



First in Flight
VOLUME XX, ISSUE 3

TOWN OF KITT HAWK

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Town Council Approves 2023-2024 annual budget with no tax increase!

Monday, June 5th the Kitty Hawk Town Council approved the 2023-2024 \$11,519,710 balanced budget.

Town Manager Melody Clopton presented the budget to the Council reviewing some highlighted plans for the coming year including:

- No property tax increase
- No use of restricted funds
- Saving for Capital investments
- Modified vehicle retention policy
- Emergency Management line item
- Contingency funds
- Development and implementation of Town Wide Training & Development Budget

The largest endeavor this year will be the renovation of the Police Department Building. In the same council meeting the Dills Architects contract was approved to move forward with final drawings.

The Town has also entered into a land exchange with Dare County to provide a much needed EMS station, in exchange for the construction of a Fire Bay for our Town's use.

The full budget is available for review on the Town of Kitty Hawk Website at:

<https://www.kittyhawknc.gov/operating-budget/>

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Town Calendar

Independence Day Holiday

Town offices closed

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

Town Council Meeting

Monday, July 10, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Planning Board Meeting

Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Recreation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Meet the Police Chief

Tuesday, August 7, 2023 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Town Council Meeting

Monday, August 7, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Planning Board Meeting

Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Labor Day Holiday

Town offices closed

Monday, September 4, 2023

Town Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Planning Board Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Reunited and it
feels so good!

The Kitty Hawk Police Department was pleased to assist in getting two adorable pups back to their owners recently!

It's a great idea for your pets to wear a collar with up to date contact information. Pet owners should also consider having your pets chipped as well.



Town of Kitty Hawk hires new Police Chief!

The Town of Kitty Hawk is pleased to announce Michael Palkovics will join our team as the Town's new Police Chief. He will begin his new role on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, and succeeds Chief Joel C. Johnson, who retired in February.

Chief Palkovics says, "I want to thank Town Manager Melody Clopton and the entire Staff for the opportunity to serve the Town of Kitty Hawk as their next Police Chief. I look forward to meeting with the community, the town leadership team, and the men and women of the Kitty Hawk Police Department and begin taking the agency to the next level of excellence. I am committed to working with everyone in the community and town government to continue providing the excellent service the department is known for while building a strong and comprehensive public safety team for the Town of Kitty Hawk."

Chief Palkovics brings a wealth of policing experience, serving the Henrico County Virginia Police Division, since 1993. He retired in June as a Lieutenant Colonel and second in command over Support Operations for Henrico.

During his tenure, he has been in patrol, field operations, professional standards, internal affairs, community services in the school system, and community policing.

Chief Palkovics holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Old Dominion University. He is a graduate of the 59th Administrative Offices Management Program at North Carolina State University, the Senior Management Institute for Police at Boston University, the 44th Session of the Police Executive Leadership School, FBI LEEDA Trilogy and the Virginia LEEDS program.



Chief Michael Palkovics

Chief Palkovics has received the Leslie T. Sheppard Award in Community Policing, Lifesaving Awards and two Meritorious Unit awards.

Melody Clopton, Kitty Hawk Town Manager, said "I am very excited to have someone with Chief Palkovics' skills and experience take over the leadership of our police department. During the recruitment process, staff were heavily involved identifying qualities and key issues they felt were important when selecting a new Chief. We are all looking forward to Chief Palkovics using his knowledge and experience to lead the department in becoming the premier department in our area. I would like to thank Interim Chief James Helms, and all our police staff for doing a tremendous job during our search for the right candidate. Chief Palkovics has a very strong and dedicated group of people looking forward to working with him."

Mayor Craig Garriss added "After an extensive search and interview process, I am very pleased with the selection of Mike Palkovics to be our next Kitty Hawk Police Chief. Chief Palkovics has a very distinguished and honorable career in Law Enforcement. I, along with the entire Town Council, look forward to him joining our leadership team. I could not be more pleased."

