

**SHALLOTTE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**MAY 7, 2026**  
**5:15 P.M.**

The Shallotte Board of Aldermen met for a budget workshop on May 7, 2026, at 5:15 p.m. in the meeting chambers located at 110 Cheers Street with Mayor Art Dornfeld presiding.

Aldermen present: Gene Vasile, Bobby Williamson, Karmen Custer, Larry Harrelson and Jimmy Bellamy (5:28)

Staff present: Mimi Gaither, Robert Waring, Isaac Norris, Dan Formyduval, Megan Bellamy and Natalie Goins

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A motion was made by Bobby Williamson seconded by Gene Vasile to open the meeting. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

**II. DEPARTMENTS**

3% COLA and 2% merit increases applied across all departments

**EVENTS & COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Most line items consistent with the prior year

Increase in subscriptions

ADA website compliance deadline extended one year, deferring an estimated \$10K–\$20K expense

Anticipated \$10,000 donation from Capital Chevrolet for the concert series

Live bands at each market; Increase in traffic requires new expenditures such as portable restrooms

**STREETS**

Noted several line-item reductions

Continued increases in paving materials and repair parts

Primary funding source for street projects is 2 cent dedicated street tax

Carryover funds being preserved for larger future projects

Wildwood streets require full reconstruction due to original construction inadequacies

\$50K request to cover half the cost of new dump truck (share with Sewer dept.)

**PARKS**

No significant changes noted

Reductions due to completed projects that are not recurring

Staffing now fully in place

Known operational costs, with the exception of new Price Landing facility

## **GENERAL FUND REVENUES**

Proposed budget balanced with a 3 cent property tax rate increase.  
COLA, merit, retirement, and health insurance total about \$527,000.  
One penny of tax rate equates to around \$114,000 in revenue.

Options discussed to reduce the tax increase:

Discontinuing recycling service (\$135,000) Convert recycling to a fee-based service?

Removal of contract code enforcement position (\$26,000).

Removal of police officer position

Removal of fire fighter position

Shifting the dump truck purchase entirely to the Sewer fund

## **SEWER**

Increase parts new installations – new developments

Two new fleet vehicles \$140K (\$190K if dump truck completely Sewer funded)

A \$1.96 per 1,000-gallon rate increase for the biosolids project, expected to start in July

Additional allocation capacity costs anticipated as new developments require expanded sewer service

Lift station repairs nearing completion

## **SEWER REVENUES**

Balanced without any fund balance appropriation

Commercial sewer charge noted as productive revenue stream

Only proposed increase associated with biosolids project

New sewer tap fee collections exceeded projections

### **III. DISCUSSION**

Town Manager Mimi Gaither reported on ongoing negotiations regarding the Cinderella construction project. A motion was made by Karmen Custer seconded by Gene Vasile to extend the Cinderella termination decision to the May 19, 2026 Board Work Session. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

### **IV. ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Jimmy Bellamy seconded by Gene Vasile to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Goins  
Town Clerk