



**TOWN OF BETHEL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MARCH 4, 2025 @ 6:00 PM  
BETHEL TOWN HALL**

- A. CALL TO ORDER**
- B. INVOCATION**
- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- D. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA**
- E. CONSENT AGENDA-MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING:**
  - 1. Minutes from Regular Monthly Meeting February 4, 2024**
- F. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Provides an opportunity for residents to comment on any item included on the agenda or to address the Town Board on any matter related to the Town of Bethel. Comments are limited to 5 minutes).**
- G. PRESENTATIONS**
  - 1. FY 23-24 Audit Presentation- Gregory T. Redman, CPA**
  - 2. Stormwater System Asset Inventory and Assessment Project- UPDATE**
- H. OLD BUSINESS**
  - 1. Residential Debris Pick-up Services**
- I. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 1. 2025 Municipal Elections**
- J. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**
  - 1. INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**
    - a. Monthly Town Public Safety Report (January 2025) [Info Only]**
    - b. Financials for January 2025 [Action Needed]**
    - c. Report on Upset Bid Process for Tax Parcels 1440 and 1441 [Report Only]**
    - d. Next Board Meeting Date: April 1, 2025**
  - 2. FIRE DEPARTMENT**
  - 3. PUBLIC WORKS**
  - 4. TOWN ATTORNEY**
- K. ADJOURNMENT**

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
 BETHEL TOWN HALL  
 February 4, 2025

Present: Mayor Carl Wilson, Mayor Pro-Temp Barbara Bynum, Commissioner Ferrell Blount, Commissioner Thomas Lilley, Commissioner Tina Staton, and Commissioner Fred Whitehurst

Members of the Board Absent: None

Staff Present: Interim Town Manager, D. Scott Elliott, Attorney, Keen Lassiter, Clerk, Linda Sheppard, and Deputy Clerk, Jalissa Griggs

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and Mayor Pro-Temp Barbara Bynum gave the invocation.

Mayor Wilson then led the pledge of allegiance.

*Mayor Pro Temp Bynum made a motion to approve the proposed agenda, the motion carried unanimously.*

*Commissioner Staton made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting on January 7, 2025, the motion carried unanimously.*

### **Public Comments**

Cassandra Conger, a citizen of Bethel, expressed her concerns and a count of junk cars at the two car lots within the Town limits. Commissioner Whitehurst asked for Mrs. Conger's suggestion on how the Board could rectify the situation. Mrs. Conger suggested an ordinance. Commissioner Whitehurst commented that there is a junk car ordinance. Interim Town Manager added that there is a nuisance provision within the Code of Ordinances. Attorney Lassiter agreed that there is a junk car ordinance. Citizen, Trisha Werkau asked if anyone has had a conversation with the owners of the lots. Interim Town Manager commented that he and Mayor Wilson spoke with the lessee of the Washington Street lot and the cars that are on the lot are from auction to be fixed and then will go back to auction. The lessee agreed that he would arrange the cars in a more organized fashion. Mrs. Conger inserted that some of the cars on Washington Street had been there for two years and when the lot is full, the cars are parked on Washington Street and obstruct drivers' view. Commissioner Blount suggested that the Town involve the NC Department of Transportation as there are regulations regarding sight lines. Mrs. Conger agreed. Interim Town Manager commented that he had already reached out to the owners of the Main Street lot, yielding an unsuccessful conversation. Commissioner Blount asked if anybody had spoken to the owner of the Washington Street lot. Commissioner Whitehurst commented that Kevin Andrews rents the lot for \$600 monthly and mentioned that he spoke to him regarding



purchasing the property, however, Mr. Andrews does not want to sell the lot. Mrs. Conger added that she has asked about purchasing the lot as well.

Trisha Werkau, a citizen of Bethel, asked if the S.M.A.R.T. “Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-based” goal method has been applied to at least start the conversation with the car lot owners. Mayor Wilson commented that the lessee for the Washington Street lot has an intention of moving the cars to a bigger lot. However, no time frame was given. In the meantime, the lessee agreed to arrange the cars in a more organized fashion. Mayor Wilson communicated that he would address the line-of-sight obstructions with the lessee. Commissioner Blount added that he felt that the Washington Street lot would be in their right to use the property for a car lot except for in the instance of obstructing the line of sight. Although, for the lot on Main Street, he felt their use of the property could be illegal (car lot vs junk yard). He suggested that there could be regulations that the Town could use. He felt as though the cars on the lot were valuable and suggested that the owner move them behind the fence. Mayor Pro Temp Bynum asked Attorney Lassiter if the Town could ask a purchaser for their intent of property usage before it is purchased. Attorney Lassiter said the Town is not directly involved in a simple buy and sale between two people and therefore cannot ask what it would be used for. Commissioner Blount added that the Town has zoning laws that should be adhered to, which could subsequently involve the Town. Attorney Lassiter agreed that the Town would be involved if there was a zoning change request or if the property purchased does not comply with the Town’s zoning ordinance. On occasion, a buyer will research through Town Hall, if a property is already zoned for a particular purpose and in that case, the Town would say, “Yes” or “No.” Commissioner Blount added that even if it is zoned correctly, sometimes a special permit is required. He suggested that the lot on Main Street, is zoned for car dealership and not a junkyard and suggested the Town enforce the zoning code as written and legally go against the owner of the lot on Main Street. He added that the lot is a hazard for children.

### **Old Business**

Chief Lilley would like to move forward with the 50-50 grant as originally presented as a tabled item for January 7, 2025. The attached list of equipment totaling \$22,430 is being sought (See Attachment A). No Town appropriation is needed since the Town’s match (\$6,215) will be included in the FY 25-26 budget. The funding is proposed to be divided as follows:

50% by OSFM @ \$11,215

50% by Bethel Fire Association @ \$5,000 and Town of Bethel Fire Budget @ \$6,215

Note: The Fire Department’s desire to purchase a new fire engine would occur as part of the “next” OSFM 50-50 grant process. This would be a budget item for FY 26-27.

***Commissioner Blount made the motion to approve the submittal of the 50-50 OSFM grant application; the motion carried unanimously.***

### **Presentations**



Jerome Brown, UPOH, updated the Board on his business ventures. He mentioned the necessary building upgrades for the grocery store that included new sealants because the current ceiling could not tolerate the new roof and refrigeration and ground posts for the side walls. Looking to yield an open date of June 2025. He mentioned that the grocery carts with logo and refrigeration have been purchased and are in storage (ready to go). Mr. Brown remarked on the two-story coffee shop in progress. There will be a stage and meeting space on the second floor. He mentioned applications have already started coming in. Mr. Brown also referred to a Bethel Pharmacy upgrade of a cage so that pharmacists can rotate lunches and as of February 8, 2025, the Pharmacy will be open on Saturday's from 9am to 2pm. Bethel Pharmacy now has an app that you can order and receive products next day. He mentioned there is a beaver issue that he is proactively handling on other property he is working with. In addition to, Mr. Brown mentioned the warehouse behind the hardware store will have an office space and boutique. Commissioner Staton asked where someone could pick up an application. Mr. Brown responded that Bethel Hardware is accepting applications for the grocery store, coffee shop, and for a pharmacist or pharmacy tech. Mr. Brown made mention that he has made four major presentations at national conferences concerning Bethel, NC and people have been giving a great response. Commissioner Lilley asked if the coffee shop will offer only coffee? Mr. Brown responded that it would be anything that will not require grease (coffee, bagels, doughnuts, nachos, etc. as well as smoothies). Interim Town Manager asked what the hours would be for the coffee shop and grocery store? Mr. Brown answered that the coffee shop hours would be 7am – 7pm and the grocery store would be 8am – 9pm however, this is just a model at this time. Mr. Brown mentioned that Bethel Hardware has made upgrades for a computerized paint system, shaker, and paint mixer. Mayor Wilson added that Bethel Pharmacy has UPS.

### **Old Business (Cont.)**

From the Board's January 7, 2025, meeting, bids from the Residential Debris Pick-up portion of the Request for Proposals were tabled.

It was noted that the Town of Bethel has been in on-going discussions with Pitt County Solid Waste & Recycling regarding how to dispose of yard debris in the Town's yard debris collection site. As part of these discussions, the County made an unsolicited offer to provide residential debris pick-up in the Town. The County has just purchased a new dump truck with a "grapppler" that could assist with this need. At this time, the Town is waiting for the County to further elaborate on the cost and also propose contractual terms for this service.

***Commissioner Staton made the motion to continue to table the Residential Debris Pick-up proposals until the next meeting; the motion carried unanimously.***

Rivers & Associates Inc, Landscape Architect Project Manager, Paul Meder and Landscape Designer, Sam Floyd gave a presentation regarding the Master Plan Sketch for the Smith Street Park. Paul Meder explained that there will be several phases of construction. Phase I will be completed with the funding on hand. Phase II is to be done with the potential funding of the



PART-F Grant. However, that funding will not complete the final master plan. Sam Floyd explained there is currently a gravel path and playground. The master plan is to have two separate playgrounds for different ages, basketball courts, splash pad, big event lawn, amphitheater, stage, shelters, picnic benches, a larger gazebo, exercise stations with approachable equipment, gardens, and on-street parking on Barnhill Street and Smith Street. He noted that the big items such as the splash pad, stage, and amphitheater will come at a future phase. He further explained that, Phase I will consist of the playgrounds, accessibility to the site (parking spaces on Barnhill Street and a paved path to the proposed playground), some exercise equipment, an additional shelter, and trees for shade. Commissioner Whitehurst asked what is the timeline? Paul Meder responded that Phase I-A would be the end of June. Phase I-B would be February 2026. Phase I could be completed in less than two years. Commissioner Whitehurst then asked what kind of playgrounds? Paul Meder responded that it would be a play structure with multiple facilities for different types of play, i.e. climbing, slides, stair steps, music, and smaller individual play structures, and swings. Mayor Wilson added that the playground will be sufficient for handicap accessible. Commissioner Whitehurst asked how it would be maintained. Mayor Wilson responded that with a Recreation Manager and help from Jennifer Lanier-Coward from Pitt County Cultural Arts, it can be maintained. Commissioner Whitehurst asked again if Phase I-A and Phase I-B would be completed in two years. Mr. Meder responded that it could be obtained with the prospective PART-F Grant funding. Interim Town Manager added with the prospective \$200,00 from fund balance from the Town. Mayor Pro Temp Bynum asked if the park would have a fence? Interim Town Manager responded that there was no fence currently discussed. However, there is current signage at both the Field of Dreams and Smith Street Park that notifies that the park is open sunrise to sunset and the Town would rely on local law enforcement after those times. Interim Town Manager then asked if Rivers & Associates had a recommendation on fencing? Paul Meder detailed that there was a preliminary idea of a fence on the Smith Street side and a screened fence on the south side where there is a ditch. Interim Town Manager asked if it could be plants or bushes could be used as a fence? Paul Meder responded, "Yes". However, this was not further discussed as this would be in a future phase. The assumption is that the local law enforcements would ride through as it is designed so that someone can ride through and see into the site. Commissioner Lilley asked about fire accessibility. Paul Meder explained that if the amphitheater has a roof, it must have fire accessibility. State Fire Code requires fire access within 150 feet from the furthest point of the building. Commissioner Lilley then asked if there would be EMS/fire access to the entire playground or if there would be a cutoff. Paul Meder then showed access on the map. Commissioner Lilley asked if there was a fire hydrant. Paul Meder responded, currently no but if there is a stage, it should be heavily encouraged. Commissioner Lilley added that there is possibly a fire hydrant on Barnhill and Lincoln Street and then one on Smith Street and he would access the area to be sure. Mr. Meder then added, at site plan approval, the Fire Marshal will give a take on it. County Commissioner Mary Perkins Williams, commented that there were no mentions of lighting in the plan. Paul Meder suggested lighting purchased by the Town or getting the local utility company to put in street lights. County Commissioner, Mary Perkins Williams commented that if there is no lighting, it would be inviting problems. County Commissioner,



Mary Perkins Williams then commented that there is a short distance to a neighboring community development. Paul Meder added that it would be considered in the planning process.

