



# April 2024 City Newsletter



Elected Officials:

Becky S. Smith, Mayor  
Michael Brooks, Ward 1  
Nellie Floyd, Ward 2  
Allen Hook, Ward 3, Mayor Pro Tempore  
Brenda Boyd, Ward 4  
Brent Guffey, Ward 5  
Donnie Griffin, Ward 6

City Manager:

Joshua M. Ross, MPA



(704) 629-5542



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# April 2024 Sounds of Summer Concert



**Saturday, April 27th, 2024**

Join us in Centennial Park, downtown Bessemer City for this year's Sounds of Summer Concert Series! There will be entertainment, food, classic car show and family fun!  
Concerts start at 6:00PM!

**Saturday, April 27, 2024 – Entertainers \*\***

**Friday, May 10, 2024 – Too Much Sylvia (Down Home Festival)**

**Saturday, May 11, 2024 – Dirty Grass Soul (Down Home Festival)**

**Saturday, May 25, 2024 – Gary Lowder/Smokin' Hot \*\***

**Friday, June 14, 2024 – Johnny White & Elite Band (Juneteenth Festival)**

**Friday, June 28, 2024 – Julio and the Saltines (Fourth of July Celebration)**

**Fireworks Show**

**Saturday, July 27, 2024 – Tonez\*\***

**Saturday, August 24, 2024 – Cat5\*\***

**Saturday, September 21, 2024 – Landslide (Brew & Que Festival)**

**\*\* Cruise-In**



For More information, visit [www.bessemercity.com/soundsossummer-2024/](http://www.bessemercity.com/soundsossummer-2024/)



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# 2024-2025 Annual Budget Process

The annual City Budget is the City's policy document that aims to achieving goals and service delivery as established by the Mayor and City Council's priorities. The development of the annual budget is a collective effort from elected officials, City Manager, and department heads. The City Manager serves as the City's Budget Officer.

The annual budget runs from July 1-June 30.

## 2024-2025 Budget Calendar

**March 1:** Department Head Budgets Due to City Manager

**March 1-15:** City Manager Meetings with Each Department Head to Review Budget

**March 15-22:** City Manager and Finance Director Meet to Review Budget

**April 2, 2pm:** City Council Work Session- Budget Session 1

**March 26-April 30:** City Manager Meetings with City Council Members as Needed

**April 30, 2pm:** City Council Work Session- Budget Session 2

**May 13, 7pm:** City Council Regular Session- Budget Presentation and Public Hearing

**May 28, 3pm:** City Council Work Session- Budget Session 3\*

**June 10, 7pm:** City Council Regular Meeting- Budget Public Hearing 2\* and Adoption

\*if needed

Please visit [www.bessemercity.com/budget](http://www.bessemercity.com/budget) for more information



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# City Calendar

## Events & Programs:

Senior Bingo\* (Community Center)  
*Monday, April 15, 2024*

Sounds of Summer Concert (Downtown)  
Music and Classic Cruise-In  
Music by: *The Entertainers*  
*Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm*

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

## Important Reminders:

City Utility Bill Due  
*Wednesday, April 10, 2024*

## Public Meetings:

Bessemer City Planning Board/Board of Adjustment (City Hall)  
*Monday, April 1, 2024 at 6:00 pm*

City Council Work Session (City Hall) (BUDGET SESSION I)  
*Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm*

City Council Regular Session (City Hall)  
*Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm*

Bessemer City Parks & Recreation Board (Community Center)  
*Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm*

Bessemer City Downtown Development (City Hall)  
*Monday, April 29, 2024 at 9:30 am*

Bessemer City ABC Board (ABC Store)  
*Monday, April 22, 2024 at 5:00 pm*

City Council Work Session (City Hall)  
*Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 3:30 pm*

## Quick Note

Is your contact information updated with the City's Customer Service Department?

Call today to make sure we have your updated number and email.

**(704) 629-5542**



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# Stinger Park

Enjoy a day at Stinger Park with your family this spring! Stinger Park is located at 555 Stinger Parkway in Bessemer City. The park includes: baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, three (3) playgrounds, splash pad, tennis and pickleball courts, and seasonal concessions!

\*Stinger Park Nature Trail- please note that due to stormwater erosion from Gibson Branch Creek, the natural trail is closed off until repairs are made.

## The Stinger Park Splash Pad will open Memorial Day Weekend!

Visit <https://bessemercity.com/parks-recreation/stingerpark/>



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# 36th Annual Down Home Festival



Thursday, May 9, 2024 6-9pm  
Friday, May 10, 2024 6-10pm  
Saturday, May 11, 2024 12pm-10pm

Visit [www.bessemercity.com/dhf36](http://www.bessemercity.com/dhf36) for a full schedule and details!



