With the addition of the Dental Clinic and the Pharmacy to the Medical Practice, thereby creating a "one-stop shop," Kintegra Health will enhance the continuum of patient care and is pleased to offer this significant investment to the Bessemer City Community. Kintegra Health believes this investment will provide future long-term benefits to patients served and enhance quality of life.

Construction period is anticipated to be between 9 – 12 months with the Clinic tentatively set to open September 2024.



Business Spotlight: Wicked Waffle Co.

Wicked Waffle Co. officially opened on Sunday, November 19, 2023. Wicked Waffle Co. is a liège dessert waffle and coffee shop in downtown Bessemer City located at 130 W. Virginia Ave. The City, Downtown Development Board, and community welcome Wicked Waffle Co. to Bessemer City!





Hours for Wicked Waffle Co. are:

*Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
*Sunday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
*Closed on Monday



More information about this new business can be found on Facebook or by scanning the code below! A Ribbon Cutting will be schedule soon to celebrate the opening of this new business!

Business Spotlight: The Mad Crafters



The Mad Crafters is a specialty small business that opened in November 2023 in downtown Bessemer City at 134 W. Virginia Avenue. The Mad Crafters includes apothecary (bath and body), garments (clothing), and home good accessories and decorations. The Mad Crafters will have a Grand Opening on December 9th!

Check out The Mad Crafters online at:
www.themadcrafters.com or by scanning the code below!



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Let's Connect

(704) 629-5542

bessemercity.com

@BessemerCity

@CityofBC

City Hall and BCPD
132 West Virginia Avenue
Bessemer City, NC 28016
City Hall: (704) 629-5542
Police (non-emergency): (704) 629-2235

City Hall Annex
125 East Virginia Avenue
Bessemer City, NC 28016
(704) 629-5542

Bessemer City Fire Department
119 West Washington Avenue
Bessemer City, NC 28016
(704) 629-5396

Allan Farris Community Center
220 South 14th Street
Bessemer City, NC 28016
(704) 629-5111

Kiser Senior Center
123 West Pennsylvania Avenue
Bessemer City, NC 28016
(704) 729-6465

J.V. Tarpley Water Treatment Plant
298 Logan Street
Bessemer City, NC 28016
(704) 629-5542

Bessemer City Public Works
405 North 9th Street
Bessemer City, NC 28016
(704) 629-5542