The \$50,000 budgeted for Recreation could be utilized along with the \$200,000 of RTG and \$200,000 of Town Funds to create \$450,000 to leverage against a PART-F Grant that goes up to \$500,000 if approved, to generate \$900,000 towards the Smith Street Park.

***Commissioner Lilley made a motion to accept the proposed Master Plan Sketch from Rivers and Associates; the motion carried unanimously (See Attachment B).***

## **New Business**

Interim Town Manager presented the proposed contract amendment for the Town's residential solid waste collections with Waste Industries. This covers the next three fiscal years beginning with FY 25-26. The current monthly rate for FY 24-25 is \$9.19/month and will increase by .36 cents to \$9.55/month and will increase by .36 cents every year. There is no recommendation to increase the solid waste fee in the Town as it is covered by what is currently charged.

***Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve the contract amendment for residential solid waste collection with Waste Industries as proposed; the motion carried unanimously (See Attachment C).***

As discussed with the Board a few months back, it is proposed to create a Project Ordinance with dedicated funding that would be used to demolish structures (residential and non-residential) that would be considered dangerous and present hazards to the public health and safety in the community.

It is anticipated that after going through the appropriate notification process, the Town would be able to eventually condemn and demolish some of the structures that are a real eye sore to the community.

Attached you will find a Project Ordinance that will assist in this process by dedicating an initial \$200,000 toward this purpose.

Also, the Town staff is in the process of reviewing a list of previously identified properties. This information as well as an actual visual survey will assist in kicking off this process.

***Mayor Pro Temp Bynum made a motion to adopt the Residential and Non-Residential Structures Demolition Expense Project Ordinance with funding in the amount of \$200,000; the motion carried unanimously (See Attachment D).***

In order to utilize the remaining SCIF funds (State and Capital Infrastructure Fund) monies, the Town needs assistance via Professional services for the design of the proposed Public Safety



Substation for the Sheriff's Office as well as design services to utilize SCIF funds at the Senior Center. The Public Safety Substation is proposed to be in the unfinished portion of the Town Hall; to include a bathroom, kitchenette, and a small office space, while serving as a flex space for Town Hall associates.

If remaining monies allow, other proposed projects could include new windows for Town Hall that would be more energy efficient and repairing the roof on the former Coalition for Healthy Eating office space now in the Town's ownership. Although this property has liens, now that it has reverted to the Town, the Town is not obligated to pay any liens incurred by the Coalition for Healthy Eating.

The Mini-Brooks Act allows the Town to use its Town website to announce its intention to hire professional services for these projects instead of doing an RFQ (Request for Qualifications) process (advertise and interview) firms.

Of the original \$500,000 provided in SCIF funding, these funds to date have been spent as follows:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Status</b>
Town Hall Renovation	\$150,000	\$175,236	Complete
Library Renovation	\$50,000	\$54,500	Complete
Street Paving	\$150,000	\$105,807	Complete

Remaining SCIF funds are proposed to be used as follows:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Amount/Status</b>
Public Safety Substation	\$70,000	"Planning Stage"
Senior Center Needs	\$50,000	"Planning Stage"
Grant Administrator	\$5,000	\$420
Recreation	\$50,000	T.B.D.

It is further noted that the Town must finish using these funds by June 30, 2028 or forfeit them back to the state.

The library will reopen February 6, 2025. The library renovations include new LED lighting, new paint, new carpet, renovated bathrooms, and refurbished cabinetry. A ribbon cutting is being planned for the near future.

***Commissioner Blount made a motion to adopt the Mini-Brooks Act Announcement for Professional Services; the motion carried unanimously.***

## **Departmental Reports**

The Interim Town Manager made the public safety report for the month of December from the Sheriff's Office (See Attachment E).

The Interim Town Manager gave the financial report for the month of December (to reflect 6 months or 50% of the fiscal year) See Attachment F.

Interim Town Manager presented an update on upset bids for tax parcels 1440 and 1441. The process will have to be continued until March 2025 for re-advertisement.

The next monthly meeting will be held March 4, 2025.

The FY 23-24 audit has been completed and submitted to the Local Government Commission. Greg Redman, CPA is scheduled to present the report on March 4, 2025. The Interim Town Manager sent a letter to inform the Board that Mr. Redman's office will be sending a survey concerning Town finances. Three FY audits have been completed with a twelve-month period and the Town is now caught up.

The four-way stop at Washington and Main Street is now completed. The Town appropriated \$10,000 to have it completed to discourage the number of accidents at that site.

### **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Lilley reported 15 calls in January 2025; to include 4 water flow calls, 2 wood fires, 3 EMS calls, 3 house fires, 2 outside county fires, 1 gas leak, and 2 motor vehicles crashes. He reported a total of 32 training hours. The fire truck purchased from Pinetown is still in the shop with reported air leaks. Fire Chief Lilley reported that there were 4 new applicants to yield 28 firefighters. Commissioner Whitehurst asked if Fire Chief Lilley could put a dollar value on the volunteer firefighters to see how much the Town of Bethel is saving. Fire Chief Lilley responded that a full-time Greenville firefighter is paid between \$44,000 to \$46,000. Commissioner Blount commented that if you take the training hours required and times it by the 28 volunteers and multiply it by about \$20/hr. it would equal a couple of hundred thousand dollars. That would be just the training and not the fire cost. Fire Chief Lilley commented that there is a physical sign for wanted volunteer firefighters as well as a post on their website. He would welcome 50 volunteers if available. County Commissioner Mary Perkins Williams asked what Bethel's service area was and Fire Chief Lilley responded that it was a six-mile service area. Commissioner Blount asked how many training hours are required for each person. Fire Chief Lilley responded that 36 hours are required per person and an officer requires more. He mentioned that there are pending higher up conversations on cutting volunteer firefighters and a Fire Department is a necessity. Commissioner Whitehurst asked why, and Fire Chief Lilley responded based on the call volume and assists. Commissioner Whitehurst asked if the morale was good and Fire Chief Lilley responded, yes, the training session on Monday, February 3, 2025, bore 14 volunteers while previous trainings bore 2 volunteers. Commissioner Whitehurst asked if Wayne Bryant is doing the mechanic work. Fire Chief Lilley commented that Mr. Bryant does 99% of the mechanic's work and when it is something he cannot do, it goes to the shop. Commissioner Whitehurst asks if Mr. Bryant charges, and Fire Chief Lilley responded that he does it free of charge and occasionally donates parts.



## Public Works

Interim Town Manager had no comments.

## Town Attorney

Attorney Lassiter had no comments.

Mayor Pro-Temp asked if the Town and citizens of Bethel could come together to donate to Shane Howard due to a house fire that cost him everything. The Interim Town Manager responded that the Town would need to have a public purpose for spending taxpayer dollars.

Mayor Wilson noted that there was a burning issue with smoke coming through the neighborhood on Smith Street from the housing development on Cemetery Road. Proper authorities were contacted, and the developers are within their rights to burn. Mayor Wilson mentioned the four-way stop is now in place. The flashing lights have been switched to red and the bushes that are on the corner will be removed to give drivers a better view.

Commissioner Lilley asked how long it had been since the Town sold equipment to Robersonville. Mayor Wilson assumed it had been a year and a half ago. Commissioner Lilley asked if the blue Town car could be sold since it is not in use. Mayor Wilson responded that it needed work done. Commissioner Lilley suggested that it be sold. Mayor Wilson would like to revisit the item at a later date.

NC House Representative Gloristeen Brown announced a Lowe's Hometown grant program for non-profits. She mentioned her office had moved to the legislative office building, office number 403, and seat number 35.

County Commissioner Mary Perkins Williams announced the new gymnasium at the Agriculture Center set to open in June 2025.

***Commissioner Lilley made a motion to recess the Town Board meeting at 7:42pm as well as convene the Closed Session Meeting at 7:42 pm; the motion carried unanimously.***

***Commissioner Staton made a motion to adjourn the Closed Session Meeting at 7:53pm as well as convene the Town Board meeting at 7:53pm; the motion carried unanimously.***

***Commissioner Blount made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm; the motion carried unanimously.***

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Mayor, Carl Wilson

ATTEST:

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Linda Sheppard, Town Clerk

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Date

## ATTACHMENT A



2520 N WESLEYAN BLVD  
ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27804

Bethel Fire & Rescue Dept  
PO Box 308  
Bethel, NC 27812

## Quotation

Date	Quote #
11/26/2024	24-4692

Phone #	252-972-3473
Fax #	252-972-6846

P.O. No.	Project	Rep	SO #
		RCR	

Qty	Item	Description	Each	Total
		PRICE INCREASES COMING SOON		
1	NEW-106R148	HURST VETTER 174 PSI AIR BAG KIT INCLUDES : V10, V12, (2) V20, V33L, 2 INFLATION HOSES YELLOW AND RED (16FT), DEADMAN CONTROLLER, PRESSURE REGULATOR	7,367.72	7,367.72
20	KHC-DP30-800-...	ECO-10 - 3" X 50' LIGHTWEIGHT DOUBLE JACKET RUBBER LINED ATTACK HOSE WITH ALUMINUM COUPLINGS- 10 YEAR WARRANTY (WHITE)	268.82	5,376.40
1	KOC-S37S56-H52	5" STORZ X 6" RIGID FEMALE NH THREAD - BLACK HARDCOAT	268.18	268.18
6	INO-RDG-TR10	RAPID DELIVERY TECHNICAL RESCUE GEAR 10. SEE QUO-98054-X6R9Y	874.99333	5,249.96
2	W1B-FT-SL-15-F...	20,000+ lm Equiv 11-65w 150W, 10/60" spot/flood optics, White housing, w/ 3/4" NPT pole mount.	1,350.00	2,700.00

Shipping not included unless stated. Quotes can not be honored if manufacturer implements a price increase effective prior to order date. Credit cards will be assessed a 3.5% fee. All returns are subject to a restocking fee.

