



Minutes
KITTY HAWK TOWN COUNCIL
Monday, October 6, 2025
Kitty Hawk Town Hall, Smith Room
6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
4. **Presentation- Life-Saving Award: Officers Diego Ramirez and Thomas Long**
5. **Public Comment** – The public is invited to address the Town Council on any topic. Please sign up with the Town Clerk before the meeting and when your name is called, come forward and speak into the microphone at the lectern. Please limit comments to 3 minutes.
6. **Consent Agenda** – Items on the consent agenda are considered to be non-controversial, routine in nature, or items not requiring a presentation to discuss by the Town Council in order to consider the items(s). Any item may be removed for discussion by the council or by any member of the audience who wants to hear the item presented and discussed.
 - a) **Approval of September 8, 2025, Regular Session Council Minutes** – Approval of the consent agenda will approve these minutes.
 - b) **Proclamation- Word Pancreatic Cancer Day**
 - c) **Budget Amendment #5** – Transfer funds from Capital Reserve Fund 21 to Operation Fund 10 for development costs of bicycle and pedestrian plan
 - d) **Town of Kitty Hawk Electronic Records and Imaging Procedures and Policy**
7. **Items Removed from Consent Agenda:**
8. **Planning:**
 - a) **Schedule Public Hearing:** Zoning Text Amendment – Sec. 42-74. Variances. Updating language related to align with state statutes.
 - b) **Commercial Site Plan Review:** 5133 Putter Ln- Commercial parking lot to serve medical offices to the south.
9. **New Business:**
 - a) **Appointment to Dare Housing Foundation**
 - b) **Internet Service Provider**
10. **Old Business:**
 - a) **E-bike Update**
11. **Reports/General Comments from Town Manager**
12. **Reports/General Comments from Town Attorney**



13. Reports/General Comments from Town Council

14. Adjourn- The November 3, 2025 meeting will begin at 5 pm.

Council Members Present: Mayor Craig Garriss, Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Pruitt, Councilman David Hines, Councilwoman Charlotte Walker, Councilman Dylan Tillett

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Melody Clopton, Finance Director Liliana Noble, Public Works Director Willie Midgett, Police Chief Mike Palkovics, Administrative Services Director Laura Walker, Lieutenant Jimmy Helms, PIO/Town Clerk Lauren Garrett

1. Call to Order

Garriss: Good evening, everyone. It's 6 o'clock pm. Kitty Hawk Town Council. We're in the Smith Meeting Room, October 6th, 2025. Thank you all for being here. Council, I need a motion to approve tonight's agenda, please.

2. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

Garriss: Can I need a motion to approve tonight's agenda please?

Tillett: So moved, Mr. Mayor.

Garriss: Motion made by Dylan. Second?

Pruitt: Second. Second made by Jeff. All in favor say "aye".

All Council: Aye.

Garriss: All opposed? None. Thank you. We have a presentation of life saving award. Chief Palkovics, you're up, sir.

4. Presentation- Life-saving Award

Chief Palkovics: Good evening. If I could have Officer Ramirez, Becky, and Michelle, you guys come forward, please. Just come on up right over here. Officer Long from Southern Shores could not be here this evening, unfortunately. So, we will make sure we make it up to him in some way, shape, or form. Mr. Mayor, council members, Mr. Town Manager, good evening. It's my pleasure to come to you tonight and present an award to some people that are very deserving of it. On July 15th, 2025, outside the Harris Teeter located in the 5,400 block of North Croatan Highway, a woman suffered a medical emergency while exiting the store with her juvenile grandson. She collapsed on the concrete sidewalk and was unresponsive. Becky Pugh, a Harris Teeter employee, immediately responded, rushing to the woman's side to assist. At the same time, Michelle Farrow, a customer and former Kitty Hawk police officer, also stepped in to help. As Ms. Pugh, called the Dare County Emergency Communications, she noticed the woman had stopped breathing. Ms. Farrow immediately began performing CPR, and after several cycles, Ms. Pugh took over to compressions. Both working tirelessly to save a life in crisis. Officer Diego Ramirez was working that day of the Kitty Hawk Police Department and was dispatched to the scene. Officer Thomas Long of Southern Shores was working and heard the call on the radio and went ahead and responded as well. Upon arrival, Officer Ramirez took over CPR from Ms. Pugh and Ms. Farrow while Officer Long had retrieved and deployed his AED, automated external defibrillator. The officers worked in coordination to continue life-saving efforts until Dare County EMS and the Kitty Hawk Fire Department arrived and assisted with medical care. Thanks to the immediate and coordinated actions of these four individuals, the victim, though unconscious at the time, regained a pulse and began breathing. She was transported by MedFlight to Norflok for advanced treatment. Though the patient sadly passed away three days later, she did so surrounded by her family. Time was made possible by the swift and selfless intervention at the scene. Today we honor Becky Pugh, Michelle Farrow, Officer Diego Ramirez, and Officer Thomas Long of Southern Shores for their heroic actions and steadfast dedication to preserving life. Their willingness to act without hesitation and in a moment of crisis



