



**CITY OF SOUTHPORT
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

113 W Moore St.

March 24, 2025

9:00 AM

Agenda

Please turn off all cell phones

Meetings are open to the public. If you are not able to attend the Board of Aldermen meetings in person, the meeting will be available for you to watch via live-stream on the City of Southport website (<https://cityofsouthport.com/board-of-aldermen-meetings/>), Facebook page, and YouTube channel.

ETHICS STATEMENT:

"If any members know of any conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest concerning matters on the agenda, please so state at this time."

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Invocation**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Agenda**
 - 1. Board & Administration Budget (City Manager Noah Saldo)
 - 2. Finance Department Budget (Finance Director Lance Flint)
 - 3. Resolution Opposing HB337 Southport Deannexations
- E. Adjourn**



FY2026 Requested Budget
General Fund

	Account	Account Name	Rev/Exp	Item/Description	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Adopted	FY2026 Request
Board	10-00-4110-0000	Full-Time Employees	Exp	Monthly stipend for Mayor and 6 Aldermen	27,484	24,302	84,000	84,000
	10-00-4110-0900	F.I.C.A.	Exp	City-paid social security and medicare taxes 7.65% of total pay	1,532	1,873	6,426	6,426
	10-00-4110-1100	Health/Life/Dental Insurance	Exp	Current employee benefit election costs, inflated by 8%	263	708	1,848	378
	10-00-4110-1300	Unemployment Reserve	Exp			6		-
	10-00-4110-1700	Other Personnel Costs	Exp			8,000		-
	10-00-4110-1400	Workers Compensation Insurance	Exp		232	183	30	143
	Total Personnel Costs				29,512	35,071	92,304	90,947
	10-00-4110-1800	Professional Fees	Exp	Annual Financial Audit	44,111	33,834	36,110	36,110
	10-00-4110-2600	Departmental Supplies	Exp		15,799	6,002	6,000	6,000
	10-00-4110-3100	Travel & Training	Exp		3,429	2,669	8,000	8,000
	10-00-4110-3200	Communications	Exp		312	2,425	1,000	2,497
	10-00-4110-3900	Other Services	Exp		200	200	200	200
	10-00-4110-4400	Contract Services	Exp	Provision for Atty Fees, Property Appraisals, Studies for Surveys	91,525	90,364	37,000	140,000
	10-00-4110-4500	Insurance & Bonding	Exp		3,445	3,645	4,266	1,747
	10-00-4110-6000	Donations	Exp	Donation to Southport Elementary School PTA	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
	10-00-4110-6800	Election Expense	Exp		-	5,342	5,500	5,500
	10-00-4110-9700	Contingency	Exp		-	-	-	-
	Total Non-Personnel Costs				158,820	154,481	108,076	210,054
	10-00-4110-5500	Capital Outlay - Equipment	Exp		22,950	-	-	-
	10-00-4110-5600	Capital Outlay - Weather tower	Exp		-	500	-	-
	Total Capital Costs				22,950	500	-	-
	Total Department Expenses				211,283	190,052	200,380	301,001