Subtotal	\$20,962.26
Sales Tax (7.0%)	\$1,467.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,429.62</b>





ENGINEERS

PLANNERS

SURVEYORS

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

## SMITH STREET PARK

### FACILITIES PHASING

February 4, 2025

#### PHASE 1A:

BARNHILL ST HANDICAP PARKING  
 CONCRETE SIDEWALK ACCESSIBLE ROUTE  
 (4) BENCHES AT BASKETBALL COURTS  
 PLAYGROUND (AGES 6-12)  
 12'X12' SHELTER W/ PICNIC TABLE  
 EXERCISE STATION: CHEST PRESS & BENCH  
 EXERCISE STATION: HAND CYCLE & BENCH  
 STONE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

#### PHASE 1B:

RESTROOM, CONCESSIONS, & STORAGE BUILDING  
 12'X12' SHELTER W/ PICNIC TABLE  
 16'X24' SHELTER W/ (2) PICNIC TABLES  
 CONCRETE SIDEWALK  
 EXERCISE STATION: STRIDER & BENCH  
 EXERCISE STATION: STATIONARY BIKE & BENCH  
 EXERCISE STATION: ELLIPTICAL & BENCH  
 STONE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS  
 POLLINATOR GARDENS

#### FUTURE PHASES:

GAZEBO  
 COVERED STAGE & ACCESS WAY  
 AMPHITHEATER LAWN IMPROVEMENTS  
 PLAYGROUND (AGES 1-5)  
 SPLASH PAD  
 ON-STREET PARKING, BOTH STREETS  
 PERIMETER FENCE @ SMITH STREET & SOUTH PERIMETER  
 EXERCISE STATIONS (BALANCE & FLEXIBILITY)  
 CONCRETE PAVING OF TRAIL  
 SWALE RELOCATION & PERMANENT SWALE BRIDGES  
 TREE PLANTING  
 POLLINATOR GARDEN ADDITIONS  
 ON-SITE PARKING  
 PARK SIGNAGE  
 DUMPSTER ENCLOSURE

Six Forks Place III • 353 E. Six Forks Road, Suite 230 • Raleigh, NC 27609 • Phone: 919-594-1626

NCBELS Lic. No. F-0334

[www.riversandassociates.com](http://www.riversandassociates.com)

NCBOLA Lic. No. C-312





# SMITH STREET PARK - PHASE I

BETWEEN SMITH STREET & BARNHILL STREET  
TOWN OF BETHEL, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA 27812

JANUARY 30, 2025 - PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN

**OWNER/DEVELOPER:**  
TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN ENGINEER & PLANNING  
BETHEL, NC 27812  
JANUARY 30, 2025

**CIVIL ENGINEER:**  
RIVERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
1000 W. BARNHILL STREET, SUITE 200  
BETHEL, NC 27812  
RIVERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:**  
RIVERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
1000 W. BARNHILL STREET, SUITE 200  
BETHEL, NC 27812  
RIVERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

**SURVEYOR:**  
RIVERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
1000 W. BARNHILL STREET, SUITE 200  
BETHEL, NC 27812  
RIVERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

