



# TOWN MANAGER'S NEWS AND NOTES

January 2021

## ADMINISTRATION

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we enter into a new year, the Board of Commissioners and Town Staff will hit the ground running. Here are just a few highlights for 2021!

*Welcome back Jessica* – Our Town Clerk, Jessica Deroche is back to work after her maternity leave. We are thrilled to have Jessica back!

*It's Budget Season* – Preparation for the FY 2021-2022 Budget is underway. In fact, the BOC held their first workshop in December to discuss the prioritization of major projects and capital improvements. On January 19<sup>th</sup>, the Board will hold another workshop focusing on services levels, particularly in the critical summer months. This will be a prelude to the annual Retreat to be held in February.

*Access Grants Webinar* – We continue to look for opportunities to provide public space for our residents and properties to enjoy. In January our staff will attend two webinars on acquiring grants to help develop or improve public accesses. The webinar, offered by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) is designed to assist coastal communities with the following:

- Learn what makes a successful grant proposal;
- Learn about grant opportunities for communities to acquire land and make improvements to beach and waterfront access, parks and boating facilities;
- Learn how to leverage funding from multiple grant sources;
- Network with funding agency representatives to help inform grant proposal development.

### CORONAVIRUS

The Pender County Health Department is now booking COVID-19 vaccination appointments based on the schedule listed below and the availability of the vaccine.

Appointments can be made in Burgaw (Tuesdays) and Hampstead Annex (Thursdays). To schedule an appointment, please call the Health Department at (910) 259-1230. Due to high call volumes, you may have to call multiple times to reach the front desk to make an appointment, so please be patient. For more information on who is eligible and updated schedules, visit the Pender County Health Department website at <https://www.pendercountync.gov/hhs/health-human-services/health-department/>.

**\*IMPORTANT\***

You cannot receive the COVID-19 vaccine if:

You have tested positive for COVID within the last 30 days

You have received a vaccine of any kind (other than for COVID-19) in the last 14 days

You have pending test results due to an exposure

## Covid-19 Vaccinations:

Your best shot at stopping COVID-19.

YOU HAVE A **SPOT.**
TAKE YOUR **SHOT.**

You have a spot, take your shot. A tested, safe and effective vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. To save lives and slow the spread of COVID-19, independent state and federal public health advisory committees recommend first protecting health care workers caring for patients with COVID-19, people who are at the highest risk of being hospitalized or dying, and those at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. Keep practicing the 3 W's—wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands—until everyone has a chance to get vaccinated.

<b>1a</b> Health care workers fighting COVID-19 & Long-Term Care staff and residents.	<b>1b</b> Adults 75 years or older and frontline essential workers.	<b>2</b> Adults at high risk for exposure and at increased risk of severe illness.	<b>3</b> Students
<b>4</b> Everyone who wants a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccination.			

- Health care workers caring for and working directly with patients with COVID-19, including staff responsible for cleaning and maintenance in those areas
- Health care workers administering vaccine
- Long-term care staff and residents—people in skilled nursing facilities and in adult, family and group homes

There is not enough vaccine for everyone in this phase to be vaccinated at the same time. Vaccinations will be available to groups in the following order.

- Group 1:** Anyone 75 years or older, regardless of health status or living situation
- Group 2:** Health care workers and frontline essential workers 50 years or older\*
- Group 3:** Health care workers and frontline essential workers of any age


\* The CDC defines frontline essential workers as first responders (e.g., firefighters and police officers), corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, U.S. Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the education sector (teachers and support staff members) as well as child care workers

Vaccinations will happen by group in the following order:


- Group 1:** Anyone 65-74 years old, regardless of health status or living situation
- Group 2:** Anyone 16-64 years old with high-risk medical conditions that increase risk of severe disease from COVID-19 such as cancer, COPD, serious heart conditions, sickle cell disease, Type 2 diabetes, among others, regardless of living situation
- Group 3:** Anyone who is incarcerated or living in other close group living settings who is not already vaccinated due to age, medical condition or job function
- Group 4:** Essential workers not yet vaccinated\*