FY2026 Requested Budget
General Fund

					FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	
Account	Account Name	Rev/Exp	Item/Description		Actual	Actual	Adopted	Request	
Administration	10-01-4120-0000	Full-Time Employees	Exp	City Mgr, City Clerk, Asst City Clerk, PIO: Current rates inflated by 3% for COLA.	120,031	147,128	484,823	377,715	
	10-01-4120-0001	Employee Overtime	Exp	Based on actual OT hours by employee for most recent 12 months	579	939	1,897	2,132	
	10-01-4120-0200	Part-Time Employees	Exp	City Engineer. Based on actual hours worked most recent 12 months		-	66,375	92,371	
	10-01-4120-0700	401K Retirement Supplement	Exp	5% of total earnings for eligible employees	5,745	8,257	24,201	18,992	
	10-01-4120-0900	F.I.C.A.	Exp	City-paid social security and medicare taxes 7.65% of total pay	9,190	12,722	42,312	36,124	
	10-01-4120-1000	LGERS Retirement	Exp	City-paid portion of state retirement plans	13,911	21,250	65,826	54,508	
	10-01-4120-1100	Health/Life/Dental Insurance	Exp	Current employee benefit election costs, inflated by 8%	14,443	15,605	56,838	46,053	
	10-01-4120-1300	Unemployment Reserve	Exp			350		-	
	10-01-4120-1400	Workers Compensation Insurance	Exp		1,127	1,084	2,298	803	
	Total Personnel Costs					165,024	207,336	744,569	628,697
	10-01-4120-2100	Uniforms & Protective Gear	Exp	City of Southport Branded Clothing for City Hall Employees	-	591	-	2,500	
	10-01-4120-2500	Vehicle Supplies	Exp	Gas & Supplies	292	688	100	250	
	10-01-4120-2600	Departmental Supplies	Exp	Office Supplies, Agenda Folders, Frames, Certificates/Plaques, Minute Books, Postage	20,478	32,911	21,000	21,000	
	10-01-4120-2601	Safety Committee	Exp	AEDs for Parks and Locations around Downtown		-	16,000	-	
	10-01-4120-3100	Travel & Training	Exp	ICMA Annual Conference - \$4000 Clerks Certification Course - \$4000 Clerks Workshops -\$1500 Managers Conferences - \$2000 PIO Classes - \$1500 ICMA Dues - \$1300 Other - \$3700	5,922	13,660	16,000	18,000	
	10-01-4120-3200	Communications	Exp	Share of Phone/Internet, Cell Phones, Postage	4,305	7,530	2,600	3,750	
	10-01-4120-3300	Utilities - Admin	Exp	Share of Water, Sewer, Electric	6,540	6,560	6,300	6,300	
	10-01-4120-3400	Emergency Preparedness	Exp	Prep Materials - EOC Prep, Lodging/Meals, OT Pay for EOC Staff during SOE	18,320	2,259	5,000	15,000	
	10-01-4120-3900	Other Services	Exp	Special Events, Holiday Decorations, Flowers, Catering, ID Badges	1,229	2,177	1,300	1,300	
10-01-4120-4400	Contract Services	Exp	Archive Social - \$7,300; CivicClerk - \$3,000; CivicPlusCodification - \$3,000; Recite Me - \$4,000; POLCO - \$4,000; CodeRed Replacement - \$3,750; BoxCast -0; FreshySites - \$3,600; CFCOG Annual Dues - \$1,100; Other: Canva - \$300; Jotform - \$300; StarNews - \$100; Buffer - \$400; Zoom - \$166	40,863	195,655	164,041	31,016		
10-01-4120-4500	Insurance & Bonding	Exp	Property & Liability Insurance	5,570	5,810	6,797	4,567		



FY2026 Requested Budget
General Fund

				FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Account	Account Name	Rev/Exp	Item/Description	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Request
10-01-4120-9700	Contingency	Exp	Provision for Implementation of Salary Study Results	-	123,086	-	-
10-01-4120-7100	Debt Service	Exp	50% of Annual Payments for Fire Station. Last payment in July 2028	116,169	113,473	108,081	108,081
Total Non-Personnel Costs				219,688	504,401	347,219	211,764
10-01-4120-5000	Capital Purchases Under \$5000	Exp		-	36,319	-	-
10-01-4120-5400	Capital Outlay - Vehicles	Exp	Purchase current Admin vehicle in July at end of lease. No new vehicle.	6,951	6,969	583	3,075
10-01-4120-5800	Capital Outlay Capital Improvements	Exp	Completion of City Website Overhaul (20k)			100,000	20,000
Total Capital Costs				6,951	43,288	100,583	23,075
Total Administration Expenses				391,663	755,024	1,192,371	863,536
Information	10-13-4400-5500	Capital Outlay - Equipment	Exp	Provision for replacement of servers, switches, routers, etc.			5,000
Technology	10-13-4400-5000	Capital Purchases Under \$5000	Exp				
	10-13-4400-4400	Contract Services	Exp	Katalyst		100,000	100,000
	10-13-4400-2600	Departmental Supplies	Exp				
	10-13-4400-3200	Communications	Exp	Focus & Go Full Cloud		55,400	55,400
Total IT Department Expenses						155,400	160,400
Retiree	10-01-4120-1100	Health/Life/Dental Insurance	Exp	City cost for retiree healthcare plans. Previously charged to departments			78,405
Medical							