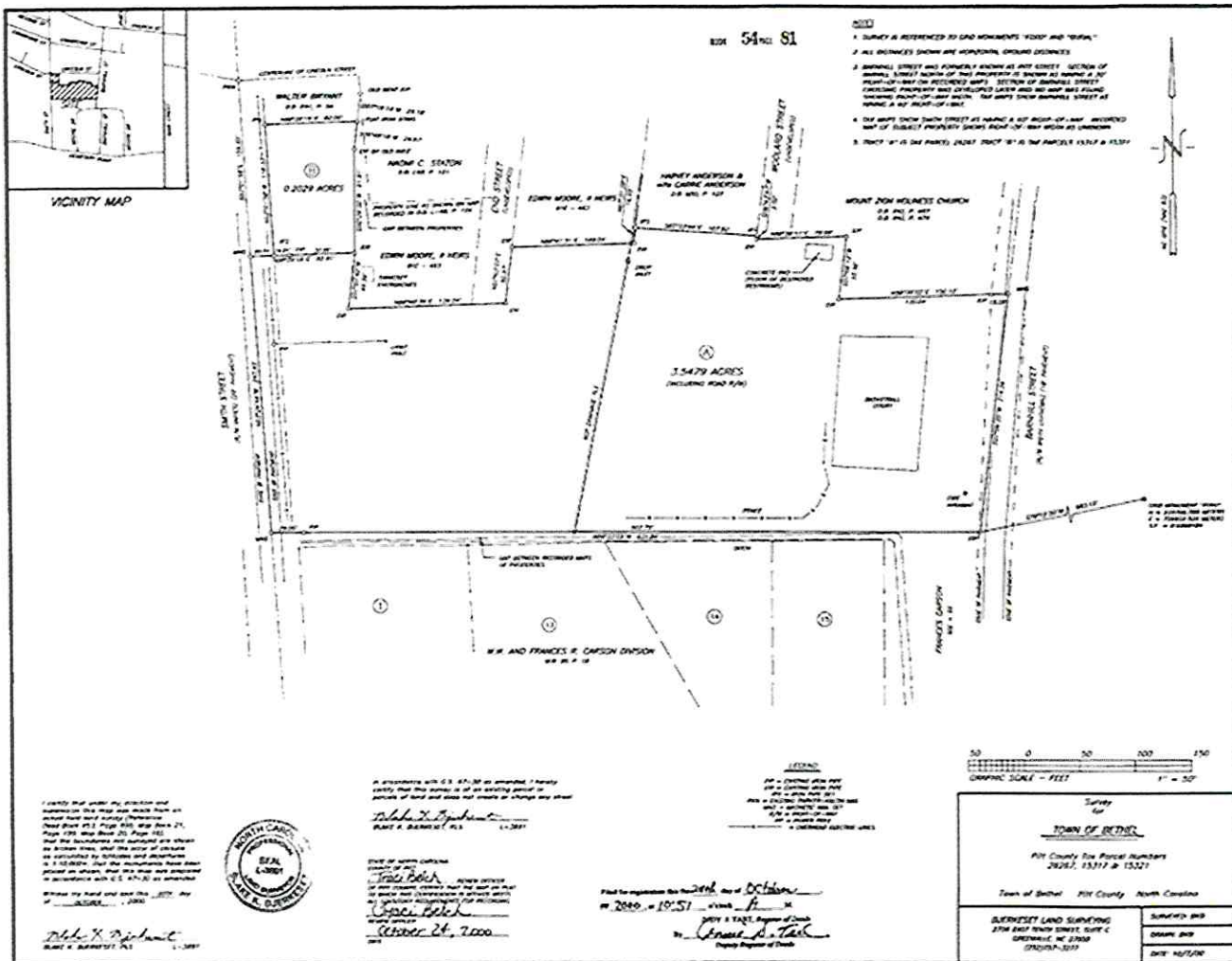


VICINITY MAP  
1" = 1000' ±

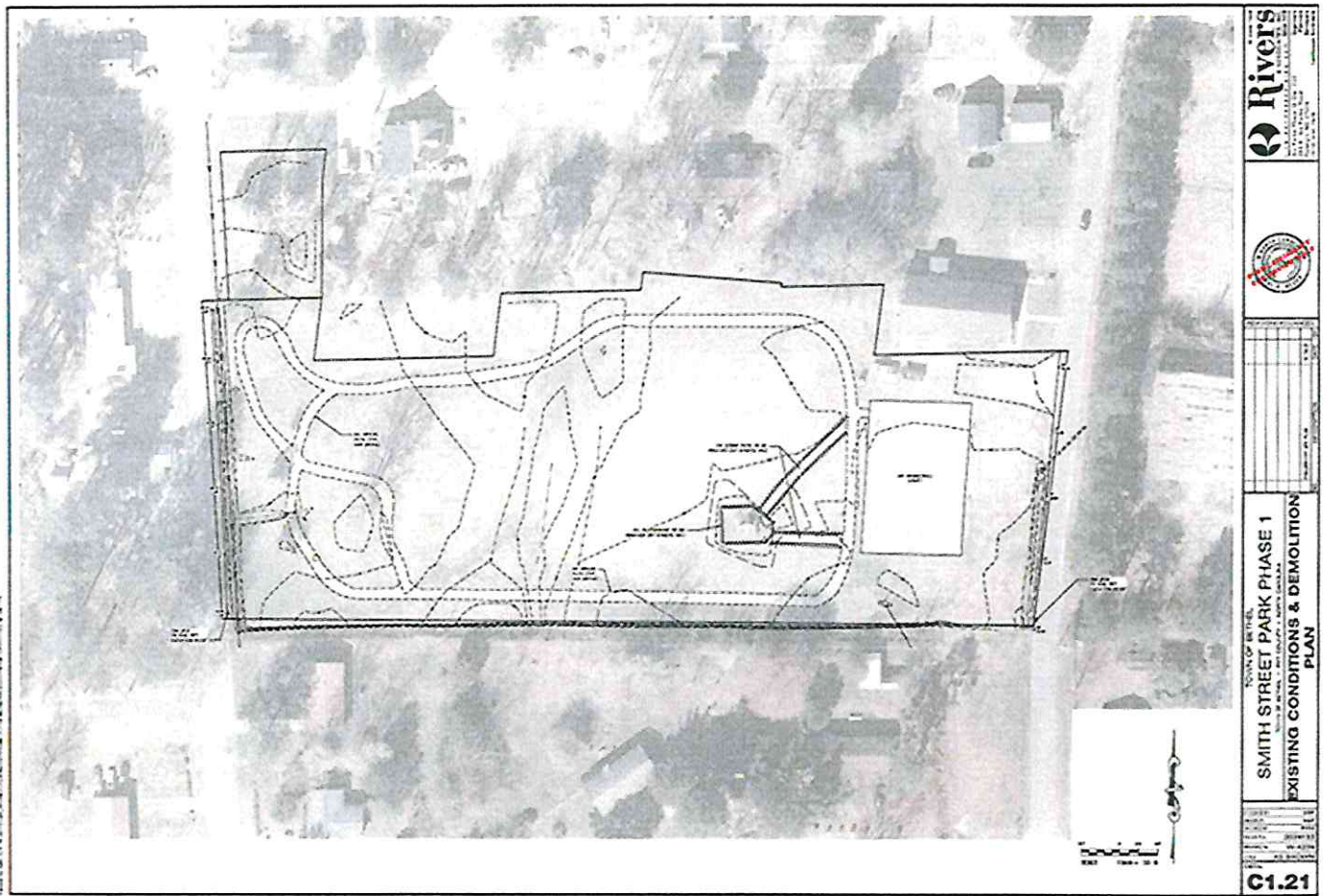
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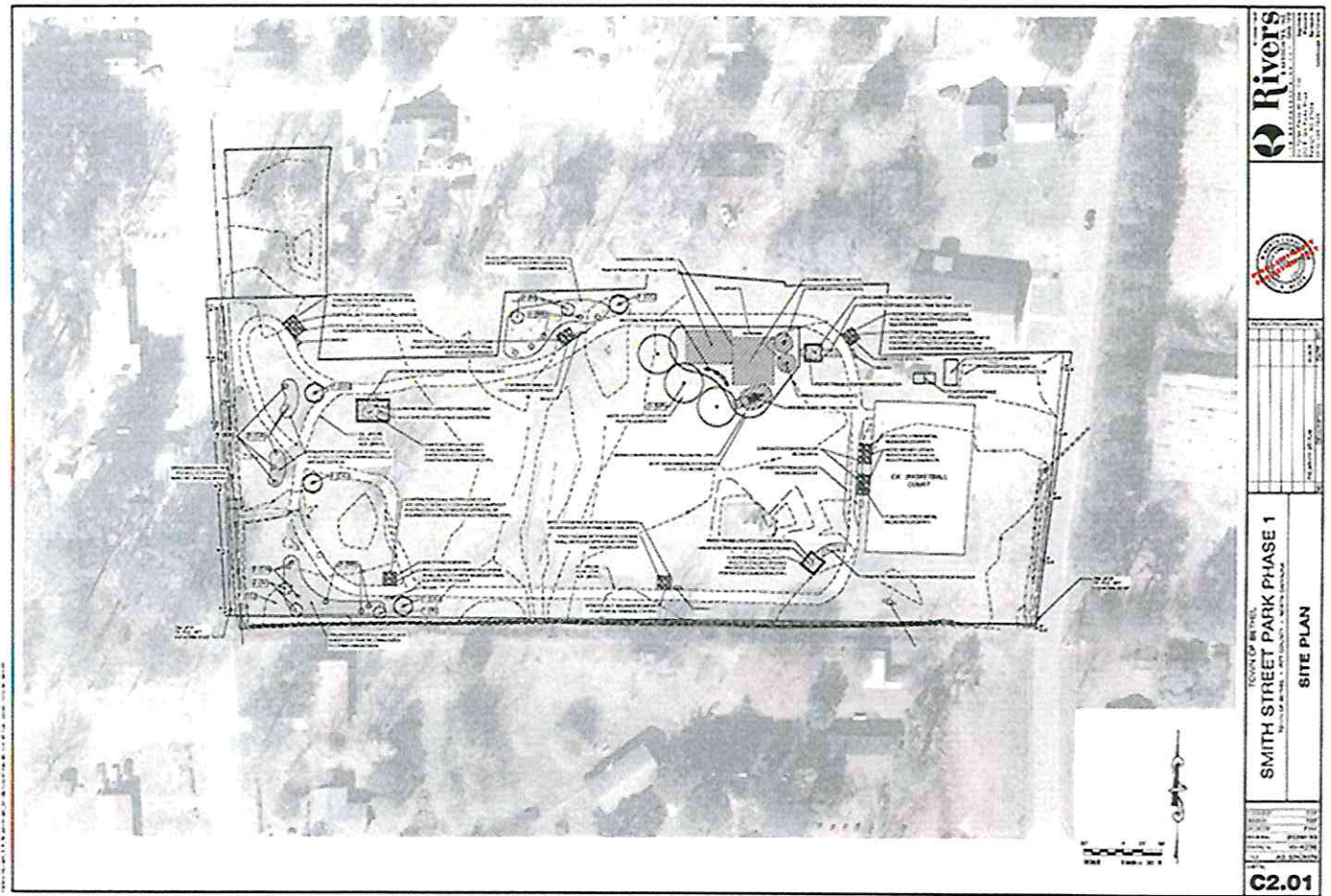
Sheet Number	Sheet Title
C1.01	COVER
B54P81	SURVEY FOR TOWN OF BETHEL
C1.21	EXISTING CONDITIONS & DEMOLITION PLAN
C2.01	SITE PLAN
C2.51	SITE DETAILS













[illegible]

State of North Carolina  
County of Pitt

**AMENDMENT OF CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF BETHEL AND WASTE INDUSTRIES, LLC**

This Amendment of Contract made between the Town of Bethel and Waste Industries, LLC dated April 1, 1999:

**Section 10.1: Term**

Upon finding the Contractor's performance is satisfactory and that it is in the best interest of the Town to continue this Agreement beyond the current Agreement Term, the parties hereto agree to extend the term of this agreement for an additional three (3) year period ending June 30, 2028.

All other terms and conditions of this section remain the same.

**Section 11: Rates**

The following rates will be effective beginning July 1, 2025:

MSW Collection- Year 1= \$9.55 per unit per month.

Year 2= \$9.93 per unit per month

Year 3= \$10.33 per unit per month

All other terms and conditions of this section remain the same.

**Section 13: Modification of Rates**

There will be no CPI Increase for the duration of the Amendment.

All other terms and conditions of the entire original contract and subsequent amendments remain the same.

In witness whereof, the Town of Bethel and Contractor have executed this contract amendment as of this day and first year written;

WASTE INDUSTRIES, LLC

TOWN OF BETHEL

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

"This instrument has been pre-audited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act."

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Town Finance Officer



## ATTACHMENT D

**TOWN OF BETHEL**  
**PROJECT ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Town Board of Commissioners of the Town of Bethel, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following project ordinance is hereby adopted:

**Section 1.** The project authorized is the Residential and Non-Residential Structures Demolition Project.

**Section 2.** The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the project within the terms of the budget contained herein.

**Section 3.** The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Residential and Non-Residential Structures Demolition Expenses	<u>\$200,000</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

**Section 4.** The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Transfer from General Fund	<u>\$200,000</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

**Section 5.** The finance officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Demolition Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records.

**Section 6.** Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due.

**Section 7.** The finance officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

**Section 8.** The budget officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this project in every budget submission made to this Board.

**Section 9.** Copies of the project ordinance shall be made available to the budget officer and the finance officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 4th day of February, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_(seal)  
Town Clerk



**Town of Bethel**  
**Monthly Crime Statistic December 2024**  
 January 6, 2025

Total Calls For Service N= 148 (CAD Data)  
 Total Incident Reports N= 37

**Index Crimes**

Violent Crime	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024
Murder	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0
Assault	3	3	2
Property Crime			
Burglary	0	0	1
Larceny	0	1	3
Auto Theft	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0

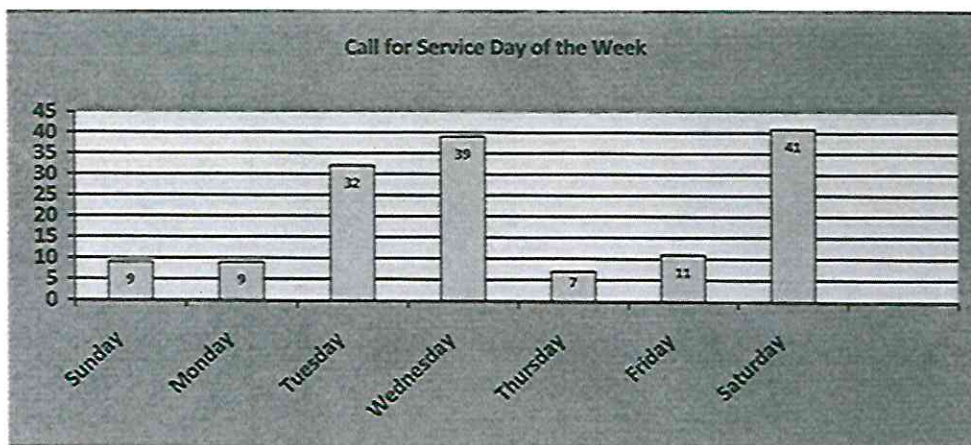
Total Part II Crimes reported N=31  
 (Numbers Based on the number of incident reports)

The most common Calls For Service performed with in the city of Bethel.

Traffic Accident Report	0
Traffic Stops	9
Business Checks	283 (These are done in addition to calls for service.)
Sex Offender Check	0
Welfare Check	0
Alarm	16
Warrant Service	3
Ride By	66

### Calls for Service Day of the Week

N= 148 (CAD Data)



Created by Laurie Stewart, Agency Crime Analyst 902-2657



## Cash Balance Report

Period Ending 12/31/2024

Town of Bethel

1/9/2025 12:07 AM

Page 1/1

Bank 5	SOUTHERN BANK & TRUST Acct#- 5531103060	
	Account	Balance
	10-102-0000 GENERAL FUND CHECKING	\$158,872.51
	63-102-0000 ARP GRANT CHECKING	\$191,423.01
	64-102-0000 SCIF GRANT FUND CHECKING	-\$28,991.52
	65-102-0000 RTG CASH	-\$2,475.00
	Bank 5 Total:	\$318,829.00
Bank 6		
	Account	Balance
	10-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS	\$3,184,045.92
	64-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS	\$236,665.25
	Bank 6 Total:	\$3,420,711.17
Total Cash Balance:		\$3,739,540.17

## Budget vs Actual (Summary)

Town of Bethel  
1/9/2025 12:40:31 AM

Page 1 Of 1

Period Ending 12/31/2024

## 10 GENERAL FUND

Description	Budget	Encumbrance	MTD	QTD	YTD	Variance	Percent
<b>Revenues</b>							
	2,431,032	0.00	156,363.24	395,162.94	881,830.93	(1,549,201.07)	36%
Revenues Totals:	2,431,032	0.00	156,363.24	395,162.94	881,830.93	(1,549,201.07)	36%
<b>Expenses</b>							
GOVERNING BODY	35,575	0.00	1,830.06	6,371.78	12,270.20	23,304.80	34%
ADMINISTRATION-GF	484,492	568.76	33,379.98	107,958.65	234,687.70	249,235.54	49%
TAX COLLECTION PITT COUNTY	6,000	0.00	270.91	1,055.82	4,674.66	1,325.34	78%
POLICE DEPARTMENT	228,500	70.00	22,703.88	37,641.92	84,237.60	144,192.40	37%
FIRE DEPARTMENT	148,611	13,902.77	10,329.56	47,426.24	77,723.73	56,984.50	62%
STREET DEPARTMENT	1,105,212	684.18	35,041.13	108,670.56	252,789.38	851,738.44	23%
SANITATION DEPARTMENT	84,500	0.00	7,085.49	21,201.30	35,326.36	49,173.64	42%
RECREATION DEPARTMENT	51,775	0.72	2,327.28	11,354.23	13,553.85	38,220.43	26%
LIBRARY	29,508	0.00	744.59	1,178.41	22,524.34	6,983.66	76%
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT	22,000	0.00	1,725.00	5,950.00	7,950.00	14,050.00	36%
SENIOR CENTER	13,000	0.00	2,983.92	4,564.00	6,541.55	6,458.45	50%
STORMWATER	181,000	(9,900.00)	9,900.00	9,900.00	9,900.00	181,000.00	
CONTINGENCY	29,027	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,027.00	
DEBT SERVICE	11,832	0.00	986.00	2,958.00	5,916.00	5,916.00	50%
Expenses Totals:	2,431,032	5,326.43	129,307.80	366,230.91	768,095.37	1,657,610.20	32%
10 GENERAL FUND Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses:			27,055.44	28,932.03	113,735.56		

**INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**

D. Scott Elliott



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Carl Wilson, Mayor  
Barbara Bynum, Mayor Pro Temp  
Ferrell Blount  
Thomas Lilley  
Tina Staton  
Fred Whitehurst

**TOWN OF BETHEL**

**Agenda Abstract**

Meeting Date/Time: March 4, 2025

**Agenda Section:** PRESENTATION

**Agenda Title:** FY 23-24 Audit Presentation

**Presenter:** Greg T. Redman, CPA

**Summary of Information:** The Town of Bethel's FY 23-24 audit is now complete and has been submitted and approved by the LGC (Local Government Commission). Mr. Redman will appear before the Board to make his firm's audit presentation.

