DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1 2 3 4 5	TOWN OF APEX SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024 3:00 P.M.
6 7 8	The Apex Town Council met for a Special Work Session on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at the Apex Town Hall located at 73 Hunter Street in Apex North Carolina.
9 10 11 12	This meeting was open to the public. Members of the public were able to attend this meeting in-person or watch online via the livestream on the Town's YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q08tBz7ybYl
13 14 15 16 17	CLERK NOTE: The November 19, 2024, Town Council Work Session was originally scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m. and duly noticed as part of the Annual Meeting Schedule. The Governing Body were given the opportunity to meet the finalist for the Police Chief position beginning at 3:00 p.m., therefore the meeting notice was adjusted to begin at 3:00 p.m. since a quorum of the elected body would be present.
19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	[ATTENDANCE] Elected Body Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert (presiding) Mayor Pro-Tempore Ed Gray Councilmember Brett Gantt Councilmember Arno Zegerman Councilmember Audra Killingsworth Councilmember Terry Mahaffey Absent: None
28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38	Town Staff Town Manager Randy Vosburg Deputy Town Manager Shawn Purvis Assistant Town Manager Demetria John Assistant Town Manager Marty Stone Town Attorney Laurie Hohe Town Clerk Allen Coleman Interim Police Chief Trevor Materasso Fire Chief Tim Herman
39 40 41 42	All other staff members will be identified appropriately below.

[COMMENCMENT]

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 Mayor Gilbert opened the meeting, and said the beginning portion would be an informal time for Council to meet with some of the candidates for the vacant Chief of Police role.

Town Manager Vosburg introduced Trevor Materasso, Interim Police Chief of Apex and said that the Mayor and Council are welcome to mingle and interact with Interim Chief Materasso. He said that after 5:00 p.m. there would be introductions for another candidate.

Mayor Gilbert called the formal portion of the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., welcomed everyone, and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Gilbert asked Town Manager Vosburg to give Apex Police Department Updates.

[APEX POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES]

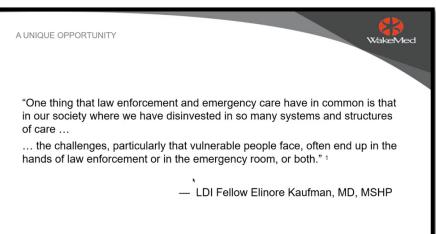
Town Manager Vosburg asked Chief Materasso to give updates on the Apex Police Department.

Interim Chief Materasso introduced **Megan Simpson**, Compliance Manager, and **Tom Klatt**, Executive Director, WakeMed Behavioral Health Network, who gave the following presentation:

[SLIDE 1]



1 [SLIDE 2]



2 | SLIDE 3



[SLIDE 4]

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The Need for Timely Access, Improved Referrals, and Follow-through

Many patients have difficulty accessing quality behavioral healthcare on a timely basis, and yet these same individuals are those with many times the most urgent need. This is particularly true of patients who are in crisis such as those served by Public Safety and CART Program. The volume of behavioral health-related calls is growing year over year.

A collaboration between the WakeMed Behavioral Health Network and Town of Apex Public Safety addresses the following identified needs:

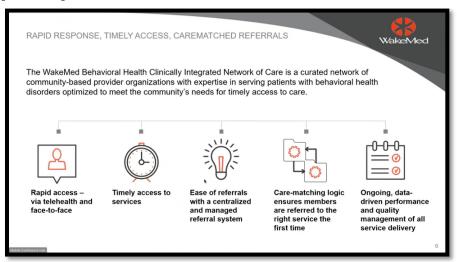
CART staff are often challenged with identifying and obtaining timely access to behavioral resources for the patients they assess when in the field and spend significant man-hours in researching referrals.

Once resources have been identified and a referral is made, very often CART staff have no resources to follow the referral to confirm whether the individual has been accepted for treatment and if the patient attended the appointment, and the outcome of the treatment.

[SLIDE 5]



[SLIDE 6]



Councilmember Gantt asked what is happening right now without this process.

Ms. Simpson said when a call comes in and it involves the crisis response team, a social worker and officer who are involved respond to the scene, after it is secured, and the crisis counselor establishes a clinical relationship with the person, if possible, to see what the person's needs are. She said Khea Morton, the crisis counselor, would connect the distressed person to resources after the response.

