

Beaufort Highlights

Town Manager's Work Program

USDA Funded Utility Projects

Negotiations to reduce the price bid prices for the three USDA-funded utility contracts has been underway since shortly after the bids were received on November 9. As of today, the amounts for water distribution system and stormwater collection system work have been negotiated to within the funding available while providing for small contingencies. These negotiations have however, resulted in elimination of some of the planned work.

Negotiations concerning the wastewater contract are still ongoing with the low bidder. Staff is targeting January 12 as the date for conclusion of the negotiations. Staff, together with the Town's consultant, will move forward with rebidding the wastewater portion of the work if an acceptable negotiated price has not been reached by then.

Professional Park Drive Area Stormwater Inventory & Flood Study

The kickoff meeting between the Town's consultant and Town staff for the Professional Park Drive Area Stormwater Inventory and Flood Study occurred on December 12. The inventory and study are expected to be completed by November 2024. Part of the work will include neighborhood engagement.

FY23 Street Rehabilitation and Construction project

The FY23 Street Rehabilitation and Construction project has been readvertised for receipt of bids by January 18. The readvertisement was made necessary because an insufficient number of bids were received on December 21.

Golden Leaf Foundation Grant

The Town submitted an application to Golden Leaf Foundation Flood Mitigation Grant Program grant requesting more than \$900,000 for stormwater projects. The State of North Carolina provided funds to the Golden LEAF Foundation to award funds to units of local government for public infrastructure projects for flood mitigation. The grant was submitted in conjunction with the Town's contracted grant writer Margaret Shields. The Golden Leaf Foundation Board will meet in the spring to consider the submitted projects.

Dredging—Bulkhead Channel 1

Dredging took place the week of December 7-10th. The Corps was able to widen the area. A December 20th survey from the Corps shows a depth of at least 12 feet. It should be noted that the survey was taken after a nor easter which probably moved sand back into the channel.

Comprehensive CAMA Land Use Plan

The Town was notified on Tuesday, Jan. 2 that the Beaufort Comprehensive/CAMA Land Use Plan has been certified by the Division of Coastal Management.

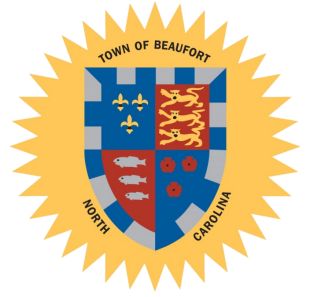
Depot Sound System

The Train Depot has been upfitted with a new sound system to include an overflow monitor and sound.

ISC Relocates 2024 FAI World Championships Events to U.S. (Beaufort, NC)

Israel-the original host country of the 2024 Fédération Aéronautique Internationale World Championships of Artistic Events, Formation Skydiving, Wingsuiting and Speed Skydiving—was unable to follow through with holding these events due to the ongoing crisis there. The International Skydiving Commission opened up a bidding process to all potential host countries, and given the difficulties associated with pulling together such a challenging event in such a tight time frame, the U.S. was the only country to submit a bid.

On December 1, the ISC Bureau announced that Crystal Coast Skydiving at Michael J. Smith Field, a public airport in Beaufort, North Carolina, will be the site of the championships. The events, which Skydive Chicago and Skydive Paraclete XP will organize jointly at the Beaufort location, will take place October 4-12, 2024.



January 2024
Volume 3, Issue 1

Board of Commissioners' Upcoming Meetings

6 p.m. Jan. 8 Regular Meeting

4 p.m. Jan. 15 Work Session

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 30 & 31 Board of Commissioners Annual Retreat

January/February Events

Jan. 15: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

2 p.m. Jan. 24: Chat with the Chief

Feb. 9-11: Beaufort Business Association's Mardi Gras

Town Hall Closed

Monday, Jan. 15



Ongoing Items of Business

- Wastewater Pump Station Improvements Project
- ARPA Funded Projects
- George Street & Fairview Drive Project

- Waterfront Improvement Project
- High Rate Infiltration Basin
- National Park Service Contract Negotiations
- Wayfinding

1 p.m. March 6, 2024

Annual Small Vessel/Kayak Lottery
Registration closes at 5 p.m. Monday,
March 4.