Attached you will find a copy of the Town's audit document.

**Submitter Recommendations/Motions:** Approve FY 23-24 Audit.

**Number of Attachments:** 1



**TOWN OF BETHEL, NORTH CAROLINA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

**GREGORY T. REDMAN, CPA**  
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

Financial Statements  
Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
June 30, 2024

Board of Commissioners

Carl Wilson, Mayor  
Ferrell Blount  
Barbara Bynum  
Thomas Lilley  
Tina Staton  
Frederic Whitehurst

Administrative Staff

Scott Elliott, Interim Town Manager

**Town of Bethel  
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June 30, 2024**

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**Town of Bethel  
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## **Financial Section**



Member  
North Carolina Association of  
Certified Public Accountants

Member  
American Institute of  
Certified Public Accountants

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Honorable Mayor  
and Members of the Town Council  
Bethel, North Carolina

### Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

#### *Opinion*

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, and each major fund of Town of Bethel, North Carolina as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Town of Bethel, North Carolina's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, based on my audit, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, business-type activities and each major fund of Town of Bethel, North Carolina as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and cash flows, thereof, and budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Basis for Opinion*

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of the Town of Bethel, North Carolina and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### *Responsibilities of Management for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the audit of the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Town of Bethel, North Carolina's ability to continue as a going concern for the twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, I:

- Exercised professional judgment and maintained professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Town of Bethel, North Carolina's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgment, there are conditions or events considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that I identified during the audit.

#### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and the Local Government Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required

supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consist of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to my inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge I obtained during my audit of the basic financial statements. I do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide me with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Supplementary Information

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules, and other schedules are presented purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion based on my audit, the procedures performed as described above, the combining and individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules, and other schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued my report dated January 30, 2025, on my consideration of the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Tarboro, North Carolina  
January 30, 2025

## **Management's Discussion and Analysis**



**Town of Bethel**  
**Management Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

As management of the Town of Bethel, we offer readers of the Town of Bethel's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Bethel for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the Town's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

**Financial Highlights**

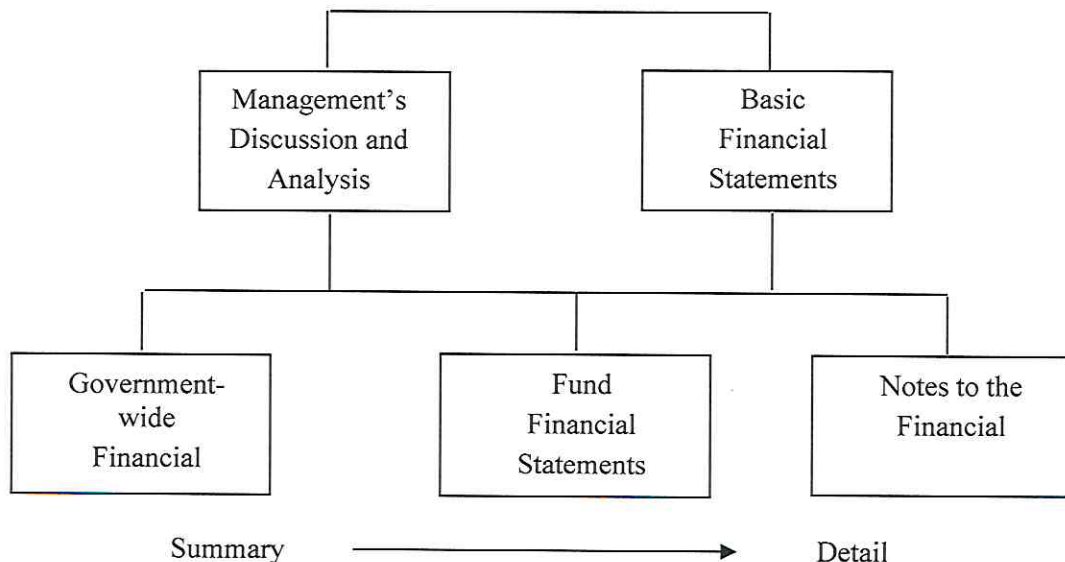
- The assets of the Town of Bethel exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the fiscal year by \$4,045,546 (net position).
- The government's total net position increased by \$340,213.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Bethel's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$3,214,460, an increase of \$337,659 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 91 percent of this total amount, or \$2,924,989, is available for spending at the government's discretion (unassigned fund balance).
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$2,924,989, or 238 percent of total general fund expenditures for the fiscal year.

**Overview of the Financial Statements**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to Town of Bethel's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two different views of the Town through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of the Town of Bethel.

**Town of Bethel  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**Required Components of Annual Financial Report  
Figure 1**



### **Basic Financial Statements**

The first two statements in the basic financial statements are the **Government-wide Financial Statements**. They provide both short and long-term information about the Town's financial status.

The next statements are **Fund Financial Statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of the Town's government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are three parts to the Fund Financial Statements: 1) the governmental funds statements; 2) the budgetary comparison statements; and 3) the proprietary fund statements.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**. The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements. After the Notes, **Supplemental Information** is provided to show details about the Town's individual funds. Budgetary information required by the General Statutes also can be found in this part of the statements.

### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the Town's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the Town's financial status as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the Town's net position and how they have changed. Net position is the difference between the Town's total assets and deferred outflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gage the Town's financial condition.



**Town of Bethel**  
**Management Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

The government-wide statements are divided into two categories: 1) governmental activities; 2) business-type activities. The governmental activities include most of the Town's basic services such as public safety, parks and recreation, and general administration. Property taxes and state and federal grant funds finance most of these activities. The business-type activities are those that the Town charges customers to provide. These include the water and sewer services offered by the Town of Bethel.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements (see Figure 2) provide a more detailed look at the Town's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town of Bethel, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes or the Town's budget ordinance. All of the funds of the Town of Bethel can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary funds.

**Governmental Funds** – Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Most of the Town's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out, and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual accounting* which provides a short-term spending focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Town's programs. The relationship between government activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is a part of the fund financial statements.

The Town of Bethel adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document that incorporates input from the citizens of the Town, the management of the Town, and the decisions of the Board about which services to provide and how to pay for them. It also authorizes the Town to obtain funds from identified sources to finance these current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the Town complied with the budget ordinance and whether or not the Town succeeded in providing the services as planned when the budget was adopted. The budgetary comparison statement uses the budgetary basis of accounting and is presented using the same format, language, and classifications as the legal budget document. The statement shows four columns: 1) the original budget as adopted by the board; 2) the final budget as amended by the board; 3) the actual resources, charges to appropriations, and ending balances in the General Fund; and 4) the difference or variance between the final budget and the actual resources and charges. To account for the difference between the budgetary basis of accounting and the modified accrual basis, a reconciliation showing the differences in the reported activities is shown as the end of the budgetary statement.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** – The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.



**Town of Bethel**  
**Management Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**Government-wide Financial Analysis**  
**Town of Bethel's Net Position**  
**Figure 2**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<u><b>6/30/24</b></u>	<u><b>6/30/23</b></u>
Current and other assets	\$ 3,904,243	\$ 3,788,018
Capital assets	1,083,569	1,103,744
Deferred outflows of resources	164,284	171,648
Total	<u>\$ 5,152,096</u>	<u>\$ 5,063,410</u>
Long-term liabilities	\$ 336,230	\$ 316,000
Other liabilities	702,371	945,850
Deferred inflows of resources	67,949	96,227
Total	<u>\$ 1,106,550</u>	<u>\$ 1,358,077</u>
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets, net of related debt	\$ 956,343	\$ 969,330
Restricted	289,471	242,139
Unrestricted	2,799,732	2,493,864
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 4,045,546</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,705,333</u></u>

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets of the Town of Bethel exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$4,045,546 as of June 30, 2024. The Town's net position increased by \$340,213 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

A portion, \$956,343 (24%), reflects the Town's net investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery, equipment, and construction in progress). The Town of Bethel uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town of Bethel's net investment in its capital assets is reported net of the outstanding related debt, the resources needed to repay that debt must be provided by other sources, since the capital assets cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. An additional portion of the Town of Bethel's net position, \$289,471 (7%), represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$2,799,732 (69%) is unrestricted.

Several particular aspects of the Town's financial operations positively influenced the total unrestricted governmental net position:

- Increased revenue in governmental activities
- Increase in property tax collections

**Town of Bethel  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**Town of Bethel's Changes in Net Position  
Figure 3**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<u>6/30/24</u>	<u>6/30/23</u>
Revenues:		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 124,375	\$ 128,086
Operating grants and contributions	115,615	163,679
Capital grants and contributions	277,671	161,106
General Revenues:		
Property taxes	550,616	508,949
Other taxes	-	-
Grants and contributions	544,111	528,749
Other	85,655	149,299
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 1,698,043</u>	<u>\$ 1,639,868</u>
Expenses:		
General government	\$ 410,294	\$ 400,546
Public safety	301,086	473,856
Transportation	444,092	155,523
Environmental protection	83,876	71,713
Cultural and recreation	113,838	81,204
Interest on long-term debt	4,644	7,603
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 1,357,830</u>	<u>\$ 1,190,445</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	\$ 340,213	\$ 449,423
Net position, July 1	3,705,333	3,255,910
Prior period adjustment	-	-
Net Position, June 30	<u>\$ 4,045,546</u>	<u>\$ 3,705,333</u>

**Governmental Activities.** Governmental activities increased the Town's net position by \$340,213. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

- Increase in capital grants
- Increase in property tax revenues and local option sales tax revenues

**Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds**

As noted earlier, the Town of Bethel uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

**Town of Bethel**  
**Management Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**Governmental Funds.** The focus of the Town of Bethel's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town of Bethel's financing requirements. Specifically, unreserved fund balance can be a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The general fund is the chief operating fund of the Town of Bethel. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$2,924,989, while total fund balance reached \$3,214,460. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unassigned fund balance represents 238 percent of total general fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 261 percent of that same amount.