\* The CDC defines these as workers in transportation and logistics, water and wastewater, food service, shelter and housing (e.g., construction), finance (e.g., bank tellers), information technology and communications, energy, legal, media, and public safety (e.g., engineers), and public health workers

For more information:  
[YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)



NC Department of Health and Human Services • [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)  
 NCDHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. • 12/2020



## BEACH PROJECT

Our Storm Damage Reduction Project continues in full swing as Weeks Marine worked throughout the holiday to keep the dredging and sand placement moving forward. The dredge *Borinquen* completed its work in Topsail Creek and the “Cut Through” Channel near the inlet for safer and quicker access. It is currently located in Banks Channel (near Crocker Avenue) and will continue working south towards the canals.



Sand placement on the beach started around the Drum Avenue access moving south. That section has been completed and Weeks Marine has shifted its efforts moving north from Drum Avenue and is nearing the Crocker Avenue access. To date more than 350,000 cubic yards of sand have been placed on our beach strand!

Over the coming days, Weeks Marine will continue to move north towards the Jolly Roger Pier. While every effort is made to move quickly down the beach, there will be times that the *Borinquen* will have to move and connections reset, but rest assured work is still underway.

The safety of our residents, visitors, and workers is our Number 1 Priority. While the work is fascinating to see in action, please remember that these are work zones and can be dangerous. The Town of Topsail Beach and Weeks Marine are taking every precaution to keep the work zone safe, but there will be heavy equipment and fast-moving water in these areas. **For your safety and the safety of the workers, please avoid any designated work areas.**



### For More Information

Weekly progress maps are posted online for everyone to see. We will also periodically post new pictures and videos of the progress. Be sure to visit our website at [www.topsailbeach.org](http://www.topsailbeach.org) and look for the icon below for more information. Also watch for us on Facebook and Twitter!