exemplifies the very best of our community. In recognition of their efforts, which is hereby awarding them each with a life-saving award.

Garriss: Congratulations guys and thank you very much. This is great, folks. This is we like to see things like this. And I knew that's why the room was so full tonight. Michelle, you still got it in you, don't you? Yes, sir. Great job. Thank y'all very much. This is wonderful. That's good. Lauren, did we have anybody signed up for public comment?

5. Public Comment

Garrett, Lauren: We do not have anyone signed up.

Garriss: Is anyone here tonight who would like to come speak at public comment about any topic? Anybody? All right. Thank you, Lauren. Let the record show no one chose to speak, please. Council, I need a motion to approve tonight's consent agenda, please.

6. Consent Agenda

Walker: So, moved.

Garriss: Motion made by Charlotte. Second?

Tillett: Second.

Garriss: Second made by Dylan. All in favor?

All Council: Aye.

Garriss: All opposed? None. Thank you so much. We had no items removed from the Consent Agenda. Item 8A, Council, we need to schedule a Public Hearing on a text amendment, zoning text amendment. If I could have that motion, please.

7. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

8. Planning

a) Schedule Public Hearing

Walker: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to make motion for the public hearing for zoning text amendment section 42-74 variances updating language related to align with the state statutes.

Garriss: That's for the November 3rd, 2025, meeting?

Walker: Correct.

Garriss: Do we have a second?

Pruitt: Second.

Garriss: Second made by Jeff. All in favor say "aye".

All Council: Aye.

b) Commercial Site Plan

Garriss: All opposed? None. Very good. Thank you. Next, we have a commercial site plan review which is just down the road from us. As you as you know, Rob is not here to speak, but I asse that everyone here has had a chance to look at it. If you have any questions, now is the time to know if someone representing the applicant is here tonight. If Council would like to hear from her, I'll ask her to come up. Is that what you'd like? Come on up, Lynne. This is Ms. Lynne Miles representing the applicant. Nice to see you tonight.

Miles, Lynne: Yes. Great. Thank you. Thanks for having me. I'm here and happy to answer any questions that you might have regarding our needs for additional parking at our North Campus Health Center. So we are excited to look at the opportunity to be able to serve additional patients there. Parking is tight right now and so this does offer us the opportunity to have our team members park a little bit further away from the building so that patients have easier access to the facilities.

Garriss: Thank you, Lynne. Everyone is familiar that it is the lot and in directly in front of Bear Drugs, the grown lot that is going to be cleared they want to turn into parking area. Does anybody have any questions for Lynne while she's here? All right, no question. Thank you. Thank you very much. Okay, Council, what would you like to do?

Pruitt: Mr. Mayor, I move to grant approval of the commercial site plan for 5133 Per Lane. Thank you, Jeff.

Gariss: Do we have a second?



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Hines: Second.

Garriss: Okay, we have a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion by Council on the staff report?

Tillett: In the staff report, Rob mentioned the signage for the ride out. Do we need to include that condition in the approval?

Garriss: Yes.

Tillett: Should we ask the applicant if it is okay to include the ride out exit on Putter Lane? As a signage only be one way out, right?

Miles, Lynne: Yes.

Garriss: Very good. Anything else?

Varnell, Casey: To be clear, the motion is as presented by staff. Well, Rob, correct? Correct.

Garriss: Okay. Yes. Correct. Correct. Pretty straightforward. Council, do I have a motion? We already have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying "aye"

All Council: Aye.

Garriss: All opposed? None. Okay. Go fix your parking lot. Thank you.

