



More Progress in Beaufort

The accolades for Beaufort continue to roll in. Most recently, we have been named one of the "Most Romantic Small Towns in the U.S.," representing North Carolina.

<https://www.thediscoverer.com/blog/most-romantic-small-towns-in-the-u-s/>

It is crystal clear we have a wonderful community and an amazing coastal ecosystem. But to stay a great town, we have to remain self-critical and admit that we have some significant challenges ahead of us. These challenges are complex, inter-related, unsustainable in their current form, and not unique to Beaufort. These are national and global problems, but we must chip away at these challenges at a local level.

COVID-19. The number of positive COVID-19 active cases continues to increase across the state at a troubling pace, and they've also recently been on the rise in Carteret County. On June 24, Governor Cooper extended the Phase 2 "Safer at Home" order and added a mask requirement across the state. Growing evidence shows that cloth face coverings, when worn consistently, can decrease the spread of COVID-19, especially among people who are not yet showing symptoms of the virus. Under the new executive order, people must wear face coverings when in public places where physical distancing is not possible. More details are available at www.beaufortnc.org/coronavirus. Our numbers in Carteret County have been relatively low compared to other parts of the state and country. Let's keep it that way...wear a mask!!

Racism. The recent focus on racial inequality and social injustice is long overdue. In Beaufort, Tyisha Teel and Sheresa Elliot led peaceful and powerful protests north of the Turner Street Bridge, and an equally powerful virtual town hall. These two young black leaders have been unafraid to have thoughtful dialogue on a number of potentially controversial topics to include police brutality, racist policies, religion, and the Confederate monument on the courthouse property. It is clear that in Beaufort and Carteret County, we have work to do to overcome the effects of racism, and I am grateful that Tyisha and Sheresa are leading the way.



Sheresa Elliot and Tyisha Teel represent the Best of Beaufort.

Drug abuse. Drug abuse is a substantial challenge in Carteret County and we must have a better understanding of this challenge before we can take active measures to reduce this problem. In July, we will solicit the expertise of county experts and see if we can find solutions for Beaufort and the surrounding area. This effort will take a total county approach.

Infrastructure. After two years of analysis, planning, and securing funding, we are moving forward rapidly with infrastructure repairs. The initial focus has been on minor utility work, reconstruction, and/or paving of Howard Jr. Lane, Stanton Road, Mashburn Drive, and Hedrick Street. The reconstruction of the Professional Park Drive base is predicted to begin the week of July 6th.

Water Quality. The massive effort to clean up our waterways started before Hurricane Florence and continues today. Our strategic budget for 2020-2021 includes the start of a Harbor Master Plan to coordinate waterway-related initiatives.

Effects of Climate Change. It is hard to imagine, but we are back in hurricane season. We must prepare as individual households and as a community for the next potential storm in the coming weeks or months. And that brings me to the next topic...

Expanding socio-economic divide. Hurricane Florence exposed this divide, Hurricane Dorian widened it, and the pandemic has increased the divide even more. Those with resources recover from crises at a rate much higher than those who don't have resources. A large number of families in Carteret County are struggling. Please continue to be generous with your time and resources to help the many families in need.

Beaufort is a spectacular place to live, but we have significant work to do to confront these difficult challenges.

- Mayor Everett S. (Rett) Newton

Town Hall

701 Front Street
P.O. Box 390
Beaufort, NC 28516
(252) 728-2141

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday-Friday

Please note offices are closed to the public due to Covid-19.

Mayor

Everette S. (Rett) Newton
e.newton@beaufortnc.org

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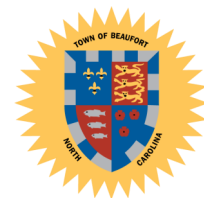
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Town Manager

John Day



The Very Best of Beaufort

As we have navigated many challenges over the last two years, I have been very fortunate to be introduced to the enormously talented citizens of our town. During recent Black Lives Matter protests in Beaufort, I met Tyisha Teel and Sheresa Elliot. I have been amazed at their focus, poise, passion, and leadership skills. They are knowledgeable about the numerous challenges I have mentioned above, and they have given me great confidence that Beaufort has another generation of leaders prepared to guide our future, to include ensuring there is freedom,

justice, and opportunity for all. After the murder of George Floyd, we had another wake-up call that racial inequality and social injustice are prevalent in our nation, state, and county, and we must do better. I greatly appreciate the sustained efforts of Tyisha and Sheresa to make a difference. They truly represent the very best of Beaufort.

