

# QUEENSTOWN NEWS

## JUNE 2023

### COMMISSIONER'S CORNER -

- Commissioner's Meetings will follow alternate schedules in June. Please see below for meeting dates.
- The Town will soon be implementing changes to Town streets based on suggestions recommended by the Street Safety Task Force and Commissioners. Further info can be found on the back of this newsletter.
- The Commissioners will be conducting a public hearing on June 21 at 6pm at the Town Office on Ordinance 23-03 titled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF QUEENSTOWN ADOPTING A GENERAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024 AND ESTABLISHING A CONSTANT YIELD TAX RATE OF \$ .2312 PER \$100 OF ASSESSED REAL PROPERTY VALUE, A TAX RATE OF \$ .58 PER \$100 OF ALL ASSESSED COMMERCIAL OR BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY, AND A TAX RATE OF \$2.00 PER \$100 OF ASSESSED PUBLIC UTILITIES; AND ALSO ADOPTING AN ENTERPRISE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN'S WATER AND SEWER OPERATIONS, WHICH INCLUDES AN INCREASE TO MONTHLY WATER AND SEWER CONSUMPTION RATES BY EIGHT PERCENT (8%)". A copy of the Ordinance is available at [queenstown-md.com](http://queenstown-md.com) and is available for inspection and review at the Queenstown Town Office during normal business hours of 8:30 am until 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. Please see other side for more information on consumption rates.
- To stay up to date, we welcome you to attend a Town Commissioners and/or Planning Commission meeting, or view meeting minutes posted on our website.

### EVENTS IN TOWN -

- **SUMMER CONCERT SERIES** - The Summer Concert Series is planned to begin with a free concert at the Queenstown Community Park in June with additional concerts in July and August. Details on dates/times/performers for June and July will be announced on the Town website and Facebook page once they are available. The August concert will be on Saturday, August 12th, 6-9pm with Randall Butler Music.
- **FOOD TRUCK NIGHTS** - The QVFD Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting Food Truck Nights in the Town Center on the third Friday in June, July, and August from 4pm - 7pm each night. Come out and enjoy delicious food from multiple vendors with your friends and neighbors! We hope to see you on June 16<sup>th</sup>!
- Have an upcoming event in Town you want to get the word out about? Have suggestions for events you'd like to see in Town? Let us know! Comments can be sent to [townoffice@queenstown-md.com](mailto:townoffice@queenstown-md.com).

**TOWN OFFICE SCHEDULE NOTICE** - The Town Office may be operating on limited hours beginning June 26 through June 28 due to a staff conference. Office services may be limited during this time. We encourage residents to make water/sewer payments or visit/contact the Town Office with other needs before or after this time period.

**TOWN OFFICE REPAIRS** - Repairs to the Town Office have begun and are expected to be completed in 2-3 weeks. A box is now available at the side entrance for dropping off after-hours water/sewer payments.

**COLLECTION REMINDERS** - We ask all as the weather gets warmer to ensure trash out for collection is bagged and inside appropriate trash containers with closed lids to avoid attracting birds, rodents and insects and to prevent loose trash blowing out. Also, only place bulk/trash/recycling on your property along the curb or road edge for collection, avoid placing in the street or on another person's property without their permission.

**SPEED LIMITS NOTICE** - The speed limit on Main Street and Del Rhodes Avenue in town limits is 25 mph. The speed limit on all other streets in town is currently 20 mph. The Town will soon reduce the limit from 20 mph to 15 mph and will install signage indicating the new speed limit. We ask that the posted speed limits be observed to help make our streets safer for all.

### UPCOMING SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETINGS

|                             |     |      |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|
| <b>Planning Commission:</b> |     |      |
| Wednesday, June             | 7,  | 7 pm |
| Wednesday, July             | 5,  | 7 pm |
| <b>Town Commissioners:</b>  |     |      |
| Tuesday, June               | 6,  | 4 pm |
| Wednesday, June             | 21, | 6 pm |

Dates subject to change.

More info at: [www.queenstown-md.com/events-meetings/#meetings](http://www.queenstown-md.com/events-meetings/#meetings)

### UPCOMING SCHEDULED RECYCLE DAYS

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Wednesday, June | 7  |
| Wednesday, June | 21 |
| Wednesday, July | 6  |
| Wednesday, July | 19 |

Please follow collection guidelines.

More info at: [www.queenstown-md.com/services/collection-services/](http://www.queenstown-md.com/services/collection-services/)

### TOWN OFFICE & SERVICES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

#### Juneteenth - June 19

Town Office will be closed Monday, June 19 for Juneteenth. Bulk service will run one day late that week. Other services will follow normal schedules.

More info at: [www.queenstown-md.com/events-meetings/#calendar](http://www.queenstown-md.com/events-meetings/#calendar)

**STREET SAFETY TASK FORCE UPDATE** - The Town volunteer task force is pleased to provide this update, following meetings with the Commissioners and other officials knowledgeable about speed reduction options. The speed limit on interior town roads (non-state) has been reduced to 15 mph and new signs will appear soon. This new speed limit will create a safer community for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists.

The town will also be installing more traffic calming speed bumps on town roads. The new bumps will go in first where they are needed most, to slow traffic speeds in high pedestrian and low clearance (narrow) roadways.

In addition, the Sheriff's office is providing several patrol shifts in town per week specifically to monitor speeding. The Sheriff's deputies encourage town residents to record license plate numbers of vehicles traveling through town at excess speed and report that information to the Sheriff's office (non-emergency number). They will do their best to make personal visits to speeding motorists to remind them of posted speed limits. And you'll see a mobile speed-reader placed around town as another reminder to drivers of posted speed limits.

Speed reduction work is also underway with the State highway department, and we'll provide an update on traffic calming measures on Route 18 and Del Rhodes as we have more information.

Thanks to everyone who helps make Queenstown a safe and neighborly community for all of us!

**WATER/SEWER RATES INFO** - Costs of water and sewer operations have increased substantially over the past several years. Per Maryland law, the Water & Sewer (Enterprise) Fund must operate independently of the General Fund and cannot be subsidized by the General Fund. Due to increasing water/sewer operation costs, the Town Commissioners approved an increase of 8% a year for five years as part of last year's budget. This year's increase will be the second of five years. These increases are a start towards meeting the budget deficit shown over the past several years.

The increase is for water and sewer consumption rates only, NOT your entire bill. Here are some examples of the amount to expect your water/sewer bills to increase by this year beginning on July 1, 2023:

| <b>CURRENT BILL</b> | <b>WOULD INCREASE BY</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| \$70.00             | \$1.60                   |
| \$80.00             | \$2.40                   |
| \$90.00             | \$3.20                   |
| \$100.00            | \$4.00                   |
| \$110.00            | \$4.80                   |
| \$120.00            | \$5.60                   |



QUEENSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY HOSTS

# FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

4-7PM  THIRD FRIDAY IN JUNE, JULY, AUG.

LOCATED IN THE TOWN CENTER PARKING LOT