SHALLOTTE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 20, 2026
5:15 P.M.

The Shallotte Board of Aldermen met for a work session on October 20, 2026, at 5:15 p.m. in the meeting chambers located at 110 Cheers Street with Mayor Pro Tem Karmen Custer presiding.

Aldermen present: Bobby Williamson, Gene Vasile, Jimmy Bellamy and Larry Harrelson

Staff present: Mimi Gaither, Robert Waring, Natalie Goins, Jeremy Dixon, Isaac Norris, Paul Dunwell, and Dan Formyduval

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Custer called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Gene Vasile, seconded by Bobby Williamson to open the meeting. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

II. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mayor Pro Tem Custer asked if any member of the Board had a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest regarding any item on the agenda. None identified.

III. AGENDA AMENDMENTS & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Gene Vasile, seconded by Bobby Williamson to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Bobby Williamson, seconded by Gene Vasile, to approve the following consent agenda items. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

A. Budget Amendment BA-26-27-4: Local Law Enforcement Bonus Program [$41,143.94]

V. PROCLAMATION

Mayor Pro Tem Custer read into record a Proclamation for National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, at the request of Lower Cape Fear LifeCare. A motion was made by Larry Harrelson, seconded by Gene Vasile to proclaim November 2026 as National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

VI. PRESENTATION: COMMUNITY CENTER INTEREST

Civil Engineer, Drew Hatcher, and Alexandra Gibson presented a proposal for a community center in Shallotte that would offer after-school care, summer camps, aquatics, sports programs, and other recreational services. Handouts were provided to the Board. The presenters highlighted the county's population growth and the limited availability of youth programs and requested the Board's support for

a feasibility study to evaluate costs, potential locations, community interest, and long-term financial viability. Board members expressed support for exploring the concept and encouraged the presenters to coordinate with Town staff and Brunswick County, explore potential partnerships, and return with a more detailed proposal. No formal action was taken.

VII. DISCUSSION

1. Planning Board Appointments

Planning Director Robert Waring reported that three Planning Board terms expire in January 2027. In addition, Ron Johnson is relocating, creating a vacancy for the remainder of his term. Amy Causey, Maria Paslick, and Ed Springer have expressed interest in reappointment. Two applications have been received from new applicants.

Mr. Waring asked how the Board wished to proceed, noting that a small committee had previously interviewed applicants and made recommendations. Board members supported this approach and expressed support for reappointing the current members. The Board agreed to interview only the new applicants. The interview committee will consist of Karmen Custer, Gene Vasile, and Robert Waring. Staff will provide proposed interview dates for the Board's consideration.

2. NCDOT Paved Trails & Sidewalk Feasibility Study Grant

Planning Director Robert Waring reviewed the NCDOT grant opportunity to fund a sidewalk feasibility study, estimated to cost $60,000–$80,000, with a required 20% local match of approximately $12,000–$16,000. The potential study area would extend along Highway 179 past Brierwood toward the roundabout. The required local match was not budgeted for. If awarded, the Town would need to fund the match by approximately January, requiring a budget amendment. A motion was made by Gene Vasile, seconded by Jimmy Bellamy, to pass on the grant opportunity. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

3. Riverfront

Planning Director Robert Waring discussed reactivating the Riverfront Committee and updating its membership. The committee could help review utilities and potential street layout.

Public Services Director Dan Formyduval presented a map showing a conceptual loop road and discussed the potential recombination of lots and right-of-way layout to provide utility connectivity. Town Manager Mimi Gaither noted that approximately $300,000 in remaining SCIF grant funds must be expended by June 2027 and could be used for streetlights, cameras, and other improvements related to the Riverwalk.

The Board agreed that the committee should continue and return recommendations to the full Board, as before. The committee would include Art Dornfeld, Bobby Williamson, and Gene Vasile. Staff will also ask whether a Planning Board member is interested in serving.

VIII. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Jimmy Bellamy, seconded by Gene Vasile, to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Goins

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Town Clerk