FY2026 Requested Budget
General Fund

					FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	
					Actual	Actual	Adopted	Request	
Account	Account Name	Rev/Exp	Item/Description						
Human Resources	10-07-3410-0100	Wellness Prgm Grants/Donations	Rev			2,500	-	-	
	Total Department Revenue						2,500	-	-
	10-07-4700-0000	Full-Time Employees	Exp	1 FTE: Current rates inflated by 3% for COLA.			30,049	93,982	96,536
	10-07-4700-0700	401K Retirement Supplement	Exp	5% of total earnings for eligible employees			1,715	4,672	4,827
	10-07-4700-0900	F.I.C.A.	Exp	City-paid social security and medicare taxes 7.65% of total pay			2,577	7,190	7,385
	10-07-4700-1000	LGERS Retirement	Exp	City-paid portion of state retirement plans			4,425	12,708	13,853
	10-07-4700-1100	Health/Life/Dental Insurance	Exp	Current employee benefit election costs, inflated by 8%			2,899	10,102	9,433
	10-07-4700-1400	Workers Compensation Insurance	Exp				145	386	164
	Total Personnel Costs						41,809	129,039	132,198
	10-07-4700-2600	Departmental Supplies	Exp				215	1,000	1,000
	10-07-4700-3100	Travel & Training	Exp				-	2,000	2,000
	10-07-4700-3150	Tuition Reimbursement	Exp	Reimbursement for Employee's Out of Pocket Classes			-	5,000	5,000
	10-07-4700-3200	Communications	Exp	One Cell Phone			637	500	500
	10-07-4700-3900	Other Services	Exp	Employee Recognition - Quarterly Luncheons, Gift Cards, Certificates			-	5,000	8,000
	10-07-4700-4400	Contract Services	Exp	NEOGov			30,404	11,000	11,000
	10-07-4700-4500	Insurance & Bonding	Exp						499
	Total Non-Personnel Costs						31,256	24,500	27,999
Total Expenses						73,065	153,539	160,197	
Net Human Resources Expenses after Revenue						70,565	153,539	160,197	



FY2026 Requested Budget

General Fund

Account	Account Name	Rev/Exp	Item/Description	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Adopted	FY2026 Request
Finance							
10-02-4140-0000	Full-Time Employees	Exp	6 Positions: Finance Director, Deputy Finance Director, Tax Collector, Payroll Tech, Accounts Payable Tech, Full-Time CSR	143,775	135,506	454,914	477,981
10-02-4140-0001	Employee Overtime	Exp	Payroll & Accounts Payable Techs	3,503	764	992	2,089
10-02-4140-0200	Part Time Employees	Exp	Part-Time CSRs (2) for one month; Part-Time Document Scanning Tech (1)	21,059	25,170	10,995	-
10-02-4140-0700	401K Retirement Supplement	Exp	5.0% of Compensation for Eligible Employees	8,823	8,029	22,633	24,003
10-02-4140-0900	F.I.C.A.	Exp	7.65 % of Compensation	15,866	13,853	35,718	36,725
10-02-4140-1000	LGERS Retirement	Exp	13.6% of compensation for Full Time employees	21,652	20,702	61,561	68,891
10-02-4140-1100	Health/Life/Dental Insurance	Exp	Current employee benefit election costs, inflated by 8%	26,072	21,539	74,723	70,971
10-02-4140-1300	Unemployment Reserve	Exp			167		-
10-02-4140-1400	Workers Compensation Insurance	Exp		1,728	1,319	2,077	816
Total Personnel Costs				242,479	227,049	663,613	681,476
10-02-4140-2600	Departmental Supplies		Checks, Envelopes, Office Supplies	25,502	6,539	5,500	6,000
			Postage	5,074	3,296	3,000	3,000
			Postage Machine Lease		757	2,400	1,170
			Bottled Water	583	443	600	500
			GFOA Membership	50	50	200	100
		Exp	Total Departmental Supplies	31,209	11,084	11,700	10,770
10-02-4140-3100	Travel & Training	Exp	UNC School of Govt training and travel	11,253	2,538	5,000	10,000
10-02-4140-3200	Communications	Exp	3 Cell phones \$1,440	5,612	7,837	1,800	1,600
10-02-4140-3300	Utilities	Exp	Electric, Water, Sewer charges	3,399	3,706	3,650	4,000
10-02-4140-3901	Community Garden Expenses	Exp	Both revenue and expenses moved to GL account	175	414	750	
10-02-4140-4400	Contract Services		Financial Accounting Software (Springbrook/Black Mountain/Debt Book). Most of cost charged to WS and Electric funds in prior years. FY26 cost is for conversion to Black Mountain	22,540	12,814	35,412	35,000
			Conversion to Black Mountain - Data translate & archive				50,000
			Payroll Software and Service (Paylocity). 2/3 of cost was charged to WS and Electric funds in prior years.	6,271	10,624	33,000	33,000
			Copier/printing	4,915	3,502	4,090	4,000
			Customer Lookup Software	1,400	1,200	120	1,200
			COBRA Admin Fee	600	600	600	600
			Postage Meter & Postage	426	628	575	575
			IT Costs. Consolidated into Admin beginning in FY25	21,197	13,712	-	-
			Other	61	995	-	-
		Exp	Total Contract Services	57,409	44,076	73,797	124,375
10-02-4140-4410	Property Tax Fees	Exp	0.75% County fee for collecting property taxes	32,425	31,678	33,333	43,327
10-02-4140-4411	Motor Vehicle Fees	Exp	County fee for collecting Motor Vehicle Taxes and Fees. Variable amount averaging about 3.5% of collections.	9,038	9,511	10,321	11,959
10-02-4140-4500	Insurance & Bonding	Exp		1,860	2,874	2,171	6,119
Total Non-Personnel Costs				152,381	113,717	142,522	212,150
10-02-4140-5000	Capital Purchases Under \$5000	Exp		-	9,116		