9. New Business:

a) Appointment to Dare Housing Foundation

Garriss: Alright. Item 9, Council. We must make an appointment to the newly formed Dare Housing Foundation. It was previously a task force. Melody and I were members, and I know Dare County met this morning and decided on funding two \$200,000 for two years on an annual basis. They made their appointments. Each town is making an appointment. Dare County is also offering office space, I believe, too. Correct, Donna? Is that correct? Good. I wish that we could wait until the December meeting after the elections to make this decision, but that is not an option, and I kind of disappointed that it's not. So, I'll entertain a motion for nominations to the DARE Housing Foundation, please. Before we make any motions, there are other times in the same situation who may have to make another appointment in December depending on how the elections go. We are not the only ones in that situation.

Pruitt: Mr. Mayor, I believe that our Planner is the most qualified person to hold that position. He knows the ordinances and all the ins and out of development. I don't know.

Hines: I tend to agree.

Garriss: Unfortunately, Rob is not here to accept. It's not here.

Clopton, Melody: I do believe the preference is an elected official.

Garriss: That's what we were told. Is that correct, Donna? Ms. Creef?

Creef, Donna: Yes, sir. That's the preference, but it can certainly staff person and I want to say that if they appoint somebody then they want to change that later on then they would have that option as well.

Varnell, Casey: If that is the appointee then make it subject to Rob's acceptance upon return certainly which can be done outside of public hearing because you've made the vote or if that's the way you will have been public.

Garriss: Is that your nomination?

Pruitt: Well, I'm I was just, you know, I think I think he'd be good for that role. I do. But I mean, if anybody will nominate Rob for the position of our representative on the board.

Garriss: Do I have a second?

Hines: I'll second that. Sorry, Dylan.

Garriss: All right. Do we have any further nominations? I'm going to nominate Charlotte Walker. Do we have a second?

Tillett: I'll second Charlotte as well. I think both would be great. I mean, both are great.

Garriss: Rob would be great. I'm looking at your real estate experience, too.

Pruitt: Donna, do you mind? Would you prefer a Council member?



Hines: That's what I would like to ask too. I want Donna to be happy.

Creef, Donna: Don't keep me up here for an hour. I've already been up at the county board meeting for an hour this morning.

Pruitt: You always bring a big crowd.

Creef, Donna: I do have to go to Duck for the voters' forum. So, I'm glad I'm here for this. I wasn't anticipating any questions. The way that the bylaws are written, it prefers elected officials, for obvious reasons. The paperwork that we're filing with the federal government to get our tax-exempt status is based on the premise that government officials are involved. That gives it more standing, if you will. And so it certainly won't be a killing the deal if you guys don't have an elected official on there, but it is the preference. I will tell you that Nags Head has Andy Garman on there as the town manager now and I'm thinking that's probably because of the same situation that they have an election and that they just weren't sure who was going to be elected. So if you want to do Rob, Rob is certainly qualified to do that, but there is a preference to have an elected official. I checked with the attorney that we're working with. So we must put in the slate of names on the initial filing. When we file the first tax return, you must put the same slate of names on there. So, if there is a change, you can reflect on the change then. So, don't feel like you're bound by this. If we get into it and Rob attends several meetings and then after the election, you guys decide that you want to go with an elected official, we'll certainly accommodate that.

Garriss: Council, just be aware, Melody and I have on the former task force that was under Donna. Melody and I were Kitty Hawk representatives. Obviously, I would not be up for reappointment because I'm not running for reelection here. So, I just thought I'd throw that out there. Donna makes a very good point. We can choose someone if we have to later choose another name.

Hines: Well, I'm going to defer to Donna with all respect.

Pruitt: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to retract my appointment of Rob. I'm going to go with the recommendation of the committee. If that's what they recommend, then that's what I want them to have.

Garriss: So you've withdrawn your name. And is your motion for Charlotte Walker?

Pruitt: We have the motion and the second. I think we have already only one going to vote. Everybody good? Charlotte, would you accept?

Walker: I will be happy to.

Garriss: Thank you. All in favor of Charlotte Walker, please signify by saying, "aye".

All Council: Aye.

Garriss: All opposed? None. Very good. Thank you, Charlotte. Thank you, Donna. Thank you, guys.

