



NEWS FROM THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL

New Councilmembers Sworn In

On May 20, 2019, we said farewell to Councilmember Robert Wack and Councilmember Mona Becker, both of whom did not seek re-election. That same evening, Kevin Dayhoff, Ann Gilbert, and Greg Pecoraro – who were elected by Westminster voters on May 14 to serve on the Common Council – took the oath of office.

The newly constituted Mayor and Common Council held an organizational meeting on May 20, electing Councilmember Pecoraro as the new Common Council President. Councilmember Tony Chiavacci was selected by his colleagues as Council President Pro Tempore.

Other Legislative Matters

On May 13, 2019, the Mayor and Common Council adopted an ordinance regulating boarding and rooming houses. Effective January 1, 2026, boarding and rooming houses will no longer be permitted in the City of Westminster.

One of the focus areas of the City's adopted Strategic Plan for 2018 -2021 is ensuring water and sewer capacity for future generations. The Plan recognizes that the future growth and vitality of Westminster is directly tied to water availability. To achieve the City's water capacity goal, the Strategic Plan includes as a priority project the development of an intergovernmental strategy to pursue the acceptance of water re-use by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). This practice has been widely and successfully used in the west, southwest, and southeast areas of the country for many years. On June 18, 2019, the Mayor and Common Council awarded a contract to WATEK for engineering services associated with the City's water re-use pilot project which will get underway later this year.

On July 22, 2019, the Mayor and Common Council introduced an annexation resolution for property including 214 Pennsylvania Avenue. The annexation would further a new project known, as the Willows at Westminster, which will provide 40 new multi-family residential units in 2020.

On July 22, 2019, the Mayor and Common Council approved an overlay zoning district at 7 Schoolhouse Avenue. The overlay will allow for the submittal of a site plan by Family & Children's Services of Maryland to expand its existing adult daycare and tenant program with new apartments for tenants, counseling offices, and related services for shelter clients.

The Mayor and Common Council also passed legislation authorizing up to \$16.5 million in State bonds to refinance the City's interim debt used to finance construction of the Westminster Fiber Network. In conjunction with this refinancing, the State also provided a \$1.3 million loan to the City for operating costs associated with the Fiber Network. The zero-percent interest loan has a 30-year term, with no payment due until its maturity date.

Westminster Welcomes McDaniel College Students

In late August, the City will partner with McDaniel College to welcome its incoming 2023 class! This class, comprised of freshmen and new transfer students, is the largest on record with the College. During the Westminster Welcome event, students will walk from The Hill down Main Street to explore local restaurants, shopping, and entertainment, and learn about upcoming events throughout the year. Please join us in welcoming the students to our community!

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Follow us on Facebook for the following information:

Westminster, Maryland: Holiday schedule changes, inclement weather and emergency information

City of Westminster Recreation & Parks Department: Events, parade information, fitness classes, park openings

Downtown Westminster, Maryland: News about Downtown Westminster, from business openings and specials to events and business news

Westminster Fiber Network: Keep up to date with the WFN



NEWS FROM THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL (continued)

City Wins Financial Reporting Award

The City has been awarded the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for fiscal year 2018. The Certificate of Excellence is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

City Budget Document Recognized

The City recently received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its FY 2019 budget document. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, which is valid for one year, is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

To receive the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, the City had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well the governmental entity's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. The organization's budget document must be rated "proficient" in all four of these categories, as well as in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

Upgraded Policing Strategies to Engage Downtown

The Westminster Police Department has upgraded its patrols of the Downtown area to include foot, bicycle, and T3 units. They are utilizing an electronic system to track reported issues and crimes, which are then run through a problem-solving model for enhanced resolution. By reaching out and being communicative with businesses and residents, the Department continues to engage with the community to build positive relationships. The Department is also utilizing social media and the Next Door app and website to connect neighbors and provide immediate updates and information to specific areas of the City. Anyone can view posts made to the Westminster group, but only Westminster residents may add posts. The app is available for both Android and Apple smartphones, and the website is accessible at <https://nextdoor.com/agency/westminster-police-department-3/?i=hxpdbxpqghdrfhkrdxn>.