FY2026 Requested Budget
General Fund

Account	Account Name	Rev/Exp	Item/Description	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Adopted	FY2026 Request
10-02-4140-5100	Capital Outlay - Equipment	Exp	Replace one computer per year on a 3 year life cycle	2,172	-	-	2,500
10-02-4140-5900	Capital Outlay - Facilities	Exp		-	-	-	-
Total Capital Costs				2,172	9,116	-	2,500
Total Finance Expenses				397,031	349,881	806,134	896,126



Managers Proposed FY26 Budget Calendar

March 24th Board, Administration, and Finance departments budget

April 1st 9 AM Indian Trail Police Department

April 8th 9 AM Indian Trail Community Relations

April 21st 9 Am Indian Trail Fire/EMS

April 29th 9 AM Public Works/Energy

May 5th 9 Am Indian Trail Parks ad Rec

May 13th 9 AM Indian Trail Development Services/Permitting and inspections

May 29th Managers Proposed Budget 9AM Indian Trail

June 12th 6PM regular meeting Budget Public Hearing

June 23 9AM Indian Trail Budget Adoption

Cancel the previously scheduled meetings of:

April 14th

April 23rd

April 30th



**FY2026 Budget Request
Finance Department
March 24, 2025**

FY2026 Finance Budget Request Personnel Costs

Account	Account Name	FY24 Actual	FY25 Feb YTD	FY26 Request
10-02-4140-0000	Full-Time Employees	\$135,506	\$288,933	\$477,981
10-02-4140-0001	Employee Overtime	764	2,312	2,089
10-02-4140-0200	Part Time Employees	25,170	7,333	-
10-02-4140-0700	401K Retirement Supplement	8,029	14,393	24,003
10-02-4140-0900	F.I.C.A.	13,853	21,624	36,725
10-02-4140-1000	LGERS Retirement	20,702	39,335	68,891
10-02-4140-1100	Health/Life/Dental Insurance	21,539	47,247	70,971
10-02-4140-1300	Unemployment Reserve	167	-	-
10-02-4140-1400	Workers Compensation Insurance	1,319	2,094	816
Total Personnel		\$227,049	\$423,272	\$681,476

Discussion:

Headcount has decreased from FY24 (see next slide), but accounting treatment has changed. FY24 split Finance personnel costs between Water-Sewer, Electric, and General Funds (1/3 each). FY25 splits costs between General (2/3) and Electric (1/3) Funds. FY26 puts all Finance personnel costs into General Fund.