Creef, Donna: Thank you, Mayor.

b) Internet Service Provider

Garriss: You're welcome. Lauren, if we can officially send that name tomorrow morning, please. Thank you. Okay. 9B, internet service provider. I know Melody has sent us some good information here about the internet. I was speaking with Melody and Lauren right before the meeting. This building has never had good internet service. I can't connect with you on this. We lose it some here during our meetings. And Lauren says her back office, she loses it a lot. So whether this is a solution or if it's the building or what but let's hear the presentation please.

Clopton, Melody: I knew you had a letter in your packet, but I know sometimes just giving the highlights in a presentation. I did a presentation today because I knew there had been some questions asked. So this is the proposal to bring better internet reliability to Town Hall, the Fire Department and then provide backup satellite service for Town Hall, the Fire Department and the Police Department. So the summary is we have regularly experienced periods of unreliability with both of our internet service providers and backup providers. We continually experience trying to stream this meeting and people at home constantly say we can't get this meeting and that's because our internet speed is too slow to provide the more modern type of technology. This occurs normal working hours and it also occurs during periods of emergency management activation. Internet reliability became a primary discussion this summer during our



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emergency preparedness sessions. As a result, we asked Shoshin to provide us with available options and make some recommendations. We got those a couple weeks ago. Our proposal, along with Shoshin, who understands this much better than many of us do, is to have fiber internet for Town Hall and the Fire Department. The Police Department already has fiber. It came with fiber and that makes our IT people extremely happy, and I think that they have noticed a definite difference in their speed and reliability at the police department since moving in. Also, we currently have a backup internet provider. If our internet goes down, it's supposed to kick on to the backup. We would like to change that to a satellite provider. It is not your normal household satellite. It's called Starlink and it's a whole different product that's available now. And this backup would be for Town Hall, Fire, and Police. You may be wondering about Public Works. I asked Willie if he thought he needed it. He really is the only user in his department and because of the expense, we decided not to go with him. He has a laptop, so he can come and hook up anywhere. I asked him not to feel left out, and he said he was okay. The advantage of fiber is the ultra-fast speed. It has a much faster download and upload than cable or DSL. Symmetrical speeds, meaning it's all, are equally going up and uploading and equally downloading. It has higher reliability. It's less affected by weather, distance, or interference. Right now, when Spectrum goes out, we go out. When Brightspeed goes out, we go out. It's a little bit more reliable. It also has a low latency. I'm not exactly sure what latency means, but it is ideal for video calls and cloud-based applications, which is what we use almost for everything. Now, the bandwidth handles many devices and heavy use, so you can ramp up your usage of your fiber. It's scalable and ready for future internet demands. Again, it's business friendly. It's great for cloud services, backups, and remote work. The advantages of the Starlink satellite as backup are far less expensive than we thought it was going to be number one. Number two, the liability is less affected by weather distance or physical damage or infrastructure. Satellites are closer than traditional satellites which helps reduce roundtrip signal delay. This seems to be the backup that a lot of people who have emergency management services are going with. The one-time fee to do all of this is \$6,400. Most of that is Shoshin's fee. The cost to impact on the budget. This is like the monthly payment annually is \$3,768 more than what we're paying. Again, that's a year. We're looking at starting this in January if it's approved. This year, we would need an additional \$1,884, which is half of the \$3,768. If approved, we will make a budget amendment at the next meeting, and we will ask for a transfer from the IT development capital reserve fund to put it into the general fund and cover this expense. The IT reserve fund typic already has \$53,400 for this year. As far as I know at this moment, we do not have anything else that's planned for that, but we do put money away for internet and information technology services in case something arises. Okay, that's all.

Garriss: Thank you, Melody. Sounds like something that's needed, but Council, do you have any questions for Melody or before we move further? Any questions at all?

Tillett: I have a couple questions. All right. When the internet went down previously, did our current backup not work as well?

Clopton, Melody: What happens is the internet doesn't work when the internet goes totally down like Spectrum loses service or what have you. Brightspeed is not nearly as quick as Spectrum. So we experience very slow response at that point. What usually happens is Spectrum loses its service, but it doesn't completely go outright and so Brightspeed doesn't come on as our backup because Spectrum isn't technically down.

Tillett: So it's like an automatic transfer.

Clopton, Melody: Yes.

