

Topsail Beach Newsletter

January 1 – March 31
FY 25/26 – Q3

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- April 22 – 10:00 AM
 - Planning Board Meeting
- April 29 – 1:00 PM
 - Budget Workshop 3
- May 6 – 6:00 PM
 - Special Meeting: Public Safety Building
- May 11 – TBD Time
 - Special Meeting: Continue PSB
- May 12 – 2:00 PM
 - Budget Workshop 4
- May 13 – 6:00 PM
 - Regular Town Board Meeting
- May 14 – 10:00 AM
 - Parks and Recreation Board Meeting
- May 14 – 2:00 PM
 - BIS Committee Meeting

A special meeting to hold a public meeting on the Emma Anderson Memorial Chapel partial road closure request will be scheduled and notice will be sent out through the Sunshine List and posted on the Town Website.

As always, please be sure to check the Town Website for any changes to scheduled meetings!

As warmer weather arrives, we welcome the start of another beautiful season here in Topsail Beach!

We've had a busy start to the year as we kicked off Budget Season and continue to work on creating a budget that plans for the Town's future and allows us to maintain the level of service our community depends on. Our staff has been working diligently to prepare a thoughtful and responsible budget that reflects the needs and priorities of our community. The Board will hold two more Budget Workshops along with a Public Hearing before adopting the FY 26/27 budget in June. We encourage everyone to stay informed and provide your input as it helps to ensure that our community needs remain at the heart of every decision this Board makes.

Although we're busy with budget and continued work on the Public Safety Building, we're excited to celebrate the permanent conservation of the South End thanks to the exceptional efforts of the NC Coastal Land Trust and private donations. The Coastal Land Trust will be hosting a celebration on April 15th at the Tower Lot (location of the future Public Safety Building) starting at 5:00 PM. More information and registration details can be found on the [Coastal Land Trust website](#).

This FY 25/26 Q3 newsletter provides an update on the Public Safety Building, the Town's finances, upcoming community events, and department reports.



Public Safety Building

Planning for the Public Safety Building is nearing completion, with a final contract for construction anticipated by the end of May. This project will result in a facility located on Anderson Blvd. at Flake Ave., in the large vacant area diagonally across the intersection from Godwin's Market. The legacy missile tower on that corner will be repainted and remain. The new building is a fire house capable of housing the larger fire truck that the town must purchase within four years, and also replace the police station. The existing fire station will remain, repurposed to use by our Public Works Department, providing much-needed space for their work to maintain our town.

The Town Staff, including the Fire and Police Chiefs and representatives of the Board of Commissioners, have met regularly with Thomas Construction for over a year to plan a facility which will meet the \$9.6 million cost goal. The funding is provided by an \$8 million state allocation obtained over two years ago, plus accumulated interest. Recently, these meetings have been weekly, focusing on meeting the cost goal while ensuring that the facility will meet all needs of our safety staff; and be an attractive building for our town and visitors. If you are interested in appearance and plans, those are available now for viewing in the meeting room at town hall whenever it is not in use.

Access to the site will not be from Anderson Blvd. to minimize inconvenience for thru-traffic. Materials delivery and construction access will be from Carolina Blvd.

We anticipate this schedule (not yet firm, but to be announced):

- April 23 – *final cost proposal from the contractor*
- May 6 evening – *public meeting for presentation of the plan and cost options to the public, with opportunity for comment at the meeting, or follow-up written comment*
- May 11 – *open Board of Commissioners meeting for sharing and review of public comments received; discussion of final decision on optional features impacting the final cost*
- May 13 – *final discussion and vote on proceeding to the contract for construction*
- As early as June 15 – *start of construction*
- June, 2027 – **complete**

Finances

Topsail Beach Financials, yearly Budgets, and yearly Audits are always available for review on the Town Website under the Finance Department Page. Finance Director Forand publishes the monthly financials and fund balance shortly after the Regular Town Board Meeting every month.

FY 26/27 BUDGET SEASON

North Carolina local governments operate under a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year. A budget must be adopted by June 30th of each year.

The annual budget combines the goals and vision of the Board with sound financial principles the Town must follow. The Board, Town Manager, Finance Directors, and Department heads are involved in the budgeting process. Residents are provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed budget through a required public hearing held by the Board before the adoption of a budget ordinance.

BUDGET MEETINGS

The Board has already held their annual budget retreats and two budget workshops. The next budget workshop is scheduled for April 29, 2026 at 1:00 PM

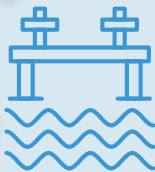
<u>INTEREST EARNED</u>	January	February	March	Year to Date
General Fund	\$38,650.19	\$34,929.57	\$37,631.23	\$311,378.43
BIS Fund	\$12,276.17	\$11,085.22	\$13,153.48	\$109,619.59
Water Fund	\$2,226.34	\$2,017.81	\$2,241.71	\$21,599.18
Public Safety Building	\$26,591.27	\$23,888.03	\$26,353.09	\$251,786.30



A BIG THANK YOU TO FINANCE DIRECTOR CONNIE FORAND FOR HER CAREFUL MANAGEMENT AND WISE INVESTMENT DECISIONS THAT HAVE GENERATED STRONG INTEREST EARNINGS FOR THE TOWN.