**General Fund Budgetary Highlights.** During the fiscal year, the Town revised the budget on several occasions. Generally, budget amendments fall into one of three categories: 1) amendments made to adjust the estimates that are used to prepare the original budget ordinance once exact information is available; 2) amendments made to recognize new funding amounts from external sources, such as Federal and State grants; and 3) increases in appropriations that become necessary to maintain/increase services.

Revenues were more than the budgeted amounts. However, expenditures were greater than budgeted due to expenses in a number of departments shown above, as economic and physical development expenses.

**Capital Asset and Debt Administration**

**Capital assets.** The Town of Bethel's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2024, totals \$1,083,569 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include buildings, infrastructure, land, machinery and equipment, park facilities, and vehicles.

**Town of Bethel's Capital Assets**  
**(net of depreciation)**  
**Figure 4**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>6/30/24</b>	<b>6/30/23</b>
Land and nondepreciable	\$ 288,728	\$ 287,728
Building and systems	108,546	115,285
Infrastructure	44,293	46,429
Parks	499,604	520,421
Vehicle and motorized equipment	142,398	133,881
Total	<u>\$ 1,083,569</u>	<u>\$ 1,103,744</u>



**Town of Bethel  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Notes to the Basic Financial Statements.

**Town of Bethel's Outstanding Debt  
Figure 5**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>6/30/24</b>	<b>6/30/23</b>
Compensated absences	\$ 3,336	\$ 1,065
Installment purchases	127,226	134,414
Net pension liability	201,739	157,960
Total pension liability	14,696	30,814
Total	<u>\$ 346,997</u>	<u>\$ 324,253</u>

North Carolina general statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt that a unit of government can issue to 8% of the total assessed value of taxable property located within the government's boundaries.

Additional information regarding the Town of Bethel's long-term debt can be found in Note B.1.4 of this report.

**Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

*Governmental Activities.* The Town will spend more of the ARPA Funds.

**Requests for Information**

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Town of Bethel's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Town Manager, Town of Bethel, North Carolina.

## **Basic Financial Statements**

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2024**

	<u>Primary Government</u> <u>Governmental</u> <u>Activities</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,052,275
Taxes receivable	43,911
Accounts receivable (net)	70,538
Accrued interest receivable on taxes	9,186
Due from other governments	53,248
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	675,085
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 3,904,243</u>
Capital Assets:	
Non-depreciable:	
Land, improvements, and water system	\$ 288,728
Depreciable:	
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	794,841
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$ 1,083,569</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 4,987,812</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Pension deferrals	\$ 109,366
Deferred charges	54,918
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 164,284</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$ 60,541
Accrued compensated absences	3,336
Taxes payable	54,918
Current portion of long-term liabilities	7,431
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	576,145
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 702,371</u>
Long-term Liabilities:	
Net pension liability	\$ 201,739
Total pension liability	14,696
Due in more than one year	119,795
Total Long-term Liabilities	<u>\$ 336,230</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 1,038,601</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Pension deferrals	<u>\$ 67,949</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 956,343
Restricted for:	
Stabilization by State statute	178,704
USDA Debt Service	11,827
Transportation	98,940
Unrestricted	2,799,732
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 4,045,546</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government
					Governmental Activities
<b>Primary Government:</b>					
Governmental Activities:					
General government	\$ 410,294	\$ -	\$ 17,894	\$ 170,864	\$ (221,536)
Public safety	301,086	1,487	40,900	-	(258,699)
Transportation	444,092	-	55,730	105,807	(282,555)
Environmental protection	83,876	122,888	1,091	-	40,103
Cultural and recreation	113,838	-	-	1,000	(112,838)
Interest on long-term debt	4,644	-	-	-	(4,644)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 1,357,830</u>	<u>\$ 124,375</u>	<u>\$ 115,615</u>	<u>\$ 277,671</u>	<u>\$ (840,169)</u>
Business-type Activities:					
Water and sewer	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Primary Government	<u><u>\$ 1,357,830</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 124,375</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 115,615</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 277,671</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (840,169)</u></u>
General Revenues:					
Taxes:					
Property taxes, levied for general purpose					\$ 550,616
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific program					544,111
Unrestricted investment earnings					59,147
Miscellaneous revenue					26,508
Gain (loss) on disposal of fixed assets					-
Total General Revenues, Special Items, and Transfers					<u>\$ 1,180,382</u>
Change in Net Position					<u>340,213</u>
Net Position, beginning					<u>\$ 3,705,333</u>
Net Position, ending					<u><u>\$ 4,045,546</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2024**

	Major Fund				
	General Fund	American Rescue Plan Act	State Capital Infrastructure Fund	Rural Transformation Grant	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,052,275	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,052,275
Restricted cash	98,940	344,058	232,087	-	675,085
Receivables, net:					
Taxes	43,911	-	-	-	43,911
Accounts	70,538	-	-	-	70,538
Due from other governments	53,248	-	-	-	53,248
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,318,912</u>	<u>\$ 344,058</u>	<u>\$ 232,087</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,895,057</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>					
Deferred charges	54,918	-	-	-	54,918
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u><u>\$ 3,373,830</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 344,058</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 232,087</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,949,975</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 60,541	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,541
Taxes payable-US Treasury	54,918	-	-	-	54,918
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	-	344,058	232,087	-	576,145
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 115,459</u>	<u>\$ 344,058</u>	<u>\$ 232,087</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 691,604</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>					
Property taxes receivable	\$ 43,911	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,911
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 43,911</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 43,911</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Restricted:					
Stabilization by State Statute	\$ 178,704	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178,704
Transportation	98,940	-	-	-	98,940
USDA Debt Service	11,827	-	-	-	11,827
Unassigned:	2,924,989	-	-	-	2,924,989
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 3,214,460</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,214,460</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	<u><u>\$ 3,373,830</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 344,058</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 232,087</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,949,975</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2024**

Reconciliation of fund balance as reported in the balance sheet  
governmental funds with net position of governmental activities.

Fund balance as reported in the balance sheet governmental funds	\$ 3,214,460
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net  
Position (Exhibit 1) are different because:

Unavailable revenues are treated as liabilities in the funds rather than as revenue with full accrual accounting used for the Statement of Net Position.	43,911
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Other long-term assets (accrued interest receivable from taxes) are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds	9,186
--	-------

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	1,083,569
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Net pension liability	(201,739)
Total pension liability	(14,696)

Contributions to the pension plan in the current fiscal year are deferred outflows of resources on the Statement of Net Position.	14,803
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Pension related deferrals	26,614
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Some liabilities, including bonds payable and accrued interest, and  
accrued not due and payable in the current period and therefore are  
not reported in the funds:

Accrued vacation	(3,336)
Long-term debt	(127,226)

Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$ 4,045,546
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



**Town of Bethel**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	Major Fund				Total Governmental Funds
	General Fund	American Rescue Plan Act	State Capital Infrastructure Fund	Rural Transformation Grant	
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 526,057	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 526,057
Unrestricted intergovernmental	544,111	-	-	-	544,111
Restricted intergovernmental	115,615	169,364	106,807	1,500	393,286
Sales and services	124,375	-	-	-	124,375
Investment earnings	59,147	-	-	-	59,147
Miscellaneous	26,508	-	-	-	26,508
Total Revenues	\$ 1,395,813	\$ 169,364	\$ 106,807	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,673,484
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Current:					
General Government	\$ 388,323	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 388,323
Public Safety	343,086	-	-	-	343,086
Transportation	310,927	-	105,807	-	416,734
Environmental protection	83,876	-	-	-	83,876
Cultural and recreational	89,474	-	1,000	1,500	91,974
Debt service	11,832	-	-	-	11,832
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,227,518	\$ -	\$ 106,807	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,335,825
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 168,295	\$ 169,364	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 337,659
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>					
Transfers-in (out)	\$ 169,364	\$ (169,364)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance proceeds	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 169,364	\$ (169,364)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 337,659	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 337,659
Fund Balances, beginning	2,876,801	-	-	-	2,876,801
Fund Balances, ending	\$ 3,214,460	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,214,460

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 337,659
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Change in unavailable revenue for tax revenues	24,559
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction has any effect on net position. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items.	
Principal payments on long-term debt	7,188
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	
Change in compensated absences	2,271
Pension expense	(26,092)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.	(20,175)
Contributions to the pension plan in the current fiscal year are not included on the Statement of Activities.	14,803
Total Changes in Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$ 340,213

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**General Fund**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	General Fund			Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual Amounts	
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 444,575	\$ 495,000	\$ 526,057	\$ 31,057
Unrestricted intergovernmental	328,000	524,200	544,111	19,911
Restricted intergovernmental	261,492	117,580	115,615	(1,965)
Sales and services	110,000	119,200	124,375	5,175
Investment earnings	1,100	31,100	59,147	28,047
Miscellaneous	211,300	215,145	26,508	(188,637)
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 1,356,467</u>	<u>\$ 1,502,225</u>	<u>\$ 1,395,813</u>	<u>\$ (106,412)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
General government	\$ 266,525	\$ 428,750	\$ 388,323	\$ 40,427
Public safety	503,502	604,110	343,086	261,024
Transportation	382,200	481,200	310,927	170,273
Environmental protection	83,100	83,900	83,876	24
Cultural and recreational	109,308	103,208	89,474	13,734
Debt service	11,832	11,832	11,832	-
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,356,467</u>	<u>\$ 1,713,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,227,518</u>	<u>\$ 485,482</u>
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (210,775)</u>	<u>\$ 168,295</u>	<u>\$ 379,070</u>
Fund balance appropriated	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 43,075</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (43,075)</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfer from ARPA Fund	\$ -	\$ 167,700	\$ 169,364	\$ 1,664
Insurance proceeds	-	-	-	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 167,700</u>	<u>\$ 169,364</u>	<u>\$ 1,664</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 337,659</u>	<u>\$ 380,734</u>
Fund balance, beginning			<u>\$ 2,876,801</u>	
Fund balance, ending			<u>\$ 3,214,460</u>	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies of the Town of Bethel conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

**A. Reporting Entity**

The Town of Bethel is a municipal corporation that is governed by an elected mayor and a five-member Board of Commissioners. These financial statements present the Town as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**B. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting**

*Government-wide Statements:* The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the *governmental* and *business-type activities* of the Town. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the different business-type activities of the Town and for each function of the Town's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expense allocations that have been made in the funds have been reversed for the statement of activities. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

*Fund Financial Statements:* The fund financial statements provide information about the Town's funds. Separate statements for each fund category – *governmental and proprietary* – are presented. The Town has no fiduciary funds to report. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as non-major funds.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Non-operating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from non-exchange transactions or ancillary activities. Other non-operating revenues are ancillary activities such as investment earnings.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

*General Fund.* The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. The General Fund accounts for all financial resources except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund. The primary revenue sources are ad valorem taxes, State grants, and various other taxes and licenses. The primary expenditures are for public safety, street maintenance, sanitation, parks and recreation, libraries, and general government services.