Tillett: Is there any way to do a manual transfer to where you can completely shift over?

Clopton, Melody: There is and Shoshin must do that for us. We learned that. I didn't even know that was a thing and that that was happening because I was like, we have backup. Why isn't the internet working? And we found out that sometimes the speed of the internet drops down and then even though it's not working for us, the backup doesn't come on because the initial provider is still kind of slowly working.



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Tillett: The yearly change that we would see would be that \$3,700 a year budget for that and the next budget, right? There's nothing bookmarked for the \$53,000 IT Development.

Clopton, Melody: Not right now.

Tillett: That's there for things like this.

Clopton, Melody: Correct.

Garriss: We were discussing earlier that the people watching at home have we've heard from them every hour on the hour it kicks out right now during this meeting. Will that alleviate that?

Clopton, Melody: It should be because fiber has a higher speed. Uploading and downloading is much easier.

Garriss: Okay. Thank you.

Pruitt: Are we hardwired for fiber here?

Clopton, Melody: We will be, that's part of this fee. That's part of the upfront cost. Town hall, to be completely transparent, we can get Brightspeed fiber. The Fire Department cannot. They would stay with Spectrum fiber. We would but it was less expensive for us to go Brightspeed.

Pruitt: In the case of like say like in Asheville when they lost everything, internet power, all phone lines is this like the Starlink that they set up there that you were talking about?

Clopton, Melody: Yes, we would have it on all our we would have it on all our buildings. Something would be going on at the Police Department, the Town Hall and the Fire Department.

Pruitt: That should eliminate us like in a hurricane from having total loss of communication, should help us.

Clopton, Melody: Yes.

Garriss: Okay. Willie, are you sure?

Midgett, Willie: Yes.

Hines: That that brings me to a question though. If Shoshin's going to do fiber for this Starlink, then why can't you like link into the Bright Link fiber that's offered on the bypass? Is that totally different?

Clopton, Melody: Well, Starlink is satellite. That's our backup of a satellite and fiber will be us per our primary and that will be Brightspeed fiber. For us, Spectrum fiber for the Fire Department.

Tillett: So, there's no additional cost to drilling the line if it's not in the proximity.

Clopton, Melody: No.

Garriss: Any more questions for Melody? Good presentation, Melody. Okay. Council, what would you like to do here?

Pruitt: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to recommend the approval of installation of fiber internet service at the Town Hall and the Fire Department and authorize Starlink as a backup provider with associated funding adjustments outline transfer from information systems capital reserve fund.

Garriss: Thank you, Jeff. Do we have a second?

Hines and Walker: Second.

Garriss: Second by David and Charlotte. Any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying, "aye".

All Council: Aye.

Garriss: All opposed? None.

Clopton, Melody: That will probably be on your consent agenda next month, the transfer. Thank you.

Garriss: Thank you, Council. Sounds like that's something we very much needed for a long time. All right. Old business. Let's talk about e-bikes. I see Mr. Chuck is here and he's ready to hear this.

10. Old Business:

a) E-bike Update

Clopton, Melody: I wish I had better information for you. I've done a lot of research for e-bikes, and I know Casey's investigated the topic as well. The current North Carolina law does not address e-bikes. As a Town, we cannot do anything greater than the law and e-bikes are considered regular bicycles in the state of North Carolina. They define e-bikes as less than 750-watt motors. When I Googled Amazon about e-bikes, I mean they were 1,00 or 1,800, you couldn't even find a 750 watt. They treated the bicycle the same. No