For the Community

ACOE DOCK AT THE SOUTH END



April 2026 Update - The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) will be moving forward with removing the old, dilapidated dock at the South End.

The contract was awarded and the contractor plans to begin work on April 20th. The estimated timeframe to complete the work is 3 weeks (around May 10th). As of now, all work is planned to be done from the water.



SHRED EVENT

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 - 10:00AM to 1:00 PM
802 S Anderson Blvd (Tower Lot, future PSB location)

Please come out and enjoy a "Free Shred360 Shred Event"! Sponsored by Town of Topsail Beach to destroy your Personal Confidential Documents!

In an effort to shred your sensitive documents in a timely manner, Attendees are limited to (3) three boxes (copy paper box or smaller) or three bags (kitchen trash bag or smaller) per vehicle. There is no need to remove binders, binder clips, paper clips, staples, rubber bands, or CDs/DVDs prior to shredding.

TOPSAIL SOUNDS SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Join us and the Pender County Parks and Recreation Department every 4th Tuesday starting in **May** for the annual Topsail Sounds Summer Concert Series. Concerts begin at 6:30 PM at the Town Center. Each event will have live music and a food truck! We hope to see you there!

First concert is May 26 featuring Bacon Grease!

TOPSAIL ISLAND VITEX ERADICATION PROJECT

Topsail Island beaches have joined together in the fight to eradicate vitex. The Towns applied for state funding to implement the Topsail Island Vitex Eradication Project. On June 19, 2024, the NCDEQ Water Resources Commission awarded Topsail Island a grant in the amount of \$690,060.50 to continue our work on mitigation of the existing vitex.

Work is expected to begin again this Spring.
Visit the [TISPC website](#) for more information.

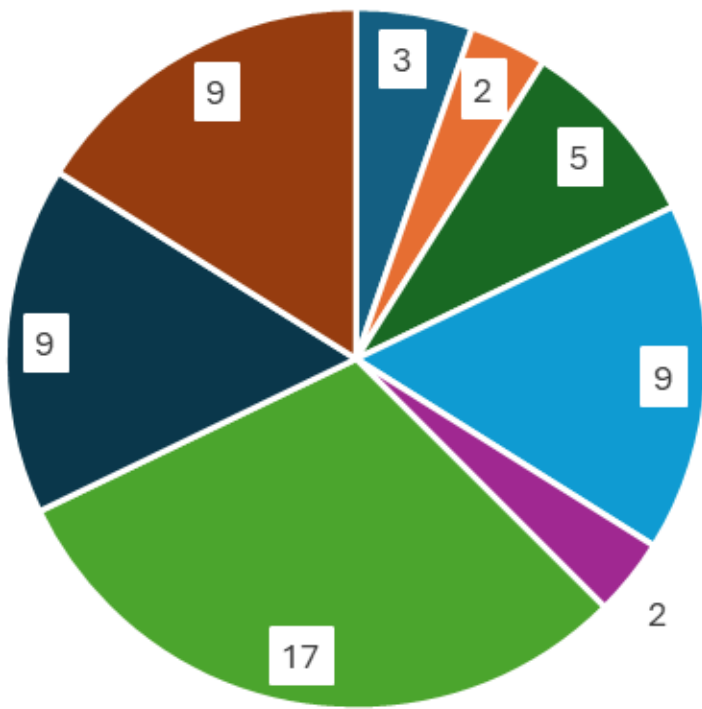


Department Updates

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026
Permit Activity

Permits



- General Building
- New Single Family
- Electrical
- Mechanical
- Gas
- Docks/Decks/Seawalls
- Floodplain (Driveways, Fence, etc.)
- Remodel

Permit Project Valuations and Fees Collected

Number of Permits	Total Valuation	Total Fees
56	2,547,165.91	36,670.83

Department Updates, cont.

PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER

Beach Accesses

- Access #O-11 crossover and ramp rebuild has been completed. We are working on scheduling work to complete the handicap parking spot.
- Staff made repairs to Access #S-6 by pouring a concrete pad going to the ramp and repairing the ramp and handrails.
- Life rings and beach mats were put out 3/30/26.

