



**Town of North Topsail Beach
Board of Aldermen Special Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 2:00 PM
Town Hall - 2008 Loggerhead Court, North Topsail Beach, NC 28460**

(910) 328-1349 | www.northtopsailbeachnc.gov

*Mayor - Richard Grant
Alderman - Larry Strother
Alderman - Kip Malcolm
Town Manager - Alice Derian*

*Mayor Pro Tem - Connie Pletl
Alderman – Mark Barefoot
Alderman – Laura Olszewski
Town Clerk – Alexis Stanfield*

I. CALL TO ORDER (Mayor Grant)

Mayor Grant called the meeting to order at 2:00PM.

II. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

MPT Pletl offered insight into what the meeting was being held for and what the training workshop the Board would be attending next week would entail. She reviewed the vision and mission statement previously adopted by the 2016 Board of Aldermen.

The Board discussed the possibilities of different recreational uses of Town property such as pickleball courts, mini golf, dog parks, and frisbee golf. MPT Pletl informed the public that a bike path has already been discussed and in-motion for the north end of the island. Manager Derian informed the public and Board of the status of this bike path, which will be further discussed at budget workshops later in the year.

The Board discussed different areas of focus mentioned by residents of the Town. They encouraged residents to utilize all surveys and other measures to obtain information by the Town for the strategic plan. Alderman Olszewski urged citizens to recognize salaries for staff need to be competitive and fair, so not to be surprised if higher salaries are reviewed.

III. GOALS

Goal areas identified include growth and natural resources, infrastructure, organizational excellence, safe, vibrant and healthy community, cultural resources and recreation. When discussing focus areas, Mayor Grant vocalized that there are two important questions to ask: what is important to the Town and what is the Town able to afford? Doug Carter and Associates will assist the Town in answering the two questions asked.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

Deb Hill, Planning Director for North Topsail Beach, urged the Board to remember Jones-Onslow, ONWASA, and other agencies when thinking about infrastructure needs and maintenance. She added onto the other goals listed and how they interact with each other.

Fred Fontana, 1866 NRIR, stressed that protecting the dunes was the Town's priority but enhancing recreational opportunities was important such as the continual push for bikeways. He felt that artificial intelligence and cyber security were areas the Town needed to focus on as well.

Floyd Wright, 1409 and 1411 NRIR, asked about an update from the previous meeting at 11:00AM. He also advocated for "no passing" lines to be painted on the area of road by the old 40 beach crossover access and for other speed correcting measures could be taken.

Liz Beckingham, Kim Harold, and Joanne Bedell (residents of Shipwatch Villas) requested the ordinances regarding Fire and Inspections be reviewed.

Sam Ferreri, 148 Sea Gull Lane, advocated for the Board to explore a bike-path or multi-use path when reviewing "Safe, Vibrant, and Healthy Community" as a goal, citing the north end of North Topsail Beach lacks access to sidewalks. Ferreri urged the Board to meet with ONWASA, Jones-Onslow, and the County planning personnel once they have finalized their plans to find a way of implementation.

Anders Curtis, 136 Sea Gull Lane, asked the Board to focus on defining and maintaining Town-owned roads and providing beach access and parking on the north end of the island.

An unnamed citizen advocated support for the Fire and Police Departments, and appreciation for services provided by these departments.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – Alderman Malcolm made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Strother seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.