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license, no registration, no insurance is required. Helmets are required only under the age of 16. And these are bicycle goals. At night, you must have a rear reflector, a white front light visible from 300 ft and either a red rear light or bright reflective clothing visible from 300 ft. So these are the current bicycle and therefore e-bike laws. Local governments and land managers may impose additional rules if bicycles and e-bikes are treated the same. North Carolina, I'm sad to say, is very, very, very much behind other states. About 30 other states have adopted a tiered definition of e-bikes. Class one, two, and three. We don't have any safety requirements except for the 16-year-old age. Our trail and path access rules are inconsistent across the towns, counties, and state and federal lands and there's just a local patchwork of policies and different things and it's very difficult to enforce. I talked to many of my town manager counterparts and a couple of police chiefs and Chief Palkovics as well and it's just really a difficult responsibility to enforce things. It also doesn't cover the faster, more powerful e-bikes now on the market, which are mostly greater than the ones that they define currently. There was a Senate Bill 576 that was going through the process, and it did clarify some things, and it had three class definitions and systems, but it did not go forward. It got left and it and it stalled in session, so it did not get approved. Someone that I spoke to said that our representative stated that we really didn't want to have more rules. North Carolina was a state that didn't want to have a lot of rules. We spoke collectively amongst my town manager counterparts, and you know, we would really all like to see us go together and try to encourage our state representatives anyway to do something different. This is the current Kitty Hawk Town Code and kind of just talks about motor vehicles and town bike paths and so forth. We just kind of follow the state rule and don't really address bicycles too much. So as I said here takeaway encourage our leaders to approve pending legislation perhaps for a countywide resolution. We can up date our Town policy to reiterate the state rules or our ordinance to update our rules. just so that we say what the state says. Again, it's not going to be very enforceable because it's very difficult to tell what kind of bike somebody's riding and what they're doing and so forth. Update the signs and clarify rules on multi-use paths and I think up with a communication plan and determining our signs and kind of maybe doing some Facebook and some websites and some emails, a video or something just to try to clarify our rules here in Kitty Hawk. Unfortunately, unless we ban all bikes for multi-use paths, we can't ban e-bikes just from the multi-use path. Now, golf carts are considered motorized vehicles, and they should not be on the multi-use path. Willie says the only way they can get there is the stanchion and go through. So, if somebody does see a golf cart on our multi-use path, that can be reported to the police and if they can get there and witness it, they can do what they can.

Hines: You made a comment that we can't supersede state law, right? Yet, when we talk about our peers and things like that, we're superseding CAMA rules at times. So, help me understand why we can be more restrictive in one way but not in another.

Clopton, Melody: I can't speak to CAMA.

Hines: It's still a regulatory agency. I mean I appreciate you doing all that research. I know it's a lot.

Garriss: I know we have talked before and Mr. Chuck maybe updating some signage, clearing some brush for signage and David, you talked about things you've seen on Moore Shore Road before. It's a problem throughout the whole state. Enforcing it would be impossible.

Hines: Well, just like giving out, you know, I'm all about communication, but we are spending a bunch of money on pamphlets and communication, the parents are going to listen, but kids aren't. I think it's what it is until the state does more.

Clopton, Melody: I do think we can do some things that don't cost a whole lot of money. We're updating signs and things.

Garriss: I think maybe in our newsletter that goes to the public.

Clopton, Melody: Willie found unused money today and we talked about how through NC DOT how we might use that, and you know, exploring things that we can do.

Varnell, Casey: So, one item too, one reason I would fully support. Melody did great research. So, it reiterates exactly what I found. I mean, the lesson is it without getting into how fast the bicycle would go,



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right, the e-bike would go, which becomes the conundrum from the enforcement standpoint. I mean, if it's more than 20, technically it's not an e-bike and you're subject to some other definition of moped or whatever, but it's almost impossible to be able, if you will, from an enforcement standpoint to pinpoint that. So, it's not the general rule is if it's treated as an e-bike, then it's treated as a bicycle pursuant to North Carolina law. But what I would say is the revisions that Melody is proposing, one of the key reasons that I would say they need to certainly be considered by you guys is as we currently read, we say moped. Is that correct?

Clopton, Melody: Yes.

Varnell, Casey: Moped has changed within our general statutes and there's been another definition given to that because otherwise outside of the 50 CC motor requirement you're looking at almost the same definition as e-bike. Mopeds now are 30 miles per hour or higher. To get us back into, you know, or 30 miles per hour or less. To get us back into, you know, conformity with state law, that makes sense as well because the way it currently reads that conflicts with state law because we say mopeds are 20 or less. Really 30 or less is the state's definition of a moped. So I agree with Melody's presentation and her recommendations.

Garriss: Believe it or not, because I teach this, a moped has a motor. Correct.

Varnell, Casey: Like I said, outside of that, it is not a motor vehicle, but it's got its own classification. It's a vehicle. It's got its own thing.

Garriss: Any questions for Melody? I agree. Melody, you did a great job here. Can we maybe keep looking at this to see what we can do and report back at the next meeting?

