

Minutes of Meeting
May 18 ,2026
6:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Old Fort Board of Aldermen was held in the Board Room located in Town Hall on May 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Governing Board Members present: Mayor Protem Iretha Hancock, Alderman James Grindstaff, Aldermen Wayne Stafford, Alderman Melvin Lytle and Alderman Erin Adams.

Visitors: See attached sign in sheet

Meeting was opened by: Mayor Protem Iretha Hancock

Prayer: Opening prayer was led by Alderman Wayne Stafford

Pledge of Allegiance: Alderman James Grindstaff led the pledge of allegiance

Approve the Minutes:

Alderman James Grindstaff made the motion to approve the prior month's minutes. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Stafford and approved 5 – 0 vote.

Public Comments:

Ann George with the Town's beautification committee gave an update on what they have been doing in the Town. They met this past Saturday and had 19 volunteers to show up to help with trash pickup throughout the Town. They gathered up 20 large trash bags full. They plan to meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month between 8-9:00 a.m. for trash pickup. Ann stated the committee meets at Town Hall the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Mason Black with the Old Fort Library gave a list of programs the library is offering this summer. He left several handouts for the Town Hall office to distribute to anyone who is interested.

Cathy Moore gave an update on the 250 Celebration and Waiting on the Train (handout attached). She has requested for the Board to consider the Depot being open a day through the week for visitors coming through Old Fort,

Aldermen reports:

Alderman Erin Adams	-	None
Alderman James Grindstaff	-	None
Alderman Iretha Hancock	-	None

Alderman Melvin Lytle - None
Alderman Wayne Stafford - None

Staff Reports:

Town Administrator – Renee’ Taylor

Alderman Erin Adams made the motion to adopt the Resolution Authorizing The Town of Old Fort Town Administrator To Sign And Submit The Renew NC CDBG-DR Pre-Screening And Full Applications For Hurricane Helene Recovery. The motion was seconded by Alderman James Grindstaff and approved 5 – 0 vote.

Alderman James Grindstaff made the motion to approve the budget amendments, line item to line item (attached). The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Stafford and approved 5 – 0 vote.

Police Report:

Chief Lytle provided a handout for the Police Activity Report for the months of April & May (attached).

Old Business:

Robin Nicholson and Michael Legg with Duke Energy presented a Project Overview for the scope of the “self-healing network project” in Old Fort. A handout with the description of the project is attached to the minutes.

Robin Nicholson said she would have the realtor draw up the paperwork for an easement for the property of the Town’s portion behind McDonalds that will be included in the said project if the Town agrees. Alderman James Grindstaff made the motion for the documents to be signed to approve this easement. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Stafford and approved 5 – 0 vote.

New Business:

Alderman James Grindstaff made the motion to go with Harvin Engineering as the Town’s Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Lead And Copper Service Inventory and Replacement. The motion was seconded by Alderman Erin Adams and approved 5 – 0 vote.

The Board has been presented with the proposed 2026-2027 budget. Alderman Erin Adams made the motion to set the Public Hearing for the 26-27 budget for the June 15th board meeting. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Stafford and approved 5 – 0 vote.

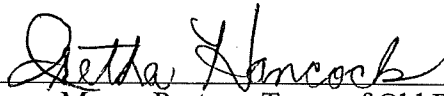
Alderman James Grindstaff made the motion to go into closed session as permitted by NCGS 143-318.11. The motion was seconded by Alderman Erin Adams and approved 5 – 0 vote.

Alderman Melvin Lytle made the motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Alderman Iretha Hancock and approved 5 – 0 vote.

Alderman Melvin Lytle made the motion to accept Rostan's Agreement For Professional Services in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the Hurricane Helene projects (contract attached). The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Stafford and approved 5 – 0 vote.

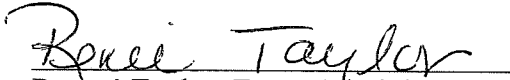
At 7:45 p.m., Alderman Erin Adams made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Stafford and approved 5 – 0 vote.

Adopted this 15th day of June, 2026.



Mayor Protem, Town of Old Fort

Attest:



Renee' Taylor, Town Administrator