FY2026 Finance Budget Request Staffing Levels

Assumptions:

- No changes in number of employees vs. FY2025
- 3% COLA added to current rates as of July 1
- No merit increases

FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Finance Director	Finance Director	Finance Director
Deputy Finance Director	Deputy Finance Director	Deputy FD/Tax Collector
Acct Manager/Tax Collector	Acct Manager/Tax Collector	Accounting Support
Payroll Technician	Payroll Technician	Payroll Technician
Accounts Payable Technician	Accounts Payable Technician	Accounts Payable Technician
Customer Service Rep - FT	Customer Service Rep - FT	Customer Service Rep - FT
Customer Service Rep - PT	Eliminated	
Customer Service Rep - PT	Eliminated	
Utility Billing Clerk	Eliminated	

Discussion:

- Tax Collector position to turn over in April
- Finance Director position to turn over in June
- Accounting Support to be available during transition and as needed. PT basis to begin, potential to revert to FT during the year
- Potential for budget to change before final adoption

City Portion of Benefits Costs – Annual Per Employee

Benefit	Category	FY2025	FY2026 (Est)
Medical	Employee	\$8,244	\$8,304
	Employee + Child(ren)	\$11,328	\$12,234
	Employee + Spouse	\$13,440	\$14,515
	Family	\$15,948	\$17,224
Dental		\$375	\$405
Vision		\$65	\$70
Life and AD&D		\$50	\$54
Pension	Police	15.04% of gross pay	16.10% of gross pay
	All Others	13.65% of gross pay	14.35% of gross pay
401(k)		5% of gross pay	5% of gross pay
FICA Taxes		7.65% of gross pay	7.65% of gross pay

Discussion:

- City pays 100% of employee-only benefits and 50% of the amount over employee rate for dependents on the Medical Insurance plan
- City does not pay any dependent cost for any benefit program other than Medical Insurance
- FY2026 benefit costs are budgeted to be 8% higher than FY2025
- NCLM has stopped offering Medical Insurance for FY2026 and the City must select a different carrier and plan, causing significant uncertainty in FY2026 costs
- The state pension plan is increasing their rates in FY2026.
- In addition to healthcare benefits, the city will incur an additional cost for Pension, 401(k), and FICA of 28.75% of gross pay for Police and 27.0% for all other employees

FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Departmental Supplies (10-02-4140-2600)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Postage for payments and letters (whole city)	\$3,296	\$1,695	\$3,000
Postage meter lease (whole city)	\$980	\$561	\$1,170
Office supplies-envelopes, copier paper, etc.	\$5,007	\$3,195	\$5,000
Water for office	\$491	\$267	\$500
NC Finance Officers Association membership	\$50		\$100
Check Stock (whole city)	\$178	\$105	\$200
COBRA Administration Fee (whole city)		\$475	\$600
1099's and Envelopes	\$209	\$138	\$200
Other	\$177	\$13	
Credit Card Processing Fee (Bluefin)	\$697		
Total	\$11,084	\$6,450	\$10,770



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Travel & Training (10-02-4140-3100)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
NC School of Government Classes	\$1,250	\$6,155	\$6,000
Travel & Lodging for School of Government Classes	\$1,288	\$2,208	\$4,000
Total	\$2,538	\$8,363	\$10,000



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Communications (10-02-4140-3200)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Cellphones (Director, Deputy Director, Tax Collector)	\$562	\$974	\$1,600
Internet Service and Security	\$7,275		
Total	\$7,837	\$974	\$1,600

Internet and IT costs charged to new Admin department beginning in FY25 (entire city)



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Utilities (10-02-4140-3300)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Portion of City Hall Electric Bill	\$3,706	\$2,565	\$4,000
Total	\$3,706	\$2,565	\$4,000



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Community Garden (10-02-4140-3901)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Reimburse Garden members for expenses	\$414	\$754	\$0
Total	\$414	\$754	\$0

Discussion:

- The Caswell Avenue Garden Club uses land owned by Brunswick Community College to operate a garden club. This is not a City function or activity; it is strictly a club of private citizens.
- In 2015, the Board of Aldermen agreed that Southport would serve as “successor” to the Caswell Avenue Garden Club. Since then, the City has had the revenue and expenses of a private citizen’s club passing thorough the City’s books – none of these transactions represent City revenue or expenses. The City is essentially providing banking and accounting services to a private citizen’s club.
- Club members bring checks to City Hall to rent plots. Likewise, club members request reimbursement from the City for supplies they purchase for the garden.
- In prior years, both Garden Club rental fees and expenses were treated as City revenue and expenses in the City’s P&L.
- In mid-FY25, these transactions were moved to the balance sheet in recognition that they do not represent City revenue or expenses.