Bush Marina

- Staff made repairs to decking by the boat ramp

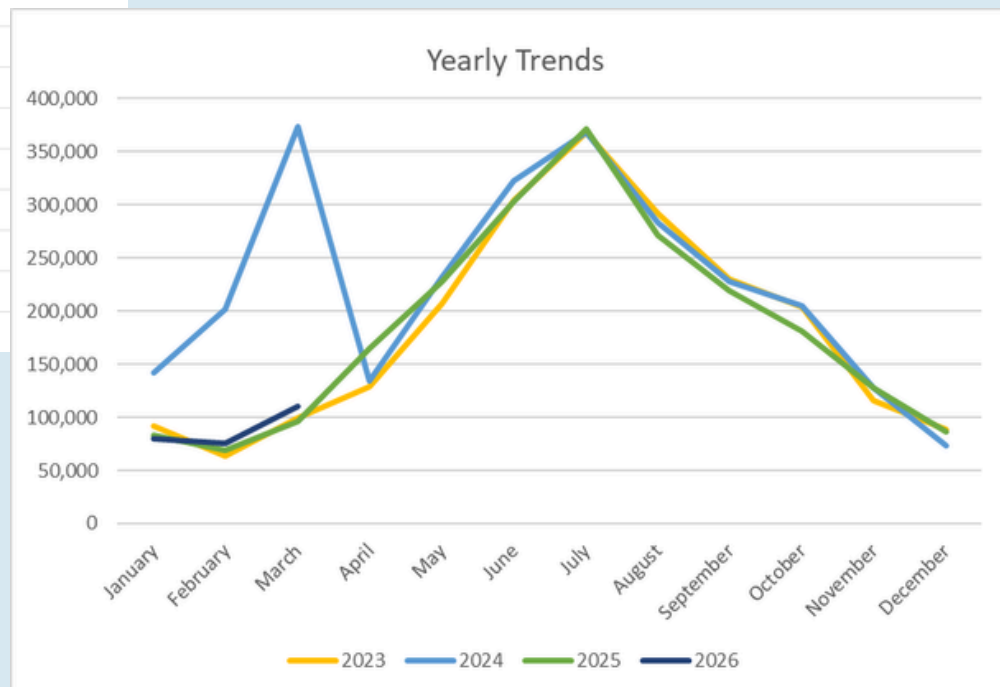
Lot Beside Water Tank

- Lot has been cleared, graded and stone put down. The final steps are to add parking bumpers, install privacy fence and pave aprons. Waiting on DOT approval to move forward.
- Stormwater
- Storm Water Pipe Solutions was on-site to camera the remaining pipes and outfalls missed the first time.

	2023	2024	2025	2026
January	92,193	141,845	83,547	80,421
February	63,826	202,359	68,533	75,737
March	100,017	374,152	96,085	109,940
April	128,596	133,827	165,035	
May	207,646	232,291	228,333	
June	303,819	322,575	303,350	
July	368,567	368,024	371,951	
August	292,655	283,656	271,346	
September	229,956	227,840	219,672	
October	203,471	205,171	180,994	
November	116,357	128,081	128,329	
December	88,553	73,660	86,593	

January - March 2024 usage is high due to dredging company usage

WATER TRENDS



Department Updates, cont.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Quarterly Incident Report 2026

Incident Type		January	February	March	April
100	Fire, other	1		1	
111	Building fire				
113	Cooking fire confined to container				
140	Natural vegetation fire				
311	Medical assist, assist EMS crew				
320	Emergency medical service, other				
324	Motor vehicle accident				
341	Search for lost person on land				
353	Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator				
361	Swimming/recreational water areas rescue				
364	Surf rescue				
365	Watercraft rescue			1	
411	Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill				
412	Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)			1	
424	Carbon monoxide incident	1	1		
440	Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other				
444	Power line down			2	
445	Arching, shorted electrical equipment			1	
500	Service call, other		2	1	
531	Smoke or odor removal				
551	Assist Law				
621	Wrong location				
651	Smoke scare, odor of smoke				
711	Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm	1	1		
732	Extinguishing system activation				
733	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction			1	
734	Heat detector activation due to malfunction				
741	Sprinkler activation, no fire-unintentional				
743	Smoke detector activation, no fire-unintentional	1	1	3	
744	Detector activation, no fire-unintentional			2	
745	Alarm system activation, no fire-unintentional				
746	Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO				
814	Lightning Strike-no fire				
Total Number		4	5	12	

Total Training hours completed by personnel

Company	151	Officer	26
Driver Operation	86	Hazardous Materials	3
Facilities	26	Other	12



Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane season is coming! Start preparing NOW!

It is vital to understand your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding, and wind. Here is your checklist of things to do for hurricane season:

- Develop an evacuation plan and Know Your Zone.
- Assemble Disaster Supplies. Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and storm shutters.
- Create a communication plan. Take the time now to write down your hurricane plan, and share it with your family. Determine family meeting places, and make sure to include an out-of-town location in case of evacuation. Write down on paper a list of emergency contacts, and make sure to include utilities and other critical services – remember, the internet may not be accessible during or after a storm.
- Strengthen Your Home.
- Review Your Insurance Policies: Review your insurance policies to ensure that you have adequate coverage for your home and personal property.
- Understand NWS forecast products, especially the meaning of NWS watches and warnings.

Remember you should prepare EACH and EVERY YEAR, as it only takes ONE Storm! Visit NOAA's National Hurricane Preparedness website to better understand your risk and begin season preparations.