Visit beaufortnc.org for more information and the application.

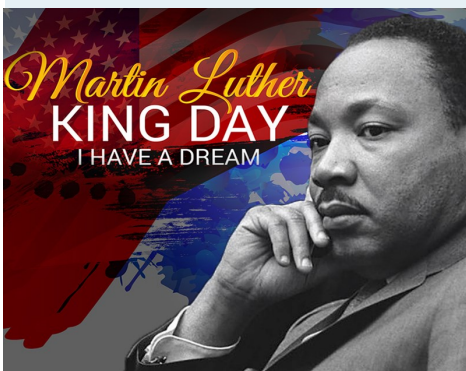


Christmas Tree Recycling

Christmas trees are picked up annually by the Town of Beaufort Public Works Department.

Please place your live Christmas trees curbside and separate from Yard Debris by 7 a.m. on Monday mornings during the month of January for pickup.

Trees are taken to Atlantic Beach for the recycling program. The last day for pickup is Monday, Jan. 29, 2024



More Project Updates Available
Online

Visit the "Mayor's Corner" and select
"Project Updates."

www.beaufortnc.org

Public Utilities

Water & Sewer Sections

- A shipment of 198 water meters arrived the week of January 1st. The meters were ordered during the Spring of 2023. An additional shipment of 170 meters that was ordered in July 2023 is expected within the next few weeks.
- A section of clay sewer main located along Willow Street appears to have collapsed. Its replacement, which will likely involve dewatering the ground around it using well points, is being planned by staff.
- Issues persist with the main sewer pump station located within the Beaufort Club subdivision. The issues are being caused by the problems traceable to the control system which incorporates outdated and consequently, unsupported programmable logic controllers (PLCs). Staff has authorized replacement of outdated components by the system manufacturer at a cost of \$12,400.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Section

- The supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system that allows the wastewater treatment plant to be monitored and operated from the control room of the administration building is no longer functional. The failure of many of the electronic programmable logic controllers (PLCs) that allow for such monitoring and operation are at the heart of this situation. The problem is further compounded by the fact that the PLCs are no longer supported by the manufacturer.
- Staff arranged for a scoping visit by a company that provides SCADA systems to evaluate the current arrangement and, based upon this evaluation, make recommendations. This evaluation resulted in a recommendation for replacement of defective and unsupported hardware. The cost was estimated at \$300,000.

Public Works

- Public Works staff is underway with repairs to the roofing at the cupola of Town Hall to stop the migration of water into the building, as well as, repairing drywall damage in the Front Street lobby caused by the water.
- A new grapple truck has been ordered and is expected to be delivered this week.
- A basketball backboard with hoop was ordered as a replacement for the one that was destroyed by vandalism at the Carteret Drive courts.
- Holiday decorations were removed during the week of January 1st.
- Interviews of potential candidates for the two open positions of Facilities specialist and Maintenance Technician are underway.
- The installation of wayfinding signage continued during the period.
- Replacement of several broken and cracked deck boards along the Front Street boardwalk continued during the period along with the securing of loose boards. This maintenance work has become a routine monthly task.
- 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

- Preparing end of year reporting re: staff and training requirements.
- Processing applications and conducting interviews for current vacancies.
- Preparing upfit for new vehicles that arrived last week.
- Quarterly Chat with the Chief is at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24 at the Train Depot.

Human Resources

- The Town of Beaufort has the following positions open for employment:
Facility Maintenance Technician
Information Technology Director
Instrumentation Control Technician
Police Officer
Police Officer and certified School Resource Officer
Public Works Technician

To apply to www.beaufortnc.org—Go to How Do I - click on jobs or Town Hall – click on Human Resources and click on Apply online at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/beaufortnc/>.

- The Town of Beaufort has also completed a workplace climate survey.

Parks

- The Parks Coordinator is working with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to complete a Comprehensive Parks Plan ready for consideration early spring.
- The 2024 Kayak Lottery is open and accepting applications. Spaces will be assigned by lottery the first Wednesday in March. The drawing will be livestreamed on the Town's Facebook page.