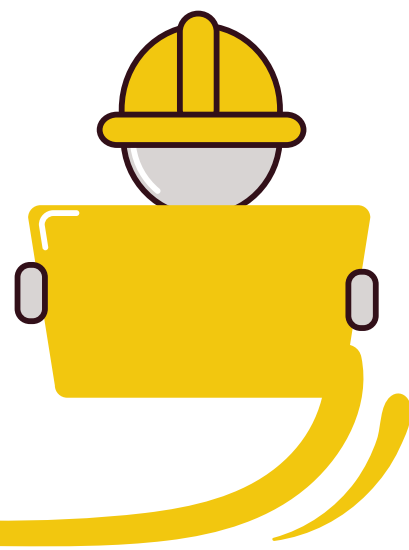
The Town of Kitty Hawk invites the public to a meet and greet for Chief Palkovics on Monday, August 7th from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. It will be held at the Town of Kitty Hawk Town Hall and light refreshments will be served.



Police Station Building Update

At their June meeting, Town Council awarded a contract for construction document development and construction oversight to Dills Architects.

The project includes 7305 renovated square feet and 926 square feet of new construction. The project budget is \$3,856,025



Town Council Authorizes Property Exchange for Dare EMS Station

At their June meeting Town Council adopted a resolution to authorize a property exchange with Dare County.

Two Town owned lots located at 4907 and 4911 Putter Lane will be used by Dare County to construct a much needed EMS station here in Kitty Hawk.



In exchange for the lots, Dare County will construct an adjacent Fire Bay for Town use. The County will provide the Town a 40 year lease for the Fire Bay.

Excited to Announce Beach Medical Moving Back to Kitty Hawk



The Town has entered into a lease agreement with Beach Medical for medical office space adjacent to our Police Station building at 5200 N. Croatan Highway.

Beach Medical provides family medical care and urgent care to citizens and visitors of the Outer Banks. They have been in business on the Outer Banks for 36 years and were originally located in Kitty Hawk. In 2016 they moved to Nags Head. They hope to be in their new location in the Fall of 2023. We are happy to welcome them back to our Town.

Basic Law Enforcement Graduation

The Town of Kitty Hawk Police Department is pleased to announce five recent graduates of Basic Law Enforcement Training from the College of the Albemarle on May 31st.

Three officers completed their training in the Fall of 2022 class, Ryan Gallaccio, Noah Floyd and Diego Ramirez. The Spring 2023 class included Corey Morris and Travis Hardman.

In addition to completing their course requirements, two of our graduates had additional awards related to their training success. Officer Gallaccio was awarded the Iron Man, Supreme Driver and Top Shot awards for his Fall 2022 class. Corey Morris was awarded the Supreme Driver for his Spring 2023 class.

Dr. Jack Bagwell, President of the College of the Albemarle
presented their awards and certificates.



Noah Floyd



Ryan Gallaccio



Diego Ramirez



Corey Morris



Travis Hardman



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

Celebrating the passage of the Declaration of Independence
by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776!

FIREWORKS SAFETY

Our Fire and Police Departments would like to remind all residents fireworks which deploy into the air are prohibited in the town limits. A few safety reminders if you are around fireworks in use this holiday.

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks, and even older children should be well supervised when using sparklers or other fireworks
- Personal protective devices should be used such as eye protection
- Never hold fireworks in your hands when lighted
- Do not use fireworks indoors
- Never point a firework toward people or other individuals
- Do not attempt to relight a firework which is malfunctioning
- Keep a hose or a bucket of water nearby if using fireworks
- Never use illegal fireworks

Sparklers are permitted in the Town of Kitty Hawk, but please be aware they can burn at about 2,000 degrees which is hot enough to melt metal. Children should be well supervised when using them to avoid potential serious burns.

Note: Town Hall, Public Works and the Recycling Center will not be open on Tuesday, July 4, 2023.



Fire fighters at work: FLt Jeremy Boice, Billy Reynolds, Tobi Wild, Capt Chris Zach, Will Powell, Joe Walker, Ian Dudek, Capt Steve Gray, FLt Joe Case and Chief Mike Talley



Olivia Robinson, Ollie's Eyes Photography

In June the Kitty Hawk Fire department hosted Olivia Robinson from Ollie's Eyes photography. Olivia has been an amazing story and helped the KHFR with many projects and the whole fire service is a better place for having her here.