Note: Each month, we highlight individuals or organizations that represent The Very Best of Beaufort.

Board of Commissioners

During the June 8, 2020 regular monthly meeting, the Board of Commissioners took the following actions:

- Approved the Asset Inventory Assessment for Wastewater
- Approved the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis 2020 Update
- Approved the Final Plat for the Gallants Point Subdivision
- Approved Adoption of the Pamlico Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Approved FY20 Budget Amendment #13
- Approved Capital Project Ordinance
- Approved Capital Reserve Fund Amendment #3
- Received Presentation on FY21 Proposed Budget

Historic Preservation Commission

The Town of Beaufort Historic Preservation Commission met June 2 and discussed the following six items using Zoom technology:

- Case # 20-06 301 Front Street shutters & exterior stairs: Request to install operable louvered shutters on East, West and South elevations and to construct stair access from ground to second floor deck on West side per submitted drawings. Approved as presented.
 - Case # 20-07 1004 Ann St. - Historic Plaque: A request for a Historic Plaque at 1004 Ann Street. Approved as presented.
 - Case # 20-08 429 Front Street - Stucco Exterior: A request to cover east and west facing brick walls on the 2nd floor with stucco to reinforce and seal old and crumbling bricks (Clawson's Restaurant). Tabled until specific color samples are submitted by the applicant.
 - Case # 20-10 109 Middle Lane - Golf Cart Charging Station: Request to install a power pole at rear of the property for the use of charging golf carts. Approved as temporary until Dec. 31, 2020 with the condition that the post be painted green to match the landscape. The HPC stated that after Dec. 31 a different location and device must be submitted for a COA in order to continue the use.
 - Case # 20-11 120 Turner Street - Sign - Cru Bar: A request to install two (2) 25 Sq. ft. on the south side of the structure made of Aluminum Bond Board (Middle Lane). Approved as presented.
 - Case # 20-12 410 Front Street - Signage: Request to install an 8 sq. ft. sign on the Front Street beside the door and a 12 sq. ft. sign on the rear of the building on the second floor. The front sign was approved as presented and the rear sign was approved with the condition that the sign hang from the lower trim board rather than from the balcony railing.
- If you have any questions about Beaufort's Historic District, please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org

New Payment Option for Utility Bills and Permits: Web Inquiry and Payment Portal (WIPP)

There is a new way to check your balance and pay your bill online. From the town website www.beaufortnc.org, select Residents, Pay My Utility Bill, then scroll down and click the link for WIPP. Using your account number and PIN (printed on your bill, you can check your balance, see your last three bills, and pay by debit or credit card, or by e-check. There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for debit/credit, and \$1.05 for e-check. There is not a transaction amount limit. To pay an invoice, go to the WIPP page using the instructions above. You will need to have your customer ID and PIN, which is printed on your invoice. If you are used to paying through Official Payments, we think you will find WIPP to be a more enhanced service. Please start using WIPP for your online payments, as we will be transitioning away from Official Payments over the next few months. Official Payments will still be the method to use for IVR (over-the-phone) payments. If you have any questions, please email billing@beaufortnc.org.

July Meetings

All meetings will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Please visit the calendar item for the meeting at www.beaufortnc.org/calendar for meeting login information.