Clopton, Melody: We can bring back some proposed language just to clarify the state's definitions and it might take us a little longer to come up with a recommended communication plan than next month, but we can work on that and see what we can come up with.

Garriss: Council, are there any more suggestions?

Tillett: Is the root cause I feel like this was brought was going fast along the bike path? Is that still the case? That seems to be the issue we see.

Clopton, Melody: Sharing the multi-use path with pedestrians and strollers.

Tillett: I think I feel like if we concentrated on the education on going slow next to pedestrians now whether that works or not, I don't know but if that's the problem then I'd like I think that attacking the addressing the problem, to me seems. It doesn't seem like there's much with just defining the bike doesn't do a whole lot for us. If we're going to educate, let's go slower next to pedestrians. I think that's a good start.

Garriss: I agree.

Pruitt: I think the signage, you know, I spoke with Willie. I think he told me that there were three or four signs. One at the beginning, middle, and the end. You know if the speed limit's 20, if we could say, like when we did the connector trail, we put an informational sign that just explained please go under 20 miles an hour. We could list some of our rules you know for that by please be courteous, no golf carts allowed. That way instead of calling the police, you can say, "Well, it was right there on the sign."

Hines: I think 20's too much on these winding paths. I can't even ride that fast. If I do, I'd try to stop them and hit somebody.

Pruitt: I don't think we can adjust the speed that you know.

Varnell, Casey: Well, it's like this from all bikes. Well, it's correct. If it's effective as bicycles, then yes you could but then it kind of goes back to how fast you know when you're you know unless you have an app pulled up on your phone or something it's totally different. I haven't seen one that doesn't have the speedometer at least some digital reading. The only issue I would see with that is the enforcement but also the knowledge as to whatever it is that a true bike rider traditional bike rider is doing.



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Hines: I guess what I'm trying to say is if it's if you're going to talk about a posted speed, why not say 10? It's not about clocking you with a radar. It's a mindset that 10 is not 20 is all I'm trying to point out. You know, you get a child in at 20 miles an hour on a bicycle, that child's in a lot of trouble.

Varnell, Casey: Well, and that there was a case in Wilmington that that's what spawned the original House bill that kind of died. There was where a child got hurt severely on a multi-use path because an e-bike was going at an excessive speed, right? Now this e-bike wasn't this e-bike was one of those that'll suit up to like 40. So, this was one of those powerful e-bikes that should have been honestly licensed and registered with, with the state, but that's what prompted it. And again, it died. It made it to the labor commission. I think it died.

Hines: Well, I again I'm not talking about a radar type shooting of a bicycle. I just think if we're going to speak about a posted speed limit, it should be very low just from a psychological standpoint.

Varnell, Casey: I do think I've not seen anything that says if we don't impose it on bicycles as well that it's disallowed. I guess it just comes down to what you guys think is most practical.

Hines: Maybe for Moore Shore Road we will use a much bigger sign that's out there now. A bigger yellow like in your face kind of sign because it's so windy and that grass grows up so much. You can't see it here to that corner.

Varnell, Casey: Maybe I'll just toss this out there, but from what I was hearing from Jeff, it's almost not even a posted speed limit like you would see on a town or a state street. It's more informative based, which if you put up there, if we put on the informational sign that an e-bike is one that does not exceed 20 miles per hour. I mean, you're not discriminating against bicycles. You're just defining what the state says an e-bike is, which gives them notice that I'm not supposed to go over 20 miles per hour. But I get what you're saying, too, about the, you know, the idea of it being too fast.

Hines: For me, it's not just about Moore Shore Road, though. It's about all Kitty Hawk. I've seen people going down the beach road flying on those things.

Varnell, Casey: That's totally out of our jurisdiction, unfortunately. That's the state.

Hines: I understand. But it's in Kitty Hawk in general Kill Devil Hills. Now I watch the e-bike, you know, run into the back of a car at a crosswalk. So, I mean, it's just it's just as much for their protection as it is for the person riding the bike as it is for the person that could get hit in my mind.

Walker: I take issue with the fact that the definition of a bike and an e-bike are the same.

Varnell, Casey: Yes, treated the same. Let's put it that way. That was a whole idea behind Senate Bill Melody was talking about, 576. It was to create the ability to distinguish and regulate the two differently. That was the whole idea behind it.

Hines: Well, they'll be back in session in the fall. So, it might come back up.

