

# town voice

THE TOWN OF MOORESVILLE  
VOLUME 18 NUMBER 2  
FEBRUARY 2022



## MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

### February 7 & 21

#### *Board of Commissioners Meetings*

The Board of Commissioners will meet February 7 & 21 at Town Hall, 413 North Main Street, at 6 p.m. The meetings may also be viewed virtually at [moorevillenc.gov/live](https://moorevillenc.gov/live).

### February 10

#### *Planning Board*

The Planning Board will hold its monthly meeting on February 10 at Town Hall at 6 p.m.

### February 4 & 18

#### *Agenda Briefings*

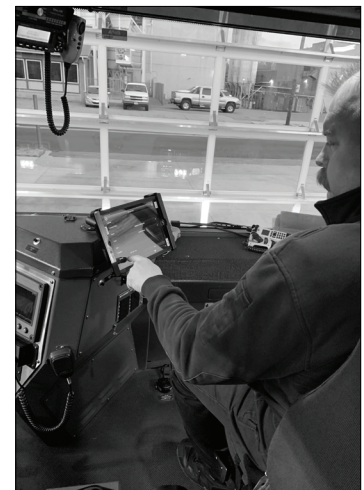
The Board of Commissioners will hold agenda briefings before their regular meetings on February 4 & 18, virtually, at 8:30 a.m. These meetings can be viewed at [moorevillenc.gov/live](https://moorevillenc.gov/live).

### February 11

#### *Town Board Retreat*

The Board of Commissioners will hold its annual retreat on February 11 at The Charles Mack Citizen Center, starting at 8 a.m.

## Mooreville Fire-Rescue Integrates AVL



Most of us will only dial 911 once or twice in our lifetime. Hopefully that day never comes, but when it does, seconds count. Mooreville Fire-Rescue (MFR) has integrated AVL (Auto Vehicle Locator) in conjunction with CAD (Computer-Aided Dispatch) to ensure the closest firefighters and EMT's arrive at your emergency.

MFR maintains performance standards consistent with the Center for Public Safety Excellence's (CPSE) benchmarks for career fire departments. The fire department strives to send the closest fire unit available to the call for service. On average, MFR strives to place a fire truck at your door in less than 5 minutes, 85 percent of the time. We require our units to respond with wheels moving within 60 seconds from the time of alarm during the day and 90 seconds during the night.

Prior to AVL, five fire stations were used to select the unit to respond, based off of the Town's pre-determined districts. These districts are static in nature. However, MFR units are moving around town throughout the day. MFR units may be returning from a call, out conducting training, completing building inspections or finishing their physical fitness for the shift.

With AVL in place, CAD will select the closest fire truck to respond, based off GPS units on each apparatus. This will ensure the closest fire truck is responding to your emergency. This has proven to reduce response time already, and in many cases, by more than 60-120 seconds.

# Stormwater Drainage Policy

How does the Town of Mooresville handle storm drain repairs?



The Town of Mooresville's Stormwater Department is continuing to receive responses from their public survey. Based on the answers received from residents, there are some questions about the Town's Stormwater Drainage Policy. Below, two of the most frequently asked questions are answered.

*Q: Which storm drains are maintained by the Town of Mooresville?*

A: Only storm drains located in the public street right-of-way and in drainage easements shall be regularly maintained and repaired by the Town. The repair and maintenance of all drainage systems located on private property shall be the responsibility of the property owner.

*Q: What issues does the Town not address on private property?*

A: The Town does not maintain or repair issues that occur on private property, such as yard flooding; standing water; drainage issues caused by landscaping, roofing, or gutter problems; water that flows from adjoining properties; or wet areas due to underground springs or wetlands, creeks, ephemeral channels or discharge outlets.

Questions? Residents may request an investigation regarding additional Town maintenance by calling 704-799-4264.