- 6 p.m. July 7—Historic Preservation Commission
- 6 p.m. July 9—Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- 6 p.m. July 13—Board of Commissioners
- 6 p.m. July 20—Planning Board
- 4 p.m. July 27—Board of Commissioners Work Session
- 6 p.m. July 27—Board of Adjustment

Planning Board

The Planning Board met on June 15 via Zoom and discussed the following items:

- Case 20-06 - Final Plat - Beau Coast Phase 2-B - A request to subdivide a 27.498 acre tract into 49 Single-Family Residential Lots. The applicant has chosen to request to bond the infrastructure improvement and has submitted cost estimates for the complete cost of improvements totaling \$331,105. Recommended for approval as presented.
- Case 20-07 - LDO Text Amendment Building Height - A request to modify the definition of building height. Proposed amendment would change the way building height is measured in Special Flood Hazard Areas. This item was tabled till the July meeting for additional information and discussion.
- Case No. 20-08 - 513 Front Street - Micro Distillery/Restaurant - Special Use Permit - A request for a Special Use Permit for Micro distillery, Microbrewery, Restaurant with Outdoor Operation & Tavern/Bar/Pub with Outdoor Operation. Recommended for approval as presented.

In other news during the month of May the Inspections Division issued 47 Building Permits, completed 132 Building Inspections with a construction value of \$907,000 and has seen increased activity during the month of June.

Know Your Flood Risk

As a public service, the Town of Beaufort will provide the following information upon request:

- Whether a property is in or out of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as shown on the current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) of Carteret County.
- Additional flood insurance data for a site, such as the FIRM zone and the base flood elevation or depth, if shown on the FIRM.
- We have a handout on the flood insurance purchase requirement that can help people who need a mortgage or loan for a property in the SFHA.
- The Town of Beaufort maintains elevation certificates for new and substantially improved structures in the SFHA.
- The Town of Beaufort updates the Flood Insurance Rate Maps as needed when revisions are made to the maps.
- The Town also has information for additional FIRM information, problems not shown on the FIRM, flood depth data, special flood related hazards, historical flood information, and natural floodplain functions.

This information can be found at www.beaufortnc.org under the "Residents" tab or by calling the Planning Department at 252-728-2142, or via email to k.allen@beaufortnc.org.



Know Your Flood Risk™



BEAUFORT *Historical Association*

Start bidding now!

one.bidpal.net/bhasummerparty2020

Summer Party Online Auction



Valued DP Jewelry
\$117.70! Link Bracelet



Jamie's Taxi Bike Raffle!
- tickets -
1 for \$5 - 3 for \$12 - 5 for \$20



Rowing Dory, Valued
from the \$priceless
Maritime Museum

For more information visit beauforthistoricsite.org, call 252-728-5225,
or follow @thebeauforthistoricsite on Facebook and Instagram.

Chat with the Chief

6 p.m. Tuesday, July 21

As part of the Beaufort Police Department's ongoing commitment to outstanding customer service, Chief Paul Burdette encourages all residents and local business owners to join him for the quarterly Chat with the Chief.



This meeting will be virtual due to Covid-19. Attend the meeting live on the Town of Beaufort's Facebook page.

You can ask questions during the meeting through the comment section of the live video or submit them in advance to r.johnson@beaufortnc.org.



Chat with the Chief is a program Chief Burdette has developed to provide the community with statistics, trends, and information on the operations within the Police Department. It also gives citizens a chance to discuss neighborhood issues, identify problems, discuss police/community relations, and to establish community partnerships.

BEAUFORT *Historical Association*

Summer Party Online Auction

For the first time in 10 years the Beaufort Historical Association (BHA) will not be hosting the annual Summer Party, an event that helps raise significant funds for the Association to support their ongoing education and preservation programs. To celebrate, there will be an online silent auction. You can start bidding now at bidpal.net/bhasummerparty2020. The auction will close at 9 p.m. on July 11.

This party is the highlight for many every summer. While large groups cannot gather together this summer, hopefully small groups of friends will gather to celebrate while they take part in the online auction. Whether it is an intimate cocktail party or a game of seeing who can outbid each other, be sure to tag @thebeauforthistoricsite or #BHASummerParty2020 to show your support.

The online auction features items such as fine art, getaways, and a handcrafted wooden boat are now up for bid. There is even a chance to take part in a Raffle for a Jamie's Cruiser bike. New this year there will be an option for "buy now" on fine art. Be sure to register as soon as you can, as items are added weekly.

This year most of the auction items will assist area businesses and others who donate to the auction, as a portion of the proceeds will go back to them.