*Special Revenue Fund. American Rescue Plan Act* - This Act was signed into law on March 11, 2021 to provide additional financial relief in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. ARPA includes a significant amount of "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds" (SLFRF) for state and local governments to use over a period of several years. The local portion of these federal funds is referred to as the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (LFRF). The U.S. Treasury Department is distributing LFRF funds in two equal installments, or "tranches," with the first distribution occurring in July 2021 and the second occurring in July 2024. LFRF funds may be used to cover qualifying costs obligated between March 3, 2021 and December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

*Special Revenue Fund. Rural Transformation Grant* – This Grant provides funds to small towns to improve economic vitality and overcome the unique challenges many rural communities face.

*Capital Project Fund. State Capital Infrastructure Fund* - This Fund reports the transactions related to the rehabilitation of various properties within the Town.

**C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds of the Town are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

*Government-wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements:* The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Town gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Town's enterprise fund are charges to customers for sales and services. The Town also recognizes as operating revenue the portion of tap fees intended to recover the cost of connecting new customers to the water and sewer system. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

*Governmental Fund Financial Statements:* Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The Town considers all revenues available if they are collected within 90 days after year-end, except for property taxes. Ad valorem taxes receivable is not accrued as revenue because the amount is not susceptible to accrual. At June 30, taxes receivable for property other than motor vehicles are materially past due and are not considered to be an available resource to finance the operations of the current year. Also, as of September 1, 2013, State law altered the procedures for the assessment and collection of property taxes on registered motor vehicles in North Carolina. Effective with this change in the law, the State of North Carolina is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes on registered motor vehicles on behalf of all municipalities and special tax districts. Property taxes are due when vehicles are registered. The billed taxes are applicable to the fiscal year in which they are received. Uncollected taxes that were billed in periods prior to September 1, 2013, and for limited registration plates are shown as a receivable in these financial statements and are offset by deferred inflows of resources.

Sales taxes and certain intergovernmental revenues, such as utilities franchise tax, collected and held by the State at year-end on behalf of the Town, are recognized as revenue. Sales taxes are considered a shared revenue for the Town of Bethel because the tax is levied by Pitt County and then remitted to and distributed by the State. Intergovernmental revenues and sales and services are not susceptible to accrual because generally they are not measurable until received in cash. Grant revenues which are unearned at year-end are recorded as unearned revenues. Under the terms of grant agreements, the Town funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then by general revenues.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**D. Budgetary Data**

The Town's budgets are adopted as required by North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the functional level for all annually budgeted funds and at the object level for the multi-year funds. Amendments are required for any revisions that alter total expenditures of any fund or that change functional appropriations by more than \$3,000. All amendments must be approved by the governing board. The governing board must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted.

**E. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Fund Equity**

**1. Deposits and Investments**

All deposits of the Town are made in board-designated official depositories and are secured as required by State law [G.S. 159-31]. The Town may designate, as an official depository, any bank or savings association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the Town may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and Super NOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

State law [G.S. 159-30(c)] authorizes the Town to invest in obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States; obligations of the State of North Carolina; bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority; obligations of certain non-guaranteed federal agencies; certain high-quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT). The Town's investments are reported at fair value. The NCCMT Government Portfolio, a SEC-registered (2a-7) external investment pool is measured at fair value. Because the NCCMT Government Portfolio has a weighted maturity of less than 90 days, it is projected as an investment with a maturity of less than 6 months.

**2. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Town pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income. Therefore, all cash and investments are essentially demand deposits and are considered cash and cash equivalents.

**3. Restricted Assets**

Powell Bill funds are classified as restricted cash because they can be expended only for the purposes outlined in G.S. 136-41.1 through 136-41.1. Unspent grant proceeds are also considered restricted.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Town of Bethel Restricted Cash

Governmental Activities:

General Fund

Streets	\$ 98,940
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American Rescue Plan Act:

Unspent funds	344,058
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State Capital Infrastructure Fund:

Unspent grant proceeds	232,087
	<u>\$ 675,085</u>

4. Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable

In accordance with State law [G.S. 105-347 and G.S. 159-13(a)], the Town levies ad valorem taxes on property other than motor vehicles on July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1 (lien date); however, interest does not accrue until the following January 6. The taxes levied are based on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023. As allowed by State law, the Town has established a schedule of discounts that apply to taxes, which are paid prior to the due date. In the Town's General Fund, ad valorem tax revenues are reported net of such discounts.

5. Allowances for Doubtful Accounts

All receivables that historically experience uncollectible accounts are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. This amount is estimated by analyzing the percentage of receivables at year end.

6. Inventories

Inventories are maintained for all enterprise fund supplies and materials held for subsequent use. They are valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market. The costs of these inventories are expensed when consumed rather than when purchased.

7. Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than a certain cost and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Minimum capitalization costs are as follows; land, \$10,000; buildings, improvements, substations, lines, and other plant and distribution systems, \$5,000; infrastructure, \$20,000; furniture and equipment, \$1,000; and vehicles, \$5,000. Donated capital assets received prior to June 15, 2015 are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after June 15, 2015 are recorded at acquisition value. All other purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

The Town's board has collectively decided not to retroactively pick up infrastructure, as is optional for local governments with less than \$10 million in revenues as defined in GASB Statement No. 34, paragraph 143. Infrastructure is reported as a capital asset beginning with the year of implementation of GASB Statement No. 34, which was the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Asset Class	Estimated Useful Lives
Buildings	50 years
Infrastructure	40 years
Improvements	25 years
Vehicles	10 years
Furniture and Equipment	10 years
Computer Equipment	5 years

**8. Deferred outflows/inflows of resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Outflows of Resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The Town has one item that meets this criterion, pension deferrals in the 2024 fiscal year. In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Inflows of Resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as revenue until then. The Town has several items that meet the criterion for this category – property taxes receivable, and pension deferrals.

**9. Long-term Obligations**

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method that approximates the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premiums or discount. Bond issuance costs are reported as deferred charges and amortized over the term of the related debt.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

In fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

10. Compensated Absences

The vacation policy of the Town provides for the accumulation of up to thirty (30) days earned vacation leave with such leave being fully vested when earned. For the Town's government-wide and proprietary funds, an expense and a liability for compensated absences and the salary-related payments are recorded as the leave is earned. The Town has assumed a first-in, first-out method of using accumulated compensated time. The portion of that time is estimated to be used in the next fiscal year has been designated as a current liability in the government-wide financial statements.

The Town's sick leave policy provides for an unlimited accumulation of earned sick leave. Sick leave does not vest, but any unused sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement may be used in the determination of length of service for retirement benefit purposes. Since the Town does not have any obligation for the accumulated sick leave until it is actually taken, no accrual for sick leave has been made.

11. Net Position/Fund Balances

a. Net Position

Net position in government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are classified as net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through State statute.

b. Fund Balances

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of two classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

The governmental fund types classify fund balances as follows:

Restricted Fund Balance – This classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization by State statute – North Carolina G.S. 159-8 prohibits units of government from budgeting or spending a portion of their fund balance.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
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This is one of several statutes enacted by the North Carolina State Legislature in the 1930's that were designed to improve and maintain the fiscal health of local government units. Restricted by State statute (RSS) is calculated at the end of each fiscal year for all annually budgeted funds.

The calculation in G.S. 159-8(a) provides a formula for determining what portion of fund balance is available for appropriation. The amount of fund balance not available for appropriation is what is known as "restricted by State statute". *Appropriated fund balance in any fund shall not exceed the sum of cash and investments minus the sum of liabilities, encumbrances, and deferred revenues arising from cash receipts, as those figures stand at the close of the fiscal year next preceding the budget.* Per GASB guidance, RSS is considered a resource upon which a restriction is "imposed by the law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation". RSS is reduced by inventories and prepaids as they are classified as nonspendable. Outstanding Encumbrances are included within RSS. RSS is included as a component of Restricted Net position and Restricted fund balance on the face of the balance sheet.

Restricted for Transportation – Powell Bill portion of funds balance that is restricted by revenue source for street construction and maintenance expenditures. This amount represents the balance of the total unexpended Powell Bill funds.

Assigned Fund Balance – portion of fund balance that the Town in funds to use for specific purposes.

Assigned for Public Safety - portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for certain emergency telephone system expenditures.

Unassigned Fund Balance -- portion of total fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes or other funds.

12. Defined Benefit Cost-Sharing Plan

For purposes of measuring the net pension asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS) and additions to/deductions from LGERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by LGERS. For this purpose, plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. The Town of Bethel's employer contributions are recognized when due and the Town of Bethel has a legal requirement to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of LGERS. Investments are reported at fair value.

**II. Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability**

A. Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations

1. Noncompliance with North Carolina General Statutes



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

- a. For the majority of the fiscal year, the Town's records were not kept in an orderly manner; the bank accounts were not reconciled in a timely manner and the Board did not receive regular statements of financial condition as required by NC General Statute 159-25. Prior to the end of the year, the Town hired new staff and a fee accountant.
- b. In accordance with G.S. 159-34, each unit of local government shall have its accounts audited as soon as possible after the close of each fiscal year. The audit for the year ended June 30, 2024 was not completed until January 30, 2025. The former finance officer did not submit a majority of the year end audit information. The former finance officer resigned prior to providing all financial records for the audit. The Town hired an outside accountant that was able to provide the remaining items.

Management's Response: Management is aware of the NC General Statute violations. Management has taken steps to appoint a finance officer and is in the process of complying with all NC General Statutes.

**III. Detail Notes on All Funds**

**A. Assets**

**1. Deposits**

All deposits of the Town are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits that exceed the federal depository insurance coverage level are collateralized with securities held by the Town's agent in the Town's name. Under the Pooling Method, which is a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Town, these deposits are considered to be held by the Town's agent in their name. The amount of the pledged collateral is based on an approved averaging method for non-interest-bearing deposits and the current balance for interest-bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits. The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the Town or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amounts of collateral pledged for the Town under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for under collateralization, and this risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository for collateralized public deposits under the Pooling Method. The Town has no formal policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits but relies on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all pooling method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The Town complies with the provisions of G.S. 159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying that deposits are properly secured.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
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At June 30, 2024, the Town's deposits had a carrying amount of \$973,160 and a bank balance of \$982,500. Of the bank balance, \$732,087 was covered by federal depository insurance and the remainder was covered by collateral held under the pooling method. At June 30, 2024, the Town's petty cash fund totaled \$350.

