

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