Councilmember Gantt asked if it was common for there not to be any resources.

Ms. Simpson said that is correct, lack of availability is common. She said often resources are needed immediately for the person in crisis, and that can be difficult with this framework.

Councilmember Zegerman asked if victims of crime were separate or if they were part of this process.

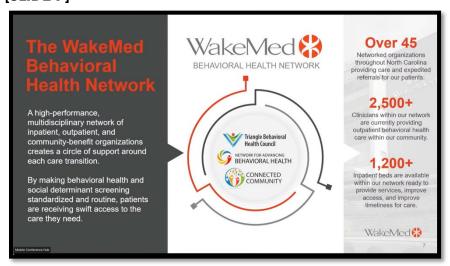
Ms. Simpson said that there can be some overlap. She said the Victim Advocate for the town can work with the Crisis Counselor, if needed, and they could establish a clinical

relationship. She said they want to keep that aspect with the Crisis Counselor for clinical privacy and relationships.

Interim Chief Materasso said that they triage cases through the Victim Advocate to see if more support is needed from the Crisis Counselor and other agencies.

Mr. Klatt said this platform would help with scheduling and appointments, and also to be able to see information regarding follow-up and data.

[SLIDE 7]

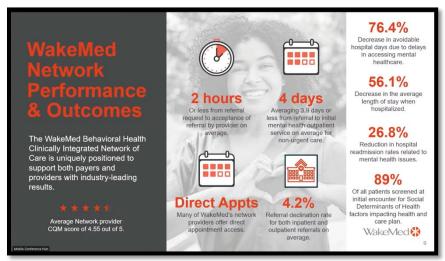


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[SLIDE 9]



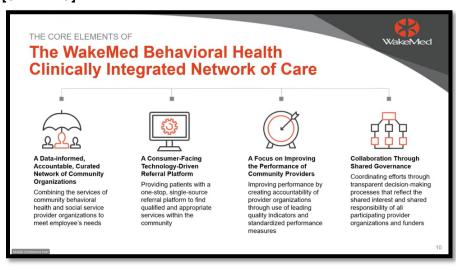
Councilmember Gantt asked what the geographic scope of this network was.

Mr. Klatt said that is across most of the State right now. He said that they have people who utilize their programming from Asheville to Wilmington.

Councilmember Zegerman asked what types of partners were involved.

Mr. Klatt gave some examples of partners. He said there was a combination of community partners and private. He said that these are operators outside of the WakeMed system, and they do not own or manage any of them. He said this is a collaborative network of providers and resources.

[SLIDE 10]



1 **[SLIDE 11]**



[SLIDE 12]

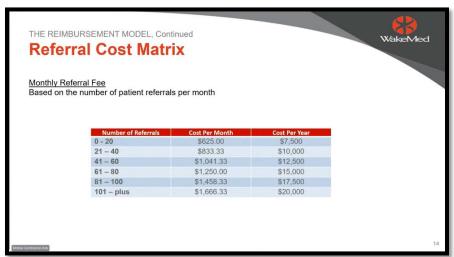
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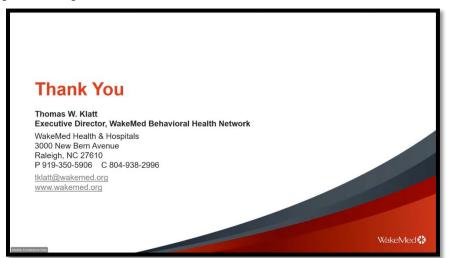
[SLIDE 13]



[SLIDE 14]



[SLIDE 15]



Councilmember Zegerman asked to go back to the Case Management Services slide. He asked how large the case management staff was.

Mr. Klatt asked if Councilmember Zegerman was asking about the agencies receiving referrals.

 Councilmember Zegerman asked who was currently doing the case management. He said that he would like there to be other case managers.

Mr. Klatt said the case management in this program would be done by the providers in this system. He said WakeMed would oversee and manage the program, and assist Ms. Morton with her coordination of it on Apex's end.

Interim Police Chief Materasso said they agreed that they do not want to have a single person on the Police Department that would be responsible for all of this. He said that they are starting with one as they step into this. He said that she would be the liaison and if she needed any support that Wake Med would be there to give that support. He said this

Page **8** of **18**

would make her more of a liaison rather than a case manager, as that role would fall more to the outside agencies, with Ms. Morton coordinating.

