



Town of Holly Ridge

Mayor's Message

JANUARY 26, 2026



Happy Monday, everyone. I hope you had a great week and weekend despite the cold temperature and inclement weather. It was a short week for us due to last Monday's Holiday in honor of MLK. We are so blessed to have a great town staff and great citizens who are willing to participate. God bless you and your family, our great town, county, state, and our country. Here are some updates:

On behalf of the town, I attended the second January meeting of the Onslow County Commission. Here are the highlights

- a. Minor Budget Adjustment
- b. Approved Board of Education Annual Budget
 - i. Presented the approved contract to the board of education
 - ii. The Chair and the town manager signed the yearly agreement
- c. They assigned Board of Adjustment appointments
- d. Approved Easement for the General Aviation Easement
- e. Approved Motorola contract settlement
- f. Approved Board Onslow County Advisory Committee bylaws
- g. Approved two zoning changes
- h. The Onslow County Commissioners presented their quarterly reports on
 - i. Civic affairs
 - ii. Airport Authority
 - iii. Fire and EMS bylaws
 - iv. ONWASA and its efforts
 - v. Hospital Committee
 - vi. Topsail Island Protection
 - vii. Jacksonville juvenile protection
 - viii. East Carolina Workforce Development
 - ix. Onslow County Health Partnership

My Comments: If you have any questions about the summary above, please feel free to reach out to me for further details.

- 2- The Town Manager, Councilman Hines, and I continued discussions with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to apply for Grants for a Water Tower in the Camp Davis area. We will be applying by their March 3rd deadline. We are the co-applicant, and we will work with ONWASA to complete the application.
- 3- We had our first Town Council quarterly Work Session on January 22 covering the following items.

- a. Presentation & Demonstration of new website to Mayor and Town Council
- b. Updates to the Strategic Plan
- c. Street Fire Department Consultant
- d. Funding Projects
- e. Onslow County Schools Update
- f. Water project update

My Comments: These public work sessions are meant to have a more in-depth conversation. No voting is done at these meetings, and the recording will be available online. We have a great year ahead and lots to do, so it is essential to have these conversations with the Town Council and get their input and views. I am happy to discuss these matters in detail with our citizens.

- 4- On Friday, I met with Senator Budd's regional representative to discuss updates on Holly Ridge since the last meeting and ask for opportunities related to Direct funding for various projects.
- 5- I mentioned previously that we are restarting some Town Committees and forming new ones, as listed below. Please consider getting actively involved as a member or as an interested party in our plans. Members of the Committees which have been inactive will resume activities and work in 2026. The following is a list of existing Town Committees as of today:
 - a. Political Connection Committee
 - b. Marketing and Branding Committee
 - c. Friends of the Park Committee
 - d. Bee City USA Committee
 - e. Beautification Committee – Newly Approved by Town Council at the 1/13/26 meeting
- 6- Some Upcoming Dates in 2026:
 - a) Regular Town Council Meeting on February 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center. This meeting will be livestreamed.
 - b) Public Information Session for Citizens on Project Ajax on February 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center. This meeting will be live-streamed.
 - c) Special Meeting of the Town Council to Conduct Four Public Hearings on February 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center. This meeting will be livestreamed.
- 9. I will have office hours this week on Tuesday and Thursday, 1–4 p.m. I am available to discuss any subjects by appointment, by phone at 336-865-0884, by messaging me on my Mayor's Facebook page, and by email at pparnian@hollyridgenc.gov. I once again ask the citizens to feel free to reach out to me with any questions or to discuss town matters. We have a lot going on in 2026, and I value your thoughts and input.

Mayor Pete Parnian