Downtown Westminster Farmers' Market

Come check out the Downtown Westminster Farmers' Market, running throughout the summer on Saturdays from 8am—Noon. The Market is located off of Route 27, in the Conaway Parking Lot. You'll find everything you need to make fresh, farm-to-table meals with seasonal produce. Also, look for plants and flowers, ready-made food, chocolate, baked goods, body products, milk, cheese, meat, coffee, local distilleries, and more! There's always something new to find at the County's longest-running, open air, producer-only farmers' market.

Planning the Future: Planning and Zoning Commission

In the second quarter of 2019, the Commission reviewed plans for Westminster Station, a new commercial development on MD 140 at the intersection of Center Street. The project will include a new CVS Pharmacy, new retail stores, and several new restaurants! Changes to the intersection will include new bike and travel lanes. The Commission also recently approved plans for 140 new single-family homes in the Stonegate development, to be built over the course of the next four years. Finally, the Commission is currently discussing proposed legislation related to solar and wind energy facilities. The Commission will make its recommendation to the Mayor and Common Council who will then meet and hold a public hearing on the matter, so citizens and businesses can have input.

The Westminster Planning and Zoning Commission reviews new projects and makes recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council. The Commission meets regularly on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm in City Hall, located at 1838 Emerald Hill Lane. The meetings are always open to the public, so come see what's in the future for your community!

Upcoming Events for August 2019

Carroll County Arts Center, 91 W Main Street, CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org or 410-848-7272

- * 6/20 – 8/9: Exhibit “The Art of the Musical Instrument”
- * 6/20 – 8/9: Exhibit “Carroll County Camera Club”
- * Tuesday, 8/6: Free Summer Movie series: How to Train Your Dragon 3, 7pm
- * Friday, 8/9: FLICC presents: The Third Man, 1pm & 7:30pm
- * Friday, 8/16: Duets: A Comedy in Four Acts by Peter Quilter, 7pm
- * Saturday, 8/17: Duets: A Comedy in Four Acts by Peter Quilter, 3pm & 7pm
- * Saturday & Sunday, 8/24-25: yART Sale, 8am—4pm
- * Saturday, 8/24: Troy Engle and Southern Skies, 8pm

Historical Society of Carroll County, HSCCMD.org or 410-848-6494

- * Saturday, 8/17: Past Times for Children—Canning, Cockey’s Koontz-Yingling Learning Center, 10am
- * Tuesday, 8/20: Box Lunch Talk—Brethren Service Center, Grace Lutheran Church, Noon

Upcoming Events for September 2019

FallFest

FallFest is returning September 26—29! The FallFest parade on Thursday will kick off with the Fun Run at 6:55pm, starting at Monroe Street. The parade will follow along Pennsylvania Avenue to West Main Street, and conclude on Longwell Avenue to start the festivities in City Park and the North Longwell Parking Lot. Festival hours are 6-10pm on Thursday, 6-10pm on Friday, 10am-10pm on Saturday, and 12-6pm on Sunday. Look for more information on our website!

Pooch Pool Party

The City pool goes to the dogs on Saturday, 9/4! Bring your pooch for a swim from 4-7pm.

Carroll County Arts Center, 91 W Main Street, CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org or 410-848-7272

- * 9/5—11/2: Annual Member Exhibit
- * Saturday, 9/14: The Fabulous Hubcaps, 7:30pm
- * Wednesday, 9/18: Jazz Series: A Tribute to Chet Baker, 7pm
- * Friday, 9/20: FLICC presents: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, 1pm & 7:30pm
- * Saturday, 9/28: National Players “As You Like It,” 7:30pm

Historical Society of Carroll County, HSCCMD.org or 410-848-6494

- * Friday, 9/13: Bluegrass, Bourbon and Bocce, Rob’s Bluegrass Barn featuring the music of Sideline, 6pm-10pm, call for tickets
- * Tuesday, 9/17: Box Lunch Talk—Great Futures Start Here with the Boys and Girls Club, Grace Lutheran Church, Noon
- * Saturday, 9/20: Past Times for Children—Food and Where They Get It, Cockey’s Koontz-Yingling Learning Center, 10am

Upcoming Events for October 2019

Oyster Stroll

Visit the annual Oyster Stroll in downtown on October 12 from 12-4pm. Shop, slurp, and stroll through downtown! This event benefits the Coastal Conservation Association.