Councilmember Zegerman said that he would want her to do the social work because that is what she was hired for, but he did not want her to be doing case management that would prevent her from servicing the Community.

Interim Chief Materasso said the Police Department is adjusting to the CART program. He said that Ms. Morton is a clinician that is in school logging hours for certain certifications. He said that they were previously sending police officers to respond to behavioral crises and that is not their expertise, Ms. Morton has much more expertise to respond to a person in crisis and she now goes into the Community for the person in crisis at the moment they need it. He said previously it was more focused on the social work component, and that is where the inclusion of this program comes into play.

Councilmember Zegerman said that when the Community is dealing with a person in distress that is where he sees Ms. Morton's value. He said that Ms. Morton doesn't scale by herself, and asked if there were opportunities for volunteer program with other licensed clinicians that can operate independently out in the Community in addition to Ms. Morton.

Ms. Simpson said that they do have a partnership with Avance Health. She said they have established a mirror position to Ms. Morton's that she is able to work with. She said that WakeMed was not the singular partnership. She said that this was just one and there are other proposals and things in the works.

Councilmember Zegerman asked for a follow up conversation.

Ms. Simpson said that there was potentially individual dialogue. He said that if there was a good proposal that Council would like to proceed. He said that there was not a budget for this year so it would be something to work through with dialogue, get a proposal ready, and come back to Council.

Mayor Gilbert asked for a follow up conversation with Council.

Mr. Klatt said they could do that.

Mayor Gilbert thanked them for the information and asked what the next steps were.

Mr. Klatt said the next step would be finalizing the proposal.

Councilmember Mahaffey said this program is a platform for case management for mental health professional cases.

Mr. Klatt said that is correct, and it offers much more with the collaborative relationships that WakeMed has developed.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked what the history of the platform was.

Mr. Klatt said WakeMed has developed this program over the last 6 years. He said prior to the program, they had far more beds taken up by people who needed medical care, but then needed to be transitioned to mental health care. He said now they are much more efficient with transitioning people to the mental health care they need through this.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if this was the platform the WakeMed ER in Apex used.

Mr. Klatt said yes. He said this would be adapted to suit the needs of the Police Department.

Town Manager Vosburg said it seemed like there was some additional individual dialogue that needed to occur. He said he assumed that Council would like to proceed as soon as possible if a good proposal could be reached. He said it was not budgeted for this year, so a budget amendment would be needed if it was this fiscal year.

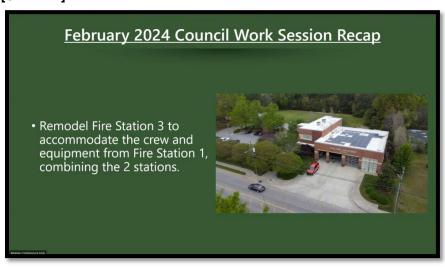
[APEX FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES]

Town Manager Vosburg introduced Timothy Herman, Fire Chief of Apex. **Chief Herman** gave the following presentation:

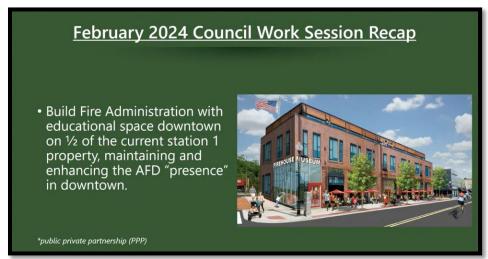
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[SLIDE 2]



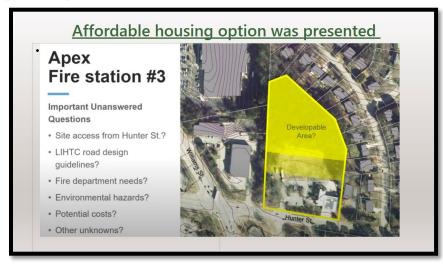
1 **[SLIDE 3]**



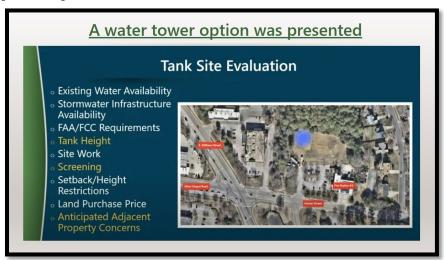
2 3 **[SLIDE 4]**



4 [SLIDE 5]



1 **[SLIDE 6]**



2 [SLIDE 7]

Fast-forward 9 months...where are we now and what has changed?

