

Beaufort Highlights

Town Manager's Work Program

USDA Funded Utility Projects

The Town sought bids in the fall of 2023 for various water, sewer, and stormwater projects. The bids received exceeded the amount of funding secured through a combination of USDA loans and grants. Town staff negotiated with the lowest responsive responsible bidders to bring the projects within budget. The negotiations, however, resulted in the elimination of some of the planned work. Town staff has requested the Local Government Commission's (LGC) permission to issue revenue bond anticipation notes. LGC staff is reviewing the application in anticipation of presenting the financing to the LGC Board for approval at its March 5 meeting. In connection with this process, requests for proposals are being distributed to potential lenders. Once a lender or lenders are selected, the Town will need to proceed with adoption of bond orders and note resolutions.

The proceeds from the revenue bonds will be used by the Town to fund the construction of the project with the Town making interest only payments to the holders of the notes. Upon completion of each construction contract, the Town will issue a revenue bond for purchase by USDA. The proceeds from the sale of these bonds will be used to retire the water/sewer and the stormwater notes. The Town will then commence payments to USDA to retire each bond based upon the previously agreed to 40 year term and 1.25% interest rate.

Professional Park Drive Area Stormwater Inventory & Flood Study

WK Dickson, community infrastructure consultants, are currently in Beaufort conducting fieldwork on a project to identify flood mitigation strategies in the Professional Park Drive area including Meeting Street. The Town was awarded a Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments (LASII) grant in the amount of \$394,815 in 2023 for the purposes of identifying a strategy to eliminate or greatly mitigate the flooding at Meeting Street while also reducing the amount of human intervention to mitigate the flooding. The goal of the study is to determine the cause(s), potential options, and associated costs to remedy the flooding conditions that occur primarily along Meeting Street.



Compass Hotel Update

In October of 2023, the Board of Commissioners approved an extension for the site plan of the Compass Hotel project at the end of Cedar Street. The extension gave the developer 18 months to complete half of the project. Commissioners placed a condition that they must provide a quarterly update on the project. The first quarterly update provided to staff is that to date the final closing with USDA has not taken place and a future closing date for the project has not been provided.

NCDOT - Live Oak Street - Access Management Project R-5945

The NCDOT project for the improvement of Live Oak from NC 101 to Olga Road has moved forward on the NCDOT's schedule of projects. This \$51.8 million project is set to begin right-of-way acquisition in 2027 with construction in 2029. The project includes improving access points along the corridor as well as pedestrian safety with the inclusion of a multi-use path.

Parking

A Request for Proposals for Parking Management Services was released on Wednesday, Feb. 7. The deadline to submit proposals is 11 a.m. Feb. 29, 2024. A copy of the full RFP may be obtained by emailing the Finance Director at c.wood@beaufortnc.org. Staff will bring a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners at the March 12 meeting. www.beaufortnc.org/rfps

Cedar Street Project

Town staff conducted a review of the completed Cedar Street pervious concrete parking lanes project with representatives of the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) on Feb. 2. NCDEQ will release grant funds to reimburse the Town for associated costs.

Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will meet on Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. to provide final input on a draft of the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. Staff will make final updates and will submit the Plan to the BOC in March for review.

Ongoing Items of Business

- Wastewater Pump Station Improvements Project
- ARPA Funded Projects
- Waterfront Improvement Project
- High Rate Infiltration Basin
- National Park Service Contract Negotiations
- Wayfinding
- Golden Leaf Foundation Grant
- FY23 Street Rehabilitation and Construction Project



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Board of Commissioners' Upcoming Meetings

6 p.m. Feb. 12 Regular Meeting

6 p.m. March 11 Regular Meeting

For more information on meeting dates
and to view agendas visit
www.beaufortnc.org/calendar.



Above & Below: The Beaufort Board of Commissioners works together on a creative project during their Annual Retreat which was Jan. 30-31, 2024.



Above: The Mayor and Board of Commissioners met with Senator Norman Sanderson and Representative Celeste Cairns during the BOC's annual retreat on Jan. 31, 2024.





Public Utilities Water & Sewer Sections

- One of the high service pumps at the Glenda Drive water treatment plant failed. It is being shipped to an offsite vendor for evaluation.
- Utilities staff repaired a water main leak along George Street during the week of Jan. 29.

Public Utilities: Waste Water Treatment Plant Section

- The wastewater treatment facility continues to operate without an Instrumentation Control Technician. This position, which also provides support to all other areas of Public Utilities, has been open since September 1 as the result of a retirement. This extended duration continues to stress the Public Utilities ability to maintain the operation of process equipment, pumps, and more importantly, their related controls.

Public Works

- Public Works staff arranged for the shingled portion of Town Hall to be reroofed. The work began on Feb 9. This work was necessary as a result of migration of water into the building that caused drywall damage in the Front Street lobby.
- Public Works staff cleared and reworked the substantive ditch that borders the Palmetto Plantation subdivision at the US 70 bypass during the week of Feb. 5.
- Public Works staff has obtained the required certifications so that all vehicle annual inspections can be conducted in-house.
- A new grapple truck for debris collection is now in-service.
- Normal services were provided during the period to include trash collection, sweeping streets, building maintenance, grounds maintenance, janitorial services, park maintenance, street maintenance, stormwater maintenance, sidewalk maintenance, etc.

Police

- With the return of two former officers to full-time staff, the department is back to being fully staffed.
- Police Cadet Jaden Brooks is exceling in basic law enforcement training classes.
- Staff is taking mandatory annual training classes (legal updates, CPR/AED, Narcan administration).

Fire

- Staff completed annual National Fire Protection Association physicals. This year we added chest x-rays to the physicals as a baseline consideration of Firefighter health.
- Command staff attended the NC Association of Fire Chiefs conference in Concord, NC. The annual conference serves as a good opportunity to keep up with fire service trends in NC and through out the United States.
- All fire hydrants have completed testing cycles for the past year and fire hydrant maintenance will begin shortly.

Human Resources

The Town of Beaufort has the following positions open for employment:

- Information Technology Director
- Instrumentation Control Technician
- Utility Maintenance Technician



Above: Beaufort Commissioners John LoPiccolo and Sarah Speigler speak with Governor Roy Cooper during a recent visit to East Carteret High School.



Above: Mayor Sharon Harker and Commissioner Melvin Cooper recognize Art month in Beaufort by presenting a proclamation to representatives of the Carteret County Arts Council.



Feb. 19, 2024



SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Beaufort by the Sea Community Church from 9:00am - 12:00pm

Visit and learn from the many senior-related services in our area. Food trucks, county services, vendors will be onsite.

The new **Mobile Health Van** will be available to check out as well.

Beaufort by the Sea Community Church
One Heart One Mind

Annual Small Vessel/Kayak Lottery
1 p.m. March 6, 2024

Registration closes at 5 p.m. Monday, March 4.
Visit beaufortnc.org for more information and the application.

More Project Updates Available Online
Visit the "Mayor's Corner" and select "Project Updates."
www.beaufortnc.org