Downtown Halloween Event

Join us in downtown Westminster for a Spooky Saturday on October 26! Events include trick-or-treat, crafts, games, and refreshments in Locust Lane from 3-6pm; a Haunted Story Time at the Westminster Library from 3-6pm; and, the Monster Dash beginning at 2:55pm. For more details, call 410-751-5501 or e-mail WestminsterRec@westgov.com.

Carroll County Arts Center, 91 W Main Street, CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org or 410-848-7272

- * Saturday, 10/12: “Beautiful—An Evening of Chamber Music, 7pm
- * Wednesday, 10/16: Jazz Series: Trio of Trombones, 7pm
- * Friday, 10/18: FLICC presents: Beautiful Boy, 1pm & 7:30pm
- * Saturday, 10/19: Arte Flamenco Dancers, 8pm
- * Friday, 10/25: Rocky Horror Picture Show, 10pm

Historical Society of Carroll County, HSCCMD.org or 410-848-6494

- * Tuesday, 10/15: Box Lunch Talk—Fran’s Story—About the Carroll County Hospital, Grace Lutheran Church, Noon
- * Saturday, 10/19: Past Times for Children—General Store, Cockey’s Koontz-Yingling Learning Center, 10am

DIRECT-DIAL NUMBER FOR CURBSIDE ITEM PICKUP REQUESTS: 410-848-9077

The City of Westminster has a *direct-dial phone number* for all **curbside item pickup** requests. You can also leave a message and request a call back to confirm when your item(s) will be collected. All requests for curbside pickups must be received at least one working day prior to the scheduled collection date.

The schedule for pick-ups will be on the following days of the week (biweekly):

- **Monday**—Tree limbs and brush (no longer than 4 feet, no larger than 4 inches in diameter)
- **Tuesday**—Metal, large appliances, tires, and large batteries (excluding dishwashers, TVs, microwaves)
- **Wednesday (weekly)**—Yard waste in brown paper bags or bushel-sized containers weighing less than 50lb; **NO** plastic bags, dirt or sod, mulch, concrete, rock/stone, or brick)
- **Thursday**—Bulk pick up east of Rt 31
- **Friday**—Bulk pick up west of Rt 31

NOTE: If the scheduled pickup day falls on a City holiday, items will be scheduled for the next available collection date. Items must be placed at the curb **no later than 7am** on the scheduled pickup date.

2019 Scheduled Collection Weeks

August: 8/12 – 8/16 and 8/26 – 8/30

September: 9/9 – 9/13 and 9/23 – 9/27

October: 10/7 – 10/11 and 10/21 – 10/25

November: 11/4 – 11/8 and 11/18 – 11/22

December: 12/2 – 12/6; 12/16 – 12/20; and 12/30 – 1/3. *NO pickups on 1/1/20*

**Need a bin
for your
recyclables?
Call your
hauler today!**

CARROLL COUNTY RECYCLES

Mix the following recyclables loose in your bin:

Cardboard (place
inside or next to cart)

Aluminum, tin and steel
cans, containers and foil

Cereal boxes and other
paperboard boxes

Glass Jars & Bottles

Aseptic and gable
top containers

Plastic Bottles
#1 – #7

Paperback Books,
Telephone Books

Paper bags

Newspaper, inserts, and
office paper, and junk mail

Magazines
& Catalogs

Plastic tubs, wide-mouth
containers (yogurt, peanut
butter, margarine tubs)
NO #6

PLEASE:

- NO Plastic Bags
- NO Styrofoam
- NO Electronics
- NO Ceramics or Dishes
- NO Food Waste
- NO Motor Oil Containers
- NO Batteries
- NO #6 Plastic
- NO Household Hazardous Waste
- NO Light Bulbs, Window Glass or Mirrors

NO

Trash or Yard Waste

For more information about
Single Stream Recycling visit
www.recyclecarroll.org or call the
Bureau of Solid Waste at 410-386-2510.