"We have so many businesses that are struggling with huge losses, and we want to show our support and comradery for them by giving back a portion of the proceeds," explains Patricia Suggs, Executive Director for the Beaufort Historic Site.

With the serious loss of income since March and the unforeseeable future, the Association is fortunate to have assistance from a separate Foundation. Two Foundation Board members, Marvin Barnes and Dick Futrell, have spearheaded the growth of the Foundation over the years. In recognition of their efforts, the two have been chosen as the Honorary Chairs of what is now a serious fundraiser rather than a party. The funds from this year's "party" will be designated to the Foundation to honor these special gentlemen for their love, dedication, and long-time support of the crucial work of the Foundation.

"We all look forward to the day when everyone can gather together for a large celebration, and with the major changes this year, we especially want to thank all our donors and friends who are making this auction possible," adds Suggs.

For more information about the Beaufort Historical Association or this virtual event, please call 252-728-5225, visit beauforthistoricsite.org, or follow @thebeauforthistoricsite on Facebook and Instagram.





July typically brings hot summer weather, family picnics, beach excursions, and summer veggies from farmers at the

OLDE BEAUFORT FARMERS' MARKET!

With our covid-19 precautions in place outdoors on the courthouse square, we think the market is the safest place for our community to shop for fresh, locally grown veggies, meats, eggs, honey; homemade baked goods, desserts, and ready-to-eat dishes; and unique, whimsical, beautiful, and functional art and craftwork. **9-1, Saturdays on the courthouse square.**

We invite you to join the market and to shop local so your dollars directly impact Carteret County citizens and our local economy. Thanks all

Beaufort's annual Fireworks Extravaganza takes place Saturday, July 4 at 9 p.m.

The Beaufort Development Association still needs to raise \$5,000 to be able to fund the Beaufort 4th of July fireworks display this year. The total cost is over \$14,000. Any size donation would be really appreciated. You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/va8bycwm>. Checks can be sent to P.O. Box 56, Beaufort, NC 28516.

While the fireworks display will take place near Gallants' Channel, the property will not be open to the public for viewing due to social distancing requirements. You're encouraged to watch the fireworks from your vehicle, a restaurant, your home, or on a boat, all while social distancing and keeping groups to no more than 25 people.

Beaufort's July 4th Parade will not take place due to COVID-19. With the lack of a parade, the association decided to move forward with plans for the annual fireworks display.

BDA is a nonprofit organization that seeks to support economic and community development in Beaufort.

For more information on the Beaufort Business Association, visit www.beaufortnc.com.

Beaufort Town Flags

Beaufort 3' x 5' flag (\$70) and 12" x 18" garden flags (\$25) are for sale at Ace Hardware, 1511 Live Oak; Cousins Bed & Breakfast, 305 Turner; and First Citizens Bank, 1501 Live Oak. All proceeds benefit the community through the Beaufort Woman's Club.



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DownEast Beaufort Center for Women's Ministries

These last few months have been challenging in many different ways. We understand the benefit of having someone to listen and encourage us. We want to remind the community

that the DownEast Beaufort Center for Women's Ministries is open and offers free peer counseling. Please call 252-504-2441 to arrange your appointment. Also, we are looking for more volunteers who have a heart to help women. Since we are growing we are getting ready to begin a new Peer Counseling Training Semester.

Additionally, we will be starting an 8-week study called Defined- find out who you are and why you matter! Please call us to get more information.

Don't forget, we are located at 407 Live Oak Street, Suite #5 in Beaufort. We have been where you are and would love to walk beside you. You are not alone!

Newsletter Submissions:

Due July 20, 2020 at 5 p.m. Send to r.johnson@beaufortnc.org

The Writers' Exchange Beaufort NC

The Writers' Exchange Beaufort NC is now Zoom-zooming! Jan Parker, Trish Sheppard, and Allison Daniel host the online critique meetings every 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6 - 9 p.m. All writers and poets are welcome to join this free and open disciplined critique, no matter the level of expertise. You may request an invitation through email: thewritersXchange@aol.com and receive an email hyperlink invitation on the day we meet. Also, please join us on Facebook.

