



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 30, 2025

### **TOPSAIL BEACH ANNOUNCES TOWN MANAGER RESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ACTING TOWN MANAGER**

**\*\*TOPSAIL BEACH, NC – JUNE 30, 2025\*\* –**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Topsail Beach today announced the resignation of Town Manager Doug Shipley, effective August 29, 2025, and his leave of absence from the position until that date. The Board expresses gratitude and appreciation for Mr. Shipley's dedicated service and accomplishments during his three-year tenure as Town Manager.

The Board is pleased that their esteemed colleague, who has an extensive and impressive background in beach town administrative management and close relationships with the staff and residents, current Assistant Town Manager **Christina Prince Burke**, has agreed to step in immediately during this transition as Acting Town Manager. Mr. Shipley will consult with Ms. Burke during this transition, and all parties are confident that this process will ensure the best possible Town government for the citizens of Topsail Beach.

Topsail Beach, like all barrier island beach towns, faces uncertain economic times and severe weather challenges. As well, the town has experienced the death of two mayors in a five-month period and the appointment of two new commissioners and has had to adapt rapidly. The Topsail Beach Town staff and Commissioners are committed to maintaining the quality of life for its residents and serving our many visitors. The Board is confident that this transition continues to reflect this focus. As Mayor Frank Braxton said, "the staff and the commissioners are aligned in working together to create a sustainable model of growth for this town. This model addresses the needs of the residents and visitors and yet honors and respects the unique culture that has always defined Topsail Beach."

**\*\*Inquiries should be directed to: Frank Braxton, Mayor, 910-520-3347, [frankbraxton@topsailbeachnc.gov](mailto:frankbraxton@topsailbeachnc.gov).\*\***

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