



TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, December 16, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

The Kure Beach Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, December 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The Town Attorney was present and there was a quorum of Council members present.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Allen Oliver
MPT David Heglar
Commissioner Connie Mearkle
Commissioner Byron Ashbridge
Commissioner Mark Dirks

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief – Brandon Bailey
Fire Chief – Ed Kennedy
Director of Recreation & Events – Nikki Keely
Director of Development and Compliance – Bethany White
Director of Administration – Mandy Sanders
Town Clerk – Beth Chase
Public Works Director – Jimmy Mesimer
Finance Officer – Arlen Copenhaver

Mayor Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner Ellen gave the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Accept the resignation of Byron Ashbridge from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Historic Preservation Commission
2. Accept the resignation of Marks Dirks from the Marketing Advisory Committee
3. Approve the revised FY 25-26 Fee Schedule to reflect the parking fees approved by Town Council on 11/17/2025
4. Approve Budget Amendment 26-02 totaling \$14,015 to temporarily increase employee compensation for the period of 1/1/2026 to 6/30/2026 to assist in mitigating the impact of medical insurance increases
5. Approve application for TDA funding totaling \$604,257.53 for lifeguard services for the period of 12/1/2024 to 11/30/2025
6. Approve application for TDA funding totaling \$95,823.77 for Ocean Front Park and Joe Eakes Park maintenance, improvements and supplies for the period of 12/1/2024 to 11/30/2025
7. Approve application for TDA funding totaling \$38,556.96 for entertainment provided at the Ocean Front Park from 12/1/2024 to 11/30/2025
8. Approve Resolution R25-11 Opposing the Fuquay-Varina IBT and Request for Additional Comment



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9. Approve Resolution R25-12 Urging Robust Mitigation, Long-term Monitoring, and Adaptive Management for the Wilmington Harbor 403 Project
10. Minutes
 - November 17, 2025 Regular
 - November 17, 2025 Special
 - November 17, 2025 Closed

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented
SECOND- Commissioner Panicali
VOTE- Unanimous

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented
SECOND- Commissioner Ellen
VOTE- Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Honorable Representative Charles Miller administered the oath of office to Allen Oliver, for the Mayor of Kure Beach

Honorable Representative Charles Miller administered the oath of office to Bryon Ashbridge, for Kure Beach Commissioner

Honorable Representative Charles Miller administered the oath of office to Mark Dirks, for Kure Beach Commissioner

New members of Council took their seats at the dais.



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COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

1. Mayor Pro Tem for 2 year term

MOTION- Commissioner Mearkle made a motion to appoint Commissioner Heglar as Mayor Pro Tem

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous

2. Liaison to Building Inspections Department

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to appoint Byron Ashbridge as the Liaison to Building Inspections Department

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous

3. Two Council members to serve on Kure Beach/Carolina Beach Sewer Authority

MOTION- Commissioner Ashbridge made a motion to appoint MPT Heglar and Commissioner Mearkle to serve on Kure Beach/Carolina Beach Sewer Authority

SECOND- MPT Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous

4. One Council member as banking signatory

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to approve Commissioner Dirks as banking signatory

SECOND- Commissioner Mearkle

VOTE- Unanimous

5. Council of Governments

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to appoint Commissioner Mearkle as the full member and Commissioner Dirks as the alternate member to Council of Governments

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous



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6. MPO Advisory Board

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to appoint Mayor Oliver and Commissioner Dirks to the MPO Advisory Board

SECOND- Commissioner Mearkle

VOTE- Unanimous

7. Ports, Waterway and Beach Commission

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to appoint Commissioner Ashbridge to the Ports, Waterway and Beach Commission

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous

8. Tourism Development Authority (TDA) - one business owner By Laws also require Mayor as member

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to appointment Dan Tollens to the TDA

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous

9. MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

MOTION- Commissioner Dirks made a motion to appoint Mo Linquist to the MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

SECOND- MPT Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous

10. MPO Technical Coordinating (TCC)

MOTION- Commissioner Dirks made a motion to appoint Director of Administration Mandy Sanders to MPO Technical Coordinating (TCC)

SECOND- MPT Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous



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MAYOR APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Oliver assigned the following Council Liaisons to Town Departments and Roles:

- Mayor Oliver - Administration
- Commissioner Mearkle - Recreation Department
- Commissioner Mearkle- Finance Department
- Commissioner Dirks - Fire Department
- Mayor Oliver - Police Department
- MPT Heglar - Public Works Department
- MPT Heglar – Emergency Manager

Mayor Oliver assigned the following Committee Liaisons:

- Commissioner Mearkle- Community Center Committee
- Commissioner Dirks - Marketing Committee
- Commissioner Ashbridge- Planning & Zoning Committee
- Commissioner Ashbridge– Historic Preservation Commission
- Commissioner Ashbridge - Shoreline Access and Beach Protection
- Commissioner Dirks – Bike/Ped Committee
- MPT Heglar – Stormwater Oversight Committee
- Commissioner Mearkle – Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce
- Mayor Oliver - MOTSU

SCHEDULE 2026 ANNUAL RETREAT

MOTION – MPT Heglar made a motion to schedule the annual retreat on January 30, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous

RESCHEDULE THE JANUARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to reschedule the January Town Council meeting to Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

SECOND- Commissioner Mearkle

VOTE- Unanimous

MAYOR UPDATES

None.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT



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MOTION- MPT Heglar made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

SECOND- Commissioner Dirks

VOTE- Unanimous

ATTEST: Beth Chase, Town Clerk

Allen Oliver, Mayor

NOTE: These are action minutes reflecting items considered and actions taken by Council. These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting. A recording of the meeting is available on the town's website under [government>agendas&minutes](#)