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Contract Services (10-02-4140-4400)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Paylocity Payroll Software Subscription (whole city)	\$10,624	\$11,729	\$33,000
Springbrook Software Subscription (whole city)	\$1,814	\$34,669	\$35,000
Debtbook Subscription	\$11,000		
IT Services	\$13,712		\$50,000
Printer leases, supplies, and service (Coastal)	\$2,954	\$1,598	\$4,000
Copier leases (De Lage Landen)	\$609	\$366	\$600
Address locating service (Lexis Nexis)	\$1,200	\$100	\$1,200
Utility billing service (Arista)	\$564		
Title search for donated lot	\$750		
COBRA Administration Fee (Flores & Assoc)	\$600		
Customer credit check service (Online Info Svcs)	\$62	\$833	\$575
Other	\$202		
Total	\$44,076	\$49,295	\$124,375

Springbrook costs have actually decreased since 2024 (cancellation of unused modules), but nearly entire cost was previously charged to the Water-Sewer and Electric Funds. New IT request is for data conversion from Springbrook to Black Mountain that is not part of the NCLM implementation project scope.



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Property Tax Fees (10-02-4140-4410)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Brunswick County fee for collecting Real Estate Taxes (0.75% of amount collected)	\$31,678	\$36,033	\$43,327
Total	\$31,678	\$36,033	\$43,327



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Motor Vehicle Fees (10-02-4140-4411)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Brunswick County fee for collecting Motor Vehicle Taxes (0.75% of amount collected)	\$9,511	\$7,059	\$11,959
Total	\$9,511	\$7,059	\$11,959



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Insurance and Bonding (10-02-4140-4500)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Public Officials Liability Policy (Finance Director & Tax Collector)	\$2,874	\$2,566	\$3,125
City Property Insurance and Liability Policies allocated to departments by headcount			\$2,994
Total	\$2,874	\$2,566	\$6,119



FY2026 Finance Budget Request

Capital Purchases under \$5,000 (10-02-4140-5000)

Activity	FY24 Actual	FY25 YTD	FY26 Request
Computer Replacements	\$8,361		\$2,500
Solid State Drive replacement for server	\$754		
Total	\$9,116	-	\$2,500





Discussion



**CITY OF SOUTHPORT
RESOLUTION 25-2403.01**

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HB 337

TO REMOVE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY FROM THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF SOUTHPORT

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly will be considering House Bill 337, which provides for the de-annexation of certain described property from the corporate limits of the City of Southport; and

WHEREAS, provisions within this legislation would be contrary to the will of the vast majority of Southport's residents and would severely diminish or even eliminate the ability of local government to determine what is best for its community or even allow community input or involvement in the decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, the proposed de-annexation of these properties would usurp the City's ability to preserve its history and threaten the Town's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, if the North Carolina General Assembly were to follow through on the proposed de-annexation of the properties within the City of Southport it would set a harmful precedent diminishing the role of local government granted by the Constitution of the State of North Carolina and would be contrary to democratic principles and to the notion that land use decision should be local and not dictated by the State; and

WHEREAS, the proposed de-annexation would cost the City several thousand dollars in tax revenue that the City relies on to provide services to our residents and

WHEREAS, this de-annexation would start an avalanche is allowing no end to the number of parcels that would have the ability to request de-annexation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southport Board of Aldermen is opposed to the proposed de-annexation of certain described properties from the City of Southport and urges all members of the General Assembly to oppose HB 337 or any other de-annexation legislation.

Adopted this the 24th day of March 2025.

Rich Alt
Mayor

Attest:

Tori Deviney
Deputy City Clerk