

**Lewisville Historical Society**  
**Lewisville, NC**  
**History of the Incorporated Town of Lewisville**

Starting in spring 1989, the Lewisville Civic Club began an effort to incorporate Lewisville for the purpose of preserving its small town, family-friendly atmosphere. First, Civic Club members created a citizen survey and sent it to Lewisville residents to get input. After receiving a positive outcome from the survey, they held eight public forums to inform and to garner feedback. They also recruited volunteers and help from the community. Guided by professionals and the NC Regional Council of Governments, they planned for, organized, and accomplished the work to set up a town. And on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, 1991, the North Carolina General Assembly ratified Senate Bill 299 chartering the Town of Lewisville and naming an interim town council. The town was chartered as a council-manager form of government with the mayor and six council members making the decisions, and the manager and staff implementing and carrying out the day-to-day operations. The Town of Lewisville was officially incorporated with a public vote on Tuesday, August 13, 1991. The Organizational Meeting of the Interim Town Council was held on August 15, 1991. The Interim Town Council was sworn in by Judge William Reingold before this meeting which took place in the Lewisville Elementary School Auditorium. The first regular meeting of the Interim Town Council was held on August 20, 1991.

A new Mayor and Town Council were elected in November 1991 and set to work creating a structure and managing the business of the community. The first Mayor was Henry "Hank" Chilton and the first Town Council members were Ken Sadler, Lynn Thrower, Jane Welch, Marcia Enns, David McKee, and Dan Jennings.

The Town's first newsletter came out in the fall of 1991. The Lewisville Citizen, was then adopted by the Town in 1991 as the name of the Town's newsletter. It was named after a community newspaper, called The Lewisville Citizen published from 1948-1961 by the Lewisville Civic Club.

A logo was designed for the Town and was adopted in 1992. The logo depicts a stylized version of the 1910 Lewisville Roller Mill, a symbol of the past and the future of the Town. The Lewisville Beautification Committee, then chaired by Doran Tate, held a contest for the logo and the design of Ms. Tracy Daniel Heriot, a Graphic Design major at Appalachian State University, was selected. On June 1, 1995, the Council approved the Official Town Seal which included the logo.

The Town Council has spent a lot of time and attention on planning in order to preserve the pedestrian-friendly and family-friendly environment of the downtown area. There are many sidewalks and street lights. Community spirit is cultivated through events and activities at Shallowford Square.

Shallowford Square, generally called Town Square, was a vision of Lewisville Interim Town Manager, Kent Matthewson, a highly respected city manager with national and international experience. He envisioned the Town Square as a focal point for the downtown and a way to set the tone for future development. The Town Council was able to secure a \$250,000 grant from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund to build the Square. Shallowford Square was completed in 1997 and dedicated on November 9, 1997. The Lewisville Civic Club also raised \$25,000 for the building of the Square.

The Town built a second park in 2010 on land donated by Mary Alice Warren, named in honor of her late husband, Jack. Jack Warren Park is a passive park and is located near downtown on 16 acres of land.

In the beginning, the Town Hall was located in an existing building on the right side of the Lewisville Post Office on Shallowford Road. In 2010, the Town finished building a new larger Town Hall to the left of the Post Office at 6510 Shallowford Road. The original building became the Town Hall Annex.

In 1994, the Town established its own planning organization consisting of a Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Beautification Committee. These boards gave the citizens more direct input into the oversight, control, and guidance of the Town's future growth and development. With the growth of the Town, the Planning Board expanded from 5 to 7 members and a full-time Planner was hired in 2004.

The Town of Lewisville currently contracts most of the services it provides residents, including engineering, road maintenance, sanitation, recycling, police and emergency services, tax collection, election services, inspections, GIS and mapping services, and some planning services. The Town continually evaluates its service contracts in order to provide cost-effective service in light of the desire of the residents to maintain the lowest possible tax rate.

In order to be a good neighbor, the Town established expansion agreements with its closest incorporated communities—Clemmons and Winston-Salem. In 2003, a 20-year annexation agreement with the City of Winston-Salem was established. The Town's charter limits expansion to the east and south without the approval of the City of Winston-Salem and the Village of Clemmons, respectively. Expansion in this manner enables logical, orderly, and desirable growth for the Town of Lewisville.

Generally every five years, beginning with 1992, citizens participate in the review and updating of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Citizens are invited to participate in Plan review meetings and to make recommendations for improvement. These dedicated citizens give their time and their talents to ensure that the quality of life in Lewisville is not compromised but is enhanced as the Town develops. The latest Town of Lewisville Comprehensive Plan is dated 2015.

Early in the life of the Town, volunteer boards and committees were established to keep citizens actively engaged in the government of the Town. Volunteers serve on many of these to assist in improving the physical, social, and the economic well-being of the Town of Lewisville. The following are the current standing citizen boards and committees of the Town.

- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Development Board
- Planning Board
- Willow Run Municipal Service District Board
- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Beautification Committee
- Lewisville Utilities Committee
- Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Recycling Committee
- Stormwater Advisory and Education Committee
- Student Leadership Committee

Today the Town of Lewisville is one of the fastest growing communities in Forsyth County with a population of 13,120 residents. It began in 1991 with a population of just over 6,500 and a state ranking of 114. The current state ranking for the Town is 70. The Town celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a festival at the Shallowford Square on Saturday, August 13, 2016.

The following is the Town's Governance Vision Statement:

"Lewisville, in the year 2035, will provide its citizens with the necessary services to maintain a vibrant quality of life for both residents and businesses. The Town will maintain an appropriate tax rate while providing the benefits and services to the population it serves while also making the community attractive to prospective new residents and businesses. The council-manager form of government and its own citizen boards and committees serve to provide Lewisville residents with a voice in government."

The following are the Mayors and their service years:

- Henry "Hank" Chilton: 1991-1997
- Robert G. "Bob" Stebbins: 1997-2003
- Mike Horn: 2003-2005
- Thomas J. "Tom" Lawson: 2005-2007
- Dan Pugh: 2007-2015
- Mike Horn: 2015-

Merrickay Brown, Lewisville Historical Society  
Joyce C. McWilliams Walker, Lewisville Town Clerk  
December 2017

Sources:

*Town of Lewisville Comprehensive Plan 2015*

Town of Lewisville Website: [www.lewisvillenc.net](http://www.lewisvillenc.net)

*Images of America: Lewisville* by Merrikay Everett Brown and Darla Morgan Johnson with the Lewisville Historical Society; Arcadia Publishers, c. 2010.

Publications:

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"Organizational Meeting, Town of Lewisville, North Carolina", August 15, 1991.