Varnell, Casey: We'll have to wait and see. Maybe, but right now, this is unfortunately we're stuck with the regulation of e-bikes can't exceed whatever we or however we regulate a bicycle.

Garriss: All right, guys. Everybody is good with letting Melody do a little more research maybe and report back at a future date. Okay. Agree with everybody? Thank you for what you've done. Hard work.

Varnell, Casey: Mayor, I have to scoot out of here. A little emergency.

Garriss: Do you have anything to report?

Varnell, Casey: I did not. Melody was going to report that. I don't have anything on my agenda. Thank you. I'll continue to keep you guys updated on White Street as well.

Garriss: That is what we want to hear. Thank you. Town Manager Report, Melody.

11. Reports/General Comments from Town Manager

Clopton, Melody: We are re-roofing the medical side of the police department building at 5200 North Croton Highway and it is almost near completion and Willie said it is the best nail cleanup job that he has ever seen. Kudos to our contractor. We have a lot of events in October. October is a very busy month for everyone. This Saturday we have Keep It Clean Kitty Hawk, which will take place here at Town Hall. It's rain or shine, I'm told. There's still some time to sign up to be a volunteer. At noon, lunch will be provided to



everyone. This year we have the privilege of having 40 students from East Carolina University who are doing their community project, and they're all signed up to participate. So, please come out. It's not too late. Also, on Saturday, the Kitty Hawk PD will be at the Bath House Beach Access for Faith and Blue Sand Sculpture Contest. I think that's very interesting. So, if you have time to go out on the beach, that would be great. It starts at 2 p.m. On October 13th our vegetative debris collection starts for public works. Please have everything out in the right-of-way by October 12th. Willie says that if you don't have it out when the collection begins, it will not be picked up. You can refer to our website about what you are able to be put out there and the sizes and everything. October 14th at 7 PM, the League of Women Voters will be hosting the Kitty Hawk Municipal Election Candidate Forum at 7 o'clock p.m. here at Town Hall. October 23rd is one of our most popular events. It's the outdoor movie night at 6:30 PM here at Town Hall. The feature film will be HalloweenTown. The Bath House is set to close on October 27th. The porta potties at all the other beach accesses will also be removed around the same time. Finally, on October 30th, that's 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.; excuse me, the Outer Banks health coach will be here to provide free flu shots and health screens. Thank you. That is it. I've been talking too much.

Garriss: Thank you, Melody. Casey is gone. Town Council. David, you want to start.

Hines: Nothing.

Garriss: Thanks. Dylan?

Tillett: I just want to echo job well done to Ms. Pugh, Ms. Farrow, Officer Ramirez, and Officer Long on the life-saving efforts. It's a great thing to hear about. That's all I have.

Garriss: Thank you. Jeff?

Pruitt: Yes, I'd also like to I know Diego Ramirez is was mentioned earlier with the lifesaving award, but recently there was a string of break ins in Kitty Hawk and Officer Ramirez was the one handling it and has done a fine job of locating or finding out who it was, and the residents of that area are extremely happy with the job that he did. That's all I have. Thank you, Dean. I would also like to echo what Dylan said about our life saving awards that were given out tonight. And I'm pretty good.

Garriss: Okay. Again, that was wonderful. The life-saving award. That's great work. Chief, thank you for all your work on that matter. Thank you very much. I'm going to say this in my motion, but I want to make sure the public knows our next meeting on the 3rd, 2025 will be at p.m., not 6 p.m. Because the election is the next day and we started that practice a few years ago to give the election workers time to set up for the next day. Any further discussion from the council? If not, I'm going to make a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting until November 3rd, 2025, at 5 p.m. Do I have a second?

Hines: Second.

Garriss: Second. All in favor say "aye".

All Council: Aye.

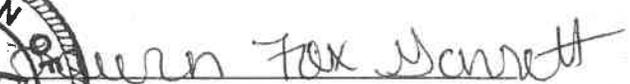
Garriss: We are adjourned. Thank you everybody for coming.

Adjourn at 6:54 pm.

The Minutes of the October 6, 2025, Kitty Hawk Town Council Meeting are approved at the November 3, 2025, Kitty Hawk Town Council Meeting.


D. Craig Garriss, Mayor




Lauren Fox Garrett, Town Clerk