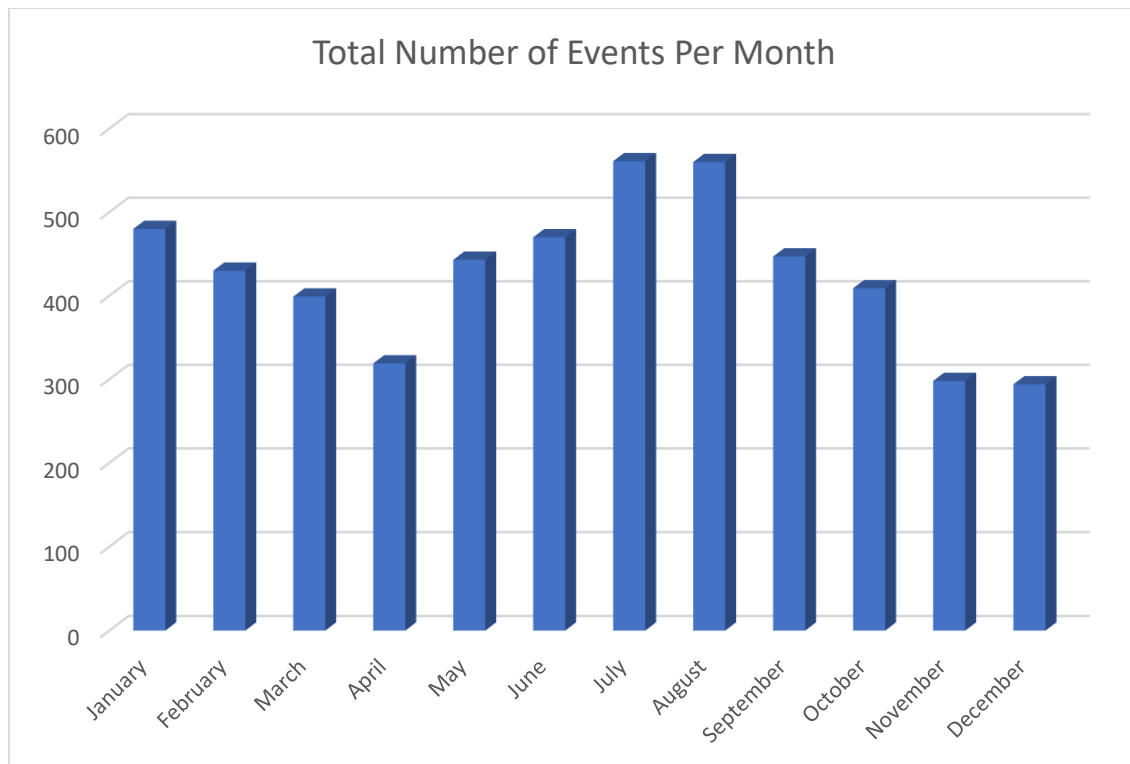


# POLICE

## ACTIVITY LOG EVENT SUMMARY

<b>DECEMBER 2020</b>	
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ARREST MADE	0	ASSIST TO FIRE/RESCUE	0
ALARM CALL	4	CALL FOR SERVICE	15
ASSAULT	0	BEACH PATROL	0
BOAT RELATED CALL	0	BEACH WHEELCHAIR	0
CIVIL CITATION	0	DEATH	0
DISTURBANCE CALL	0	DOG RELATED CALL	0
LARCENY REPORT / B&E	1	LOST & FOUND PROPERTY	1
MESSAGE DELIVERED	0	MISSING PERSON	0
OPEN DOOR FOUND	8	PARKING COMPLAINT	7
PROPERTY DAMAGE	0	SURFING VIOLATION	1
SCHOOL ATTENDED	2	SECURITY / BUSINESS CHECK	157
SPECIAL WORK	40	STATE CITATION ISSUED	12
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	1	SUSPICIOUS / UNLOCKED VEHICLE	11
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	0	TRESPASS CALL	1
TOPSAIL / SURF CITY ASSIST	1	WARNING CITATION ISSUED	32