**Are you looking for more information on the  
West Wilson Avenue Improvement Project,  
or other Town projects in progress?**

**Visit <https://www.mooresvillenc.gov/215/Engineering>  
for more information!**

## Upcoming Academies



How many hours do our first responders train to do their job? What kind of education must they gain to serve our residents? What equipment do they use on duty, and how does it work?

If you've asked yourself these questions and you want to know more, you're in luck! The Town of Mooresville's Fire-Rescue and Police Departments are gearing up for their annual Citizen Academies this March.

The academies are a way for Mooresville residents and business owners who are 18 and up to get a glimpse into the inner workings of both the Mooresville Police Department and Mooresville Fire-Rescue. Instructors for the academies are staff members who use their real-life examples, presentations, and hands-on demonstrations to show participants how the departments operate.

Each of the academies will meet for 10 weeks. The Mooresville Police Department is currently firming up the dates and times for their academy, but MFR is now accepting applications for their course, which is set to begin Thursday, March 17 at 6 p.m.

Interested in the Fire Academy? Please email Captain Conrad at [dconrad@mooresvillenc.gov](mailto:dconrad@mooresvillenc.gov) to ask for an application. Stay tuned for more information about the Police Citizens Academy on their social media and our Town website.



# HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

## Parks & Rec and Library Events

**Black History Month** Starting Tuesday, February 1, celebrate Black History Month with a Mooresville Public Library scavenger hunt. Pick up your scavenger hunt sheet any time during the month and complete by February 28. Adults and teen participants can return their completed sheets to the Reference Desk and children participants should take their completed sheets to the Youth Services Desk for a prize. Questions? Call the library at 704-664-2927.

**Afterschool Program** Looking for a variety of exciting activities which promote a fun learning environment for children grades K-8? Be sure to check out the Parks & Recreation Afterschool Program. The program operates from time of school dismissal to 6 p.m. Visit [moorevillerecreation.org](http://moorevillerecreation.org) for complete listing of dates and locations.



**Baseball Registration** Youth Baseball, Softball and T-Ball registration with the Parks & Recreation Department begins February 1. Please visit [moorevillerecreation.org](http://moorevillerecreation.org) to register, or call 704-663-7026.

**Virtual Trivia** Join our MPL staff for virtual trivia on Monday, February 14 from 7-8 p.m.! Trivia will be held on Facebook Live, so check it out from the comfort of your couch!



**Bee the Difference** Head to MPL to learn about great sun and shade native perennials and shrubs for pollinators and birds. With insect populations on the decline worldwide, you can make a difference! Our speaker is Christy Larson, landscape designer. She holds degrees in Education and Natural Resources Management and Ecological Integrity. Join us and be entered into a raffle to win a native plant for your garden! This program will take place on February 5 from 11 a.m. to noon in the Selma Burke Room, located on the library's main floor.

**Backyard Bird Count** MPL will be participating with the National Audubon Society's 'Great Backyard Bird Count' (GBBC). Each year, people from around the world come together to watch, learn about, count, and celebrate birds. In February, the library will be releasing a DIY bird seed kit, bird log and library/GBBC instructions for participants.

**Book Speed Dating** Looking for your perfect book match? Still can't find "the one?" Join us at MPL for a fun night of book speed dating, where participants will read, mingle and fall in love with YA books! This program will take place in the Selma Burke Room at February 22 from 5-6 p.m.

## IMPORTANT NEWS

### Drought Protocol

The Catawba-Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group (CW-DMAG) has announced that dry weather conditions have placed the Catawba-Wateree River Basin in Stage 0 of the group's drought protocol. Stage 0 is a drought watch stage that notifies CW-DMAG members to monitor conditions more closely. Stage 0 was reached in early January.

"There are no required actions by the community at this stage, but water and energy conservation are strongly encouraged, especially with the expected dry months ahead," said Ed Bruce, P.E., Duke Energy, CW-DMAG coordinator. "We will continue to monitor conditions and provide updates as needed to best protect the water supply available to our communities."

