

**SHALLOTTE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**APRIL 16, 2026**  
**5:15 P.M.**

The Shallotte Board of Aldermen met for a budget workshop on April 16, 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, Jimmy Bellamy and Larry Harrelson

Aldermen absent: Karmen Custer

Staff present: Mimi Gaither, Robert Waring, Isaac Norris, Jeremy Dixon, Robert Gravino, Paul Dunwell, Justin Ward and Natalie Goins

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A motion was made by Jimmy Bellamy seconded by Gene Vasile to open the meeting. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

**II. TDA**

**A. TDA Member Approval**

A motion was made by Jimmy Bellamy seconded by Gene Vasile to appoint Susan Barnes, the new Executive Director for the Brunswick County Chamber, to the Shallotte Tourism Development Authority board. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

**III. DEPARTMENTS**

**A. Fire**

Firefighter/EMT (January 1<sup>st</sup>)

Pursue SAFER grant in May? (6 positions)

Water rescue boat

Helmet camera systems (this year's budget)

Pumper fire truck (3 yr. lead time)

Upgrades/replacements: portable radios, fire attack hose, nozzles, SCBA equipment (grant funding)

New fire station – pursue grant funding

A motion was made by Larry Harrelson seconded by Gene Vasile to approve adding \$36,600 in operational items (structural turnout gear \$4500 + portable radio \$5000 for new firefighter position, fire attack hose \$16,000, portable radio lifecycle maintenance \$3,000, fire attack nozzle \$8,100), apply for grants, look at funding options for fire station beginning the RFQ process and pursue pricing for fire truck replacement. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

**B. Police**

Split town camera system coverage (est. cost \$20-\$25K)

Add one additional officer to balance shifts

Proposed outright purchase of four leased vehicles at end of 3 yr. lease

Consider outsourcing future vehicle maintenance/upfitting

Adjust FOP dues to align with calendar year

Increase equipment repair funding to address potential failures in existing vehicle equipment

**IV. DISCUSSION**

**V. ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Jimmy Bellamy seconded by Gene Vasile to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Goins  
Town Clerk