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# Development Updates

**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.

**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.

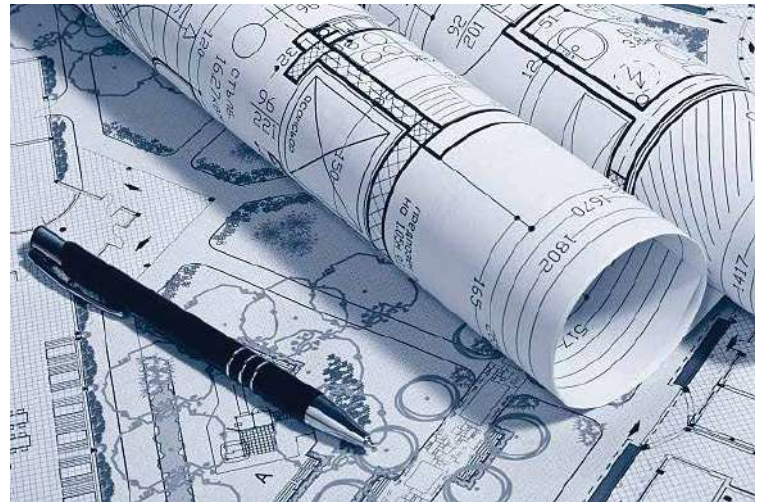
**Lennar Homes:** a 162 unit single family home project located off Costner School Road. The site is currently being graded and infrastructure install is scheduled to start in 2024. This project will have two entrances: 1) the main entrance will be at the Todd Dr./Costner School Rd. Intersection. 2) the secondary entrance will be off Arc St.

**Stewart Crossings:** a 99 unit single family home project located off Costner School Road. The site is currently being evaluated and engineering plans are being reviewed. This planned project will be located off of Costner School Rd directly behind the Ashley Park subdivision. This project is expected to have a pedestrian access bridge connecting residents to Stinger Park. This project may start in 2024.

**Surf and Turf Townhome Project:** in 2021, City Council approved a 91 unit townhome project located off N. 14th St. beside of Surf and Turf Lodge on both sides. At this time, the project is expected to start in late 2024 or early 2025.

## **POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Yellow Jacket Ln Townhomes:** a developer is planning to construct 62-69 townhomes at the corner of Yellow Jacket Ln and Besstown Rd. This property is currently zoned as Urban Residential (UR). The developer is requesting to rezone the property to Urban Residential-Conditional District (UR-CD).



**For More Information About Development Projects, visit:**

<https://bessemercity.com/development-projects/>



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Employment Opportunities

# 2024 SUMMER JOBS

The Bessemer City Parks and Recreation Department is hiring lifeguards and concession workers for the Bessemer City Pool.



**Starting Pay  
Up to  
\$15/hr**



- \*Great Work Environment
- \*Flexible Schedule
- \*Transferable Work Experience

Applications are available at [www.bessemercity.com](http://www.bessemercity.com)

Contact Parks and Recreation Director, JoD Franklin at (704) 629-5111 or [jfranklin@bessemercity.com](mailto:jfranklin@bessemercity.com) for more information.



Bessemer City is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE).

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Additional Employment Opportunities can be found at: [www.bessemercity.com/employment-opportunities/](http://www.bessemercity.com/employment-opportunities/)



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# 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](http://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/](http://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.

**CCR Report:** The City of Bessemer City meets all standards for drinking water quality. The report is available now online at:

<https://bessemercity.com/download/2023-consumer-confidence-report-ccr/>

Paper copies of the report are also available for pickup at the Bessemer City Library (207 North 12th Street), the City Annex Building (125 East Virginia Avenue) and City Hall (132 West Virginia Avenue). You may also call 704-629-5684, we will mail you a copy of the report.



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# Who We Are

## Vision, Mission, Values, and Goals

### Vision:

Bessemer City strives to be a unique and welcoming community that connects people to economic opportunities and a higher quality of life.

### Mission:

Bessemer City provides high quality public services in a responsible manner that creates success.

### Values:

Accountability  
Ethics  
Respect  
Commitment/Dependability  
Open-Mindedness  
Honesty

### Goals:

#1 Promote a desirable place to live and work that provides a healthy quality of life.

#2 Ensure a safe and secure community for residents and visitors.

#3 Invest in high quality infrastructure to support a thriving and diverse economy.

#4 Provide opportunities for citizen engagement and promote volunteerism.

#5 Foster organizational sustainability that embraces innovation and creativity.



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# Let's Connect

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

 (704) 629-5542

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**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