Fire Fighters, Wild, Zach and Boice with Olivia

Olivia's late step father (story below) who was killed in the line of duty and was one of the best fire fighters and officers that anyone could ask for.

Many of us have been around her during classes, training events and fire service outings. Her spirit is infectious and we truly appreciate capturing what KHFR is all about as well as all of her contributions to the Fire Service.



Lt Bradford T Clark, formerly Hanover Fire & EMS

Bradford T. Clark was a Lieutenant with Hanover Fire & EMS who passed away in the line of duty on October 11, 2018. While assisting at a motor vehicle accident he was tragically killed and two other fire fighters were seriously injured due to a collision of a tractor trailer with the fire apparatus on the side of the roadway.

His story has been instrumental in ensuring stricter move over laws in Virginia and nationwide. The North Carolina Move Over Law has been in place since the early 2000's. Failure to change lanes if possible or slow down approaching a roadside incident is punishable by a \$500 fine and court costs.

Lt Bradford was known for teaching every fire fighter in his command, encouraging others to further their education, stay motivated and learn how to become a leader. Meanwhile, he was teaching Olivia and her sisters valuable life lessons which she says carried her through the hardest parts of her life.

As his daughter Olivia has seen first-hand on multiple occasions just how much of a family the fire service is. She explained, "Firemen stepped up and encouraged me to learn about what my dad did when he was away from home, and that's when Ollie's Eyes photography was born."

She created this business to help capture exactly what these men and women work so hard for. So when they are gone from home, training to better handle situations occurring in the community, their families have a photo, their instructors have an example, and their memory is preserved for a moment in time. Olivia says, "These selfless individuals sacrifice their precious time, to ensure the safety of people they have never met, and I have the privilege of capturing just that."

Our team was thrilled to have her shadow them and record a few great pictures for all of us to enjoy!

Beach Safety

Love the Beach Respect the Ocean

Dare County and all Outer Banks Towns in the county have partnered to display this logo with QR (see below) code on beach walkways and lifeguard stands.

A campaign will soon kick off to display this in windows of many local merchants, restaurants and some rental companies.

Get daily updates to the beach conditions along with safety notices related to rip currents, thunderstorms, wind safety, heat stress and more.



>>> 2023 <<< OCEAN RESCUE TEAM

Trained and hitting the beach!



Front: Lt Joe Case, Capt Chris Zach, Hailee Reinke, Madeline Dupre, Blake Newton, Annabeth Ellis, George Basnett
 Back: Master FF Jesse McNeill, Vol Kyle Hudson, FF Billy Reynolds, FF Tobi Wild, Mike Minis, Jackson Bond, Callie Basnett, Dan Murray, Capt Chris Davis
 Not Pictured: Kat Keffer, ABCO Steve Gray, Aaron Davis, Gabriel Hanke and Olivia Stritzinger



>>> GREAT TEAM FOR 2023

Our Ocean Rescue team has been training and hitting the beaches of Kitty Hawk since mid May.

This team is a combination of returning experienced guards and great up and coming guards.

We hope you enjoy the team and be sure to stop by and say hello when you visit our beautiful Kitty Hawk beaches this summer!

READ MORE <<<

Our leadership team of Captains Steve Gray and Chris Davis have spent many hours training the team both in the ocean and the pool for this summer's beach coverage.

In addition, many of our fire fighters have been participating in the cross training as well!



Volunteer Opportunities in the Kitty Hawk Fire Department!

Kitty Hawk Fire Rescue is seeking members of the community to serve as Volunteer Firefighters. No firefighting experience is necessary!

You must be at least 18 years old, possess a valid drivers license and complete a drug screening and background check.

We will provide you with training and give you an opportunity to attend the Dare County Fire Academy, where you can earn your North Carolina State Firefighter Certification.

To find out more, give us a call at 252-261-2666.



Fire is everyone's fight!



Test and inspect your smoke alarms now! Replace the batteries as needed and if your smoke alarm is over 10 years old, replace it immediately.

If you need assistance with testing or installing smoke alarms, contact the Department at 252-261-2666.

It is also a good time to check your in home fire extinguishers too to ensure they are not expired and always make sure your family has an evacuation plan in place as well!



Summer is here and outdoor grilling is underway!
Stay fire safe this summer and follow these simple tips when you grill.