- Affordable housing is not recommended on this site.
- A water tower is not recommended on this site.
- Creech & Associates, PLLC completes a town-wide space needs study, outlining space needs for all town departments to include fire stations and fire administration.
- At the Feb. 2024 Council Work Session, Council suggests to explore options to address space needs during any upcoming projects.

5 **[SLIDE 8]**



1 **[SLIDE 9]**



[SLIDE 10]

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[SLIDE 11]



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1 **[SLIDE 12]**



2 [SLIDE 13]

Public/Private/Partnership Discussion

Approved Apex Downtown Master Plan:

- Top Project #6 "Re-envision Fire Station as a civic and <u>mixed</u> <u>use</u> development".
- Key Goal # 8 "Honor the History of Downtown Reimagined Fire Station on Salem Street".

APEX

[SLIDE 14]

Public/Private/Partnership Discussion

Potential uses for the space:

- AFD Interactive learning center/museum (includes the "Hunter" antique fire truck)
- Retail and restaurants
- Open concept space for community events
- Professional offices
- Maker space/incubator (light manufacturing)
- Rooftop gathering space

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1 **[SLIDE 15]**

Action steps/Timelines

Station 3

- Q4 2024 selected Davis Kane to design the Station 3 remodel/addition (process started).
- Q3 2025 Start construction at station 3 (12-14 months).
- Q4 2026 Station 3 completed, Station 1 closed.

Downtown (PPP)

- Q1 2025 Feasibility Study of 210 Salem St.
- Q3 2025 Request for Proposals.
- Q1 2026 Start design/planning/permits.
- Q1 2027 Start construction.

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[SLIDE 16]

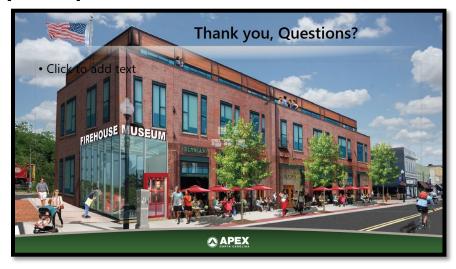
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Action steps/Timelines

Fire Administration Building

- Q3 2025 design/planning/permits.
- Q3 2026 start construction on Hunter St.
- Q1 2027 Fire Administration building completed.

[SLIDE 17]



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Chief Herman asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Zegerman asked about the sufficiency of having 4 apparatus bays.

Chief Herman said that space needs study recommended that they build an 18,000-foot fire station which includes three bays and living quarters, and that falls into the square footage of 2 Company Battalion Chief Fire Station.

Councilmember Zegerman asked roughly what the square footage for the Administration Building.

Chief Herman said that the space study recommended that currently needed is 7,800 square feet, and in 20 years that need would be 10,000 for Fire Administration.

Councilmember Zegerman said he was also thinking about PD and Parks and Rec needing additional space, and that in the grand scheme of things this seemed like a small building.

Daniel Edwards, Senior Capital Projects Manager, said that there are constraints on the site, and the maximum size for the building is 14,000 square feet.

Councilmember Zegerman said it addresses the Fire Department needs but no other needs.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said that there are some innovative things that could be looked at and this is the first look. He said that there may be options with storm water going under the parking lot. He said with that they may be able to go up another story to three stories.

Councilmember Zegerman said that previously when they spoke that they potentially would go vertically on the existing building, and that it would give more room for the administrative functions.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said that they are just getting the contract put together. He said in the master planning stage it will be looked at going out and up at the existing facility.

Councilmember Zegerman said that the space looks small for what they may need for the future. He said he wants to prepare for the needs 10-15 years down the road, and not just the current needs.

Chief Herman said that he did not think this property would solve everyone's needs.

Councilmember Zegerman said since it's a fairly large property they already own, it's a good place to try and solve as many issues as they can.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said that they would see how they could construct storm water and parking infrastructure to maximize the size of the building.

Mr. Edwards said that there are other departments that have space needs and there is an existing building south of the property.

Town Manager Vosburg said that they were looking at expanding the current Police Department and some options at the upcoming Environmental Education Center. He said that they are looking at all the options simultaneously.

