

CAROLINA BEACH

Carolina Beach Fire Department

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 @ 9 AM

Carolina Beach Fire Station 9 South Dow Road, Carolina Beach, NC



MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9AM

Council and Staff Present

Mayor Lynn Barbee

Council Member Jay Healy

Council Member Mike Hoffer

Deputy Town Manager Ed Parvin

Town Clerk Kim Ward

Police Chief Vic Ward

Public Utilities Director Mark Meyer

Community Development Director Jeremy Hardison

Deputy Fire Chief Buddy Thompson

Mayor Pro Tem Deb LeCompte

Council Member Joe Benson

Town Manager Bruce Oakley

Finance Director Debbie Hall

Fire Chief Alan Griffin

Public Works Director Brian Stanberry

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Jelinski

Executive Assistant Sheila Nicholson

Town Attorney Noel Fox

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Financial Update

Debbie Hall reported on the Town's financial performance, highlighting a \$19.9 million utility debt and \$16.5 million bond for infrastructure projects. Key projects include a \$150,000 stormwater mapping grant, a \$15,000 GPM well on Alabama Avenue, and a \$16.5 million bond for water and sewer upgrades. She also mentioned fund balance monies were used to cover the sidewalk projects on South Lake Park Boulevard and Ocean Boulevard.

Attorney and Legislative Updates

Noel Fox and Jeremy Hardison reported on Legislative updates that included potential changes to down-zoning and parking requirements, which could impact future development and parking standards. Staff discussed the implications of the proposed legislation on parking lot regulations, emphasizing the need for statewide cleanup and right-of-way preservation. Key points included the potential for increased mixed-use development, the impact on parking requirements, and the need for updated ordinances.

Grants and Projects

Specific projects like the Spartanburg Avenue crosswalk, Scotch Bonnet bulkhead, and the Second Street extension were reviewed, highlighting funding, timelines, and community engagement. The conversation also covered the importance of stormwater management, the potential for new sidewalks, and the challenges of anonymous complaints, suggesting a balance between accountability and public safety.

Mark Meyer explained the new AMI system for water metering. He highlighted the benefits of using cellular technology to increase productivity.

Council expressed a desire to implement more employee recognition and incentive plans to retain talented staff.

Code Enforcement and Right-of-Way Concerns

Council asked about the code enforcement processes, including handling violations, compliance measures, and the role of the Board of Adjustment in appeals. Specific violations such as zoning, parking, and right-of-way issues were addressed, with fines set at \$50 per day.

Downtown Vision

Staff covered the challenges of managing sidewalk cafes, parking, and right-of-way regulations.

The Town is considering traffic solutions on Cape Fear Boulevard and Canal Drive to improve flow and safety.

Parking

Council discussed parking issues, including user errors and complaints from residents about receiving tickets for parking in private lots. They suggested reviewing the parking contract to ensure it is the best for the Town and include feedback from the review.

Beach Allowances

Council discussed various issues related to parking, traffic, and public safety. Key points included the need for better parking management, especially during off-peak times, and the impact of private parking lots. The conversation also covered the challenges of managing beach rentals, including the use of ATVs and the placement of umbrellas and tents. Chief Griffin mentioned the difficulties lifeguards face with unattended umbrellas and the need for clear line of sight.

Website

The Town's website is being revamped to improve user experience and should go live in December. The website and email addresses will change from .org to .gov for better security.

Communications with On-call/SeeClickFix

Staff discussed the importance of using SeeClickFix for reporting issues.

Goose Masters

Staff discussed the issues with misinformation and the need for better communication with the residents. Goose Masters has proven to be an effective means for controlling the geese. Council was in support of continuing the contract with Goose Masters.

Facility Study

The Town is conducting a facility study to assess future needs and hopes to have the results of the study back by December.

Use of Town Facilities

Council raised concerns about the use of Town Facilities by nonprofits. They suggested a clear policy for the use of these facilities and recommended that staff reevaluate these uses.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.