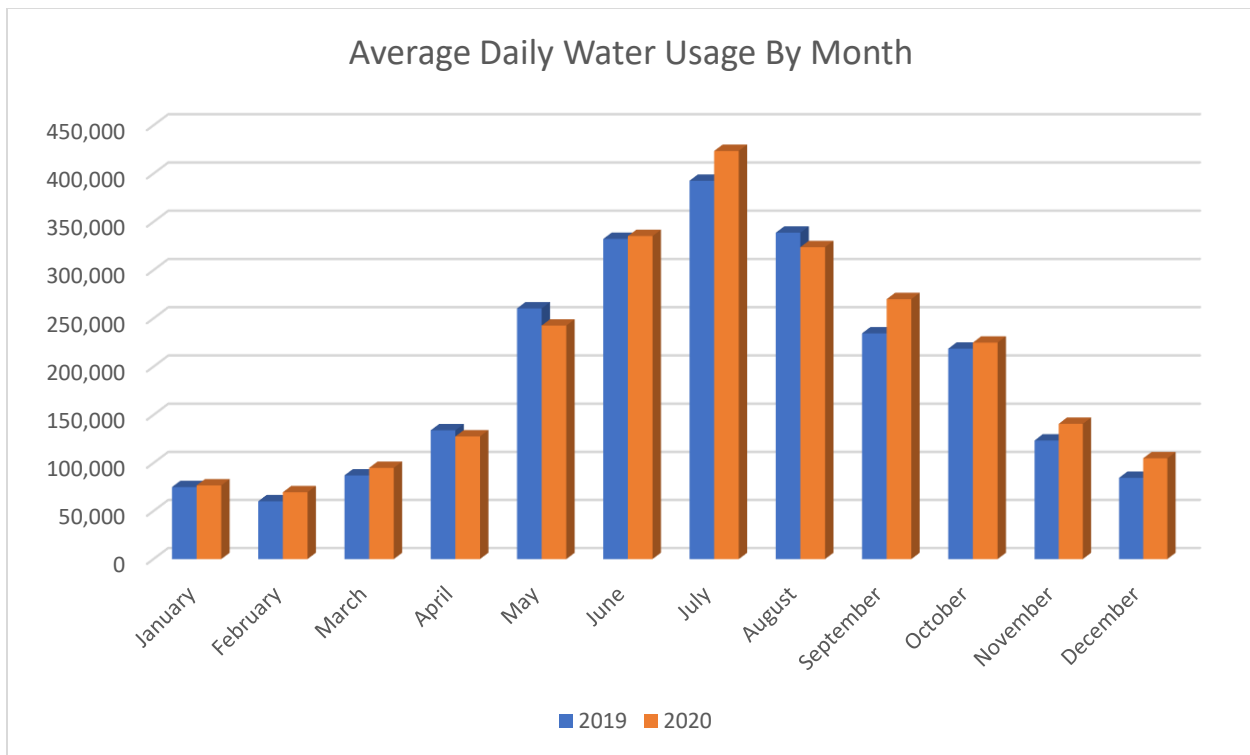


## PUBLIC WORKS

### WATER USAGE

Below is a look at the average daily water usage for December 2020, and a comparison of the data to 2019. This December the distribution for the water system was a total of 3,250,450 gallons of water for an average of 104,853 gallons a day, an increase of 20,328 gpd over the same period last year (84,525 gpd).

In 2020, the total distribution of water equaled 75,453,890 gallons. This compares to 72,573,010 in 2019, a difference of just under three million gallons of water more in 2020.



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### PLANNING AND ZONING

The Planning Board met on December 16, 2020 with the following actions taken:

1. Discussed proposed changes to the Land Development Code to prohibit Floating Structures and directed Town Planner to prepare a draft ordinance.

2. Discussed the proposed creation of a formal Parks and Recreation Advisory Board separate from the Planning Board. Deferred further discussion to the January meeting.

<b>PARKS AND RECREATION</b>
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The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on December 16, 2020 with the following actions taken:

1. Reviewed the revised engineering report prepared by Michael Gallant, PE, regarding the Bike/Ped Plan options. Discussed public comments received and deferred additional discussion to the January meeting to include reconsideration of priorities originally established.

<b>BUILDING PERMIT SUMMARY</b>
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A total of 19 permits were issued at a valuation of \$1,844,881.00 with three (3) new single-family construction and two residential alterations/additions.

## DECEMBER 2020 BUILDING PERMITS

PERMIT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	VALUATION	PERMIT FEE
Docks/Decks/Seawalls/ AC	1	\$80,000.00	\$340.00
Demolition	1	\$5,000.00	\$105.00
Electrical Repair	5	\$5,650.00	\$275.00
Elevator/Cargo Lift	1	\$5,500.00	\$55.00
Land Disturbance	2	\$4,000.00	\$60.00
Mechanical Repairs	2	\$11,611.00	\$110.00
Misc. Building Repair	2	\$33,800.00	\$325.00
Misc. Plumbing	1	\$9,100.00	\$55.00
Residential Alteration	1	\$26,220.00	\$155.00
Residential Single Family	3	\$1,664,000	\$15,175.20
	<b>19</b>	<b>\$1,844,881.00</b>	<b>\$16,655.20</b>

*Dates to Remember:*

*Board of Commissioners – January 13<sup>th</sup> (6:00 PM)*

*Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Town Hall Closed) – January 18<sup>th</sup>*

*BOC Budget Workshop – January 19<sup>th</sup> (9:00 AM)*

*Four Towns Meeting (Surf City) – January 21<sup>st</sup> (12:00 PM)*

*BIS Committee Meeting – January 21<sup>st</sup> (3:00 PM)*

*Planning Board/Parks and Rec. – January 27<sup>th</sup> (3:00 PM)*

*TISPC Meeting – January 28<sup>th</sup> – (2:00 PM)*