Councilmember Killingsworth clarified that storm water was one of the biggest issues at the site, and they would need to look at things like permeable pavers.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said yes, they were going to maximize this site, and that they would be addressing storm water and finding ways to do this as efficiently as possible.

Councilmember Zegerman said that he has seen overseas where parking is basically grass, but still has structural supports.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said they will be installing one of those at Pleasant Park.

Councilmember Zegerman said that was a great idea, and would love to see it here.

Mayor Pro Tempore Gray said that the old Administration Building is still town property and that gives some development space there. He said that he supports the idea for the campus. He liked the idea of a public, private relationship and maximizing the use of property. He asked if having a business would create a sense of betrayal for the Community. He said he is supportive of the idea, but that is a concern he has.

Councilmember Gantt said he thinks that will definitely be the case, and that is a known con.

Chief Herman said that this is trying to meet in the middle. He said that some of the staff volunteers are excited about this. He said that it would be like 2 stations under one roof, so some staff do have reservations. He said he thinks if this is done right, it can attract people to the downtown area.

Councilmember Killingsworth said she loved the ideas.

Mayor Gilbert agreed.

Councilmember Zegerman agreed as well, and said that he supported the idea of keeping the same look of the building. He said that he would like more input from Economic Development regarding what may be best to go there. He said that he would like to reserve some space in the building for community events, in addition to the museum piece.

Councilmember Killingsworth said that the whole area would eventually be different, with The Depot space being considered for more public space as well.

Mayor Gilbert thanked them for speaking with the volunteers as well. He asked if there would still be presence from the community risk reduction staff.

Chief Herman said yes, and he said that they want to be very intentional on the hours of volunteers and offer classes along with fun stuff for kids.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked what the purpose of putting Administration downtown.

Chief Herman said the initial vision of the office moving here was because it was the available space, and that he would love to have his office down there as well. He said that when he was challenged to look at it from a different lens, he understood there were different needs in other departments as well. He said they would need 20 parking spots, but it would be challenging. He said operationally, the campus location may be more functional, but he does think there should be some staff here.

Town Manager Vosburg asked the Council if they were good with the parameters of the project.

1 Director Helms said to keep an open mind to feasibility of the market and let the 2 market dictate some of the decisions. 3 **Councilmember Gantt** asked if they are looking at 3 stories. 4 **Chief Herman** said it depends a lot on the developer, but they had most recently 5 discussed having 3 stories with the top floor offset. He said it would be allowed to go up to 4 6 stories per Town ordinance. 7 **Director Helms** said that the developer would have to have a working business 8 model, and that it was mostly to need 3 stories to do that. 9 **Town Manager Vosburg** encouraged the Council to be open with options. 10 Councilmember Killingsworth said that she was fine with private business, but she 11 didn't want to have too much office space to where the public couldn't utilize the building. 12 She said she would hope the top floor space could be used for people to sit and enjoy views 13 of downtown. 14 **Councilmember Gantt** said he would expect that the 2nd floor would be for the office 15 uses and the 1st and 3rd floors would be for public use. 16 Councilmember Killingsworth agreed. 17 **Councilmember Mahaffey** said the hope would be to sell the building to a developer 18 for them to build out, with an agreement for the town to be able to utilize portions of it. He 19 said he would love some new uses to come in here. He said maker spaces would be cool, but 20 they also wouldn't be utilized a lot of the time. 21 Councilmember Zegerman said that he would love to see a maker space but that 22 may not be the best use of this space. 23 Director Helms suggested that it could be an interactive business, like wine and 24 design. She said that could pair well with the museum aspect of the building. 25 26 Mayor Gilbert thanked Chief Herman and called a recess at 4:47 p.m. 27 28 **Mayor Gilbert** reconvened the meeting at 5:00p.m. 29 Mayor Gilbert announced that the Town Council would have the opportunity 30 to informally met with another one of the candidates for the Police Chief vacancy. 31 32 [ADJOURNEMENT] 33 Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m. 34 35 Jacques K. Gilbert 36 Apex, Mayor 37 38 Allen Coleman, CMC, NCCCC 39 Town Clerk to the Apex Town Council 40 Submitted for approval by Apex Town Clerk Allen Coleman 41 42 Minutes approved on ______ of _____, 2025.