Due to significantly limited rainfall in 2021, water storage in the 11-reservoir Catawba-Wateree Basin has decreased and streamflows that feed the reservoirs are below normal. In addition, the U.S. Drought Monitor trigger indicates most of the basin is experiencing worsening drought conditions. Duke Energy rain gauges show the region received less than half the expected rainfall in the final four months of 2021.

## DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Business Office  
704-663-3800

Employment/Human  
Resources  
704-799-4070

Fire (Non-Emergency)  
704-664-1338

Golf Course  
704-663-2539

Winnie Hooper Center  
704-663-0033

Library  
704-664-2927

Charles Mack Citizen  
Center  
704-662-3334

Planning  
704-662-7040

Police (Non-Emergency)  
704-664-3311

Recreation  
704-663-7026

Sanitation  
704-664-4278

Selma Burke Center  
704-799-4035

War Memorial  
704-663-2670

Water  
704-663-3800

Zoning  
704-662-7040

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH: A Spotlight on Local Talent, Selma Burke



sculpting small objects and animals with white clay from a nearby riverbed. Throughout her early life and teen years, she continued to be passionate about art and sculpture, with the support of her father. Eventually, however, as she reached adulthood, her mother convinced her to pursue a nursing career.

After completing her schooling to become a registered nurse, Burke moved to New York City in the late 1920s, working as the private nurse for Amelia Waring, an heiress to the Otis Elevator empire. After Waring's death, Burke left nursing and turned her focus to sculpture, attending Sarah Lawrence College and traveling to Europe to improve her sculpting techniques, studying under Henri Matisse and Aristide Maillol in Paris. She then returned to the U.S., teaching art in New York City through the Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project and the Harlem Community Arts Center. In 1940, Burke opened the Selma Burke School of Sculpture. The next year, Burke earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from Columbia University.

Following the entry of the United States into World War II, Burke enlisted in the Navy, but ended up injuring her back while serving. While recuperating, she won a nationwide contest for the commission of a bronze relief portrait of President Franklin Roosevelt. In order to portray Roosevelt more accurately, Burke requested a sitting with the President so she could draw him. Roosevelt agreed and Burke sketched Roosevelt over two days in February 1944. Burke's relief portrait was unveiled at the Recorder of Deeds Building in Washington, D.C., on September 24, 1945. In addition to the bronze portrait, Burke's profile of Roosevelt is widely acknowledged as the basis for his image on the U.S. dime.

Burke married architect Herman Kobbe in 1949 and the two moved to an artists' colony in New Hope, Pennsylvania. Kobbe passed away in 1955, but Burke remained in Pennsylvania for the rest of her life. Burke continued to emphasize arts education, running the Selma Burke Art Center in Pittsburgh. In 1979, President Jimmy Carter awarded Burke with a Women's Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement award.

Burke completed her final sculpture in 1980, a nine-foot bronze statue of Martin Luther King, Jr. that stands in Marshall Park in Charlotte. She passed away in 1995 in New Hope but her work lives on, with sculptures still on display at institutions such as Winston-Salem State University, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the Mooresville Public Library.

The Town of Mooresville has both the Selma Burke Recreation Center and the Selma Burke Room in the Mooresville Public Library. But who was Selma Burke? During February's Black History Month, we'd like to share her important story with the community.

According to an article by Mariana Brandman of the National Women's History Museum, Selma Hortense Burke was born on December 31, 1900. Her love of art began at an early age, by

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Miles Atkins  
Mayor

Eddie Dingler  
Ward I  
Commissioner

Thurman Houston  
Ward II  
Commissioner

Barbara Whittington  
Ward III  
Commissioner

Lisa Qualls  
Ward IV  
Commissioner, Mayor  
Pro Tem

Gary West  
At-Large  
Commissioner

Bobby Compton  
At-Large  
Commissioner

## TOWN OFFICIALS

Randy Hemann  
Town Manager

Beau Falgout  
Asst. Town Manager

Ryan Rase  
Asst. Town Manager

Sharon Crawford  
Town Attorney

Genevieve Glaser  
Town Clerk