Stay fire safe this summer! Follow these grilling safety tips.



Stay fire safe this summer!
For more information and resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.



TRASH SERVICE

A reminder from Public Works



Residents and visitors are reminded trash not in the roll out designated can will not be collected.

Please do not place trash around a full can. This is unsightly and could pose a danger to pedestrians and traffic.

Also, roll-out cans must be in good condition. This includes operational wheels and lids.

Please contact Dare County Public Works at 252-475-5881 for repair options or to obtain a replacement can.

Please note cans are required to be rolled back to the house within 24 hours of collection.

Please do not place unauthorized debris in a trash can. It will not be collected. This includes wood, metal, and vegetative debris.

No Bulk Item Pick up until September 2023

Residents and visitors are reminded the Town does not collect bulk or large items or vegetative debris from the rights-of-way between May 20th and September 20th.


If you have items to dispose of please take them to the Recycling Center at 4190 Bob Perry Road.

Vegetative debris must be taken to a commercial vendor or the Dare County Landfill.

The town will conduct a vegetative collection in mid-October.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 252-261-1367 or by email to: wmidgett@kittyhawktown.net.

There is no change to trash pick up for the 4th of July Holiday!



Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.

The problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

Signs of a Problem


Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.

Battery Disposal

- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- Recycling is always the best option.
- Take them to a battery recycling location or contact your community for disposal instructions.
- Do not put discarded batteries in piles.

Charging an E-bike

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Town Recreation Committee Update

The Town of Kitty Hawk Recreation Committee recently held meetings during April and May. The Master Plan updates were among the agenda items, and the committee successfully concluded this process during a special meeting. The committee also addressed various other topics, such as the pump track project, community survey creation, budget, grants, and ongoing concerns. The public is encouraged to attend these meetings, which are posted on the Kitty Hawk town calendar. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 25th at 6:00 pm.

The committee recently celebrated the release of the "[Year of the Trail](#)" video showcasing the town's scenic trails and encourages residents and visitors to explore the natural beauty that Kitty Hawk has to offer.

Additionally, committee members actively participated in the recent Local Advisory Committee (LAC) meeting that focused on the Kitty Hawk Woods Reserve and the proposed phase two loop trail project. The committee played a vital role in advocating for the trail project.

It's getting hot out there!

Heat Exhaustion

ACT FAST

- Move to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing
- Sip cool water
- Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve

Dizziness

Thirst

Heavy Sweating

Nausea

Weakness



Heat Stroke

ACT FAST

CALL 911

- Move person to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing and remove extra layers
- Cool with water or ice

Confusion

Dizziness

Becomes Unconscious

Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.

CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

How long does it take for a car to get HOT?

VEHICLE TEMPERATURE

Outside Temp (F)	Inside Temp (F)	
	10mins	30mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

WITHIN MINUTES
INTERIOR
CAR TEMPS
CAN BE DEADLY!



VeterinaryClinic.com



Kitty Hawk Town Council & Leadership

Mayor, Craig Garriss	252-261-4922	cgarriss@kittyhawktown.net
Mayor Pro Tempore, Jeff Pruitt	252-207-9055	jpruitt@kittyhawktown.net
Councilwoman, Lynne McClean	252-202-9672	lynne.mcclean@kittyhawktown.net
Councilman, David Hines	252-573-9547	david.hines@kittyhawktown.net
Councilwoman, Charlotte Walker	321-446-3744	charlotte.walker@kittyhawktown.net
Town Attorney, Casey C Varnell	252-261-2126	varnell@ncobxlaw.com
Town Manager, Melody C Clopton	252-261-3552	mclopton@kittyhawktown.net
Admin Svs Director, Laura M Walker	252-261-3552	laura.walker@kittyhawktown.net

The Town of Kitty Hawk's newsletter is sent via email to anyone who would like to receive it. Hard copies are available at Town Hall. The newsletter does not present or represent opinions of the Town Council.



Be sure to check the Town website for the current **Trash Schedule** and latest updates!

<https://www.kittyhawkncc.gov/departments-and-services/public-works/garbage-collection/>

Don't forget about our Recycling Center located at
4190 Bob Perry Road!