**2. Investments**

At June 30, 2024, the Town of Bethel had \$2,753,850 invested with the North Carolina Capital Management Trust's Government Portfolio which carried a credit rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor's. The Town has no policy regarding credit risk.

<b>Investment by Type</b>	<b>Valuation Measurement Method</b>	<b>Book Value at 6/30/2024</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Rating</b>
NC Capital Management Trust - Government Portfolio	Fair Value Level 1	\$2,753,850	N/A	AAAM
Total		\$2,753,850		

**Interest Rate Risk**

The Town has no formal investment policy regarding interest rate risk. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates, the Town's internal investment policy limits at least half of the Town's investment portfolio to maturities of less than twelve (12) months. Also, the Town's internal management policy requires purchases of securities to be laddered with staggered maturity dates and limits all securities to a final maturity of no more than two years.

**Credit Risk**

The Town has no formal policy regarding credit risk. The Town's investment in the NC Capital Management Trust Government Portfolio carried a credit rating of AAAM by Standard & Poor's and AAAM-mf by Moody's Investor Service as of June 30, 2024.

**3. Receivables – Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

The amounts presented in the balance sheet and the statement of net position is net of allowances for doubtful accounts:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>June 30, 2024</u>
General Fund:	
Taxes receivable	\$ -
Total	<u>\$ -</u>

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

4. Capital Assets

- a. Capital asset activity for the Primary Government for the year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Beginning Balances	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balances
Governmental Activities:				
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 126,622			\$ 126,622
Construction in progress	161,106	\$ 1,000	\$ -	162,106
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	\$ 287,728	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 288,728
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings	\$ 473,705	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 473,705
Furniture and equipment	200,397	-	-	200,397
Infrastructure	85,437	-	-	85,437
Parks	854,849	-	-	854,849
Vehicles	943,116	42,000	-	985,116
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	\$ 2,557,504	\$ 42,000	\$ -	\$ 2,599,504
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	\$ 358,420	\$ 6,739	\$ -	\$ 365,159
Furniture and equipment	200,397	-	-	200,397
Infrastructure	39,008	2,136	-	41,144
Parks	334,428	20,817	-	355,245
Vehicles	809,235	33,483	-	842,718
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 1,741,488	\$ 63,175	\$ -	\$ 1,804,663
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	816,016			794,841
Governmental Activity Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 1,103,744</u>			<u>\$ 1,083,569</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Public safety	\$ 12,953
Transportation	28,358
Cultural and recreational	21,864
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$ 63,175</u>

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**B. Liabilities**

**1. Pension Plan Obligations**

**a. Local Government Employees' Retirement System**

*Plan Description.* The Town of Bethel is a participating employer in the statewide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of North Carolina. LGERS membership is comprised of general employees and local law enforcement officers (LEOs) of participating local governmental entities. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 128 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. Management of the plan is vested in the LGERS Board of Trustees, which consists of 13 members – nine appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the State Senate, one appointed by the State House of Representatives, and the State Treasurer and State Superintendent, who serve as ex-officio members. The Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System is included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the State of North Carolina. The State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LGERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, by calling (919) 981-5454, or at [www.osc.nc.gov](http://www.osc.nc.gov).

*Benefits Provided.* LGERS provides retirement and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 1.85% of the member's average final compensation times the member's years of creditable service. A member's average final compensation is calculated as the average of a member's four highest consecutive years of compensation. Plan members are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 65 with five years of creditable service, at age 60 with 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. Plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 20 years of creditable service or at age 60 with five years of creditable service (age 55 for firefighters). Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age (15 years of creditable service for firefighters and rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty) or have completed five years of service and have reached age 60. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions. The plan does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases. Increases are contingent upon actuarial gains of the plan.

LGERS plan members who are LEOs are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 55 with five years of creditable service as an officer, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. LEO plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 15 years of creditable service as an officer. Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of LEO members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who also have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age, or have completed 15 years of service as a LEO and have reached



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

age 50, or have completed five years of creditable service as a LEO and have reached age 55, or have completed 15 years of creditable service as a LEO if killed in the line of duty. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions.

*Contributions.* Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 128-30 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. Town of Bethel employees are required to contribute 6% of their compensation. Employer contributions are actuarially determined and set annually by the LGERS Board of Trustees. The Town of Bethel's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2024, was 12.60% of actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year. Contributions to the pension plan from the Town of Bethel were \$38,577 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

*Refunds of Contributions* – Town employees who have terminated service as a contributing member of LGERS, may file an application for a refund of their contributions. By state law, refunds to members with at least five years of service include 4% interest. State law requires a 60-day waiting period after service termination before the refund may be paid. The acceptance of a refund payment cancels the individual's right to employer contributions, or any other benefit provided by LGERS.

***Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions***

At June 30, 2024, the Town reported a liability of \$201,739 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2022, utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. The Town's proportion of the net pension asset was based on a projection of the Town's long-term share of future payroll covered by the pension plan, relative to the projected future payroll covered by the pension plan of all participating LGERS employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023, the Town's proportion was 0.00305%, which was an increase of 0.00025% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense of \$34,501. At June 30, 2024, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 22,480	\$ 484
Changes of assumptions	8,573	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	53,994	-
Changes in proportion and differences between Town contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,810	38,577
Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date	14,803	-
Total	<u>\$ 101,660</u>	<u>\$ 39,061</u>

\$14,803 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as an increase of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year ended June 30</u>	
2025	8,737
2026	89
2027	36,686
2028	2,283
2029	-
Thereafter	-
	<u>\$ 47,795</u>

*Actuarial Assumptions.* The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	3.50 to 8.10 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Investment rate of return	6.50 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e. general, law enforcement officer) and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019.

Future ad hoc COLA amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are therefore not included in the measurement.

The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Fixed Income	33.0%	0.9%
Global Equity	38.0%	6.5%
Real Estate	8.0%	5.9%
Alternatives	8.0%	8.2%
Credit	7.0%	5.0%
Inflation Protection	6.0%	2.7%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

The information above is based on 30-year expectations developed with the consulting actuary for the 2022 asset, liability, and investment policy study for the North Carolina Retirement Systems, including LGERS. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annualized figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 2.50%. All rates of return and inflation are annualized.

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

*Sensitivity of the Town's proportionate share of the net pension asset to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the Town's proportionate share of the net pension asset calculated using the discount rate of 6.50 percent, as well as what the Town's proportionate share of the net pension asset or net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.50 percent) or one percentage point higher (7.50 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 349,505	\$ 201,739	\$ 80,084

*Pension plan fiduciary net position.* Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the State of North Carolina.

b. Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance

1) Plan Description

The Town of Bethel administers a public employee retirement system (the *Separation Allowance*), a single-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to the Town's qualified sworn law enforcement officers under the age of 62 who have completed at least 30 years creditable service or have attained 55 years of age and have completed five or more years of creditable service. The Separation Allowance is equal to 0.85 percent of the annual equivalent of the base rate of compensation most recently applicable to the officer for each year of creditable service. The retirement benefits are not subject to any increases in salary or retirement allowances that may be authorized by the General Assembly. Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly.

All full-time law enforcement officers of the Town are covered by the Separation Allowance. At December 31, 2022, the valuation date, the Separation Allowance's membership consisted of:

Inactive members currently receiving benefits	-
Active members	4
Total	<u>4</u>

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The Town has chosen to fund the Separation Allowance on a pay as you go basis. Pension expenditures are made from the General Fund, which is maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Benefits are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan.

The Separation Allowance has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the following criteria which are outlined in GASB Statements 73.

3) Actuarial Assumptions

The entry age actuarial cost method was used in the December 31, 2022 valuation. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumption, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.5 percent
Salary increases	3.25 to 7.75 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Discount rate	4.00 percent

The discount rate is based on the yield of the S&P Municipal Bond 20 Year High Grade Rate Index as of December 31, 2022.

Mortality rates are based on the RP-2000 Mortality tables with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Scale AA.

4) Contributions

The Town is required by Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 to provide these retirement benefits and has chosen to fund the amounts necessary to cover the benefits earned on a pay as you go basis through appropriations made in the General Fund operating budget. There were no contributions made by employees. The Town's obligation to contribute to this plan is established and may be amended by the North Carolina General Assembly. Administration costs of the Separation Allowance are financed through investment earnings. The Town paid \$0 as benefits came due for the reporting period.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
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***Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions***

At June 30, 2024, the Town reported a total pension liability of \$14,692. The total pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023 based on a December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of December 31, 2023 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense of \$6,828.

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 1,405	\$ 24,708
Changes of assumptions	6,301	4,180
Total	<u>\$ 7,706</u>	<u>\$ 28,888</u>

\$0 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from benefit payments made subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year ended June 30</u>	
2025	\$ (11,270)
2026	(1,290)
2027	(1,364)
2028	(1,364)
2029	(2,546)
Thereafter	<u>(3,348)</u>
	<u>\$ (21,182)</u>

\$0 paid as benefits came due subsequent to the measurement date are reported as deferred outflows of resources.

*Sensitivity of the Town's total pension liability to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the Town's total pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 4.00 percent, as well as what the total pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (5.00 percent) than the current rate:



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
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	1% Decrease (3.00%)	Discount Rate (4.00%)	1% Increase (5.00%)
Town's proportionate share of the total pension liability (asset)	\$ 16,621	\$ 14,696	\$ 12,966

**Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability**  
**Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance**

	<u>2023</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 30,814
Service cost	2,949
Interest on the total pension liability	587
Changes of benefit terms	-
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	(2,962)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	493
Benefit payments	(17,185)
Other changes	-
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 14,696</u>

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current morality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future morality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019.

***Total Expense, Liabilities, and Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources of Related to Pensions***

Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense for all pension plans:

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
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	LGERS	LEOSSA	Total
Pension Expense	\$ 34,501	\$ 6,828	\$41,329
Pension Liability	201,739	14,696	216,435
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	0.00305%	n/a	
Deferred of Outflows of Resources:			
Differences between expected and actual experience	22,480	1,405	23,885
Changes of assumptions	8,573	6,301	14,874
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	53,994	-	53,994
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,810	-	1,810
Benefit payments and administrative costs paid subsequent to the measurement date	14,803	-	14,803
Deferred of Inflows of Resources:			
Differences between expected and actual experience	484	24,708	25,192
Changes of assumptions	-	4,180	4,180
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	-	-	-
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	38,577	-	38,577

c. Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for General Employees

*Plan Description*

The Town contributes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (Plan), a defined contribution pension plan administered by the Department of State Treasurer and a Board of Trustees. The Plan provides retirement benefits to Town employees.

*Funding Policy*

The Town elects to contribute each month an amount equal to two percent of each employee's salary if the employee elects one percent in voluntary contribution, and all amounts contributed are vested immediately. Also, the employees may make voluntary contributions to the plan.

Contributions for the year ended June 30, 2024 were \$8,027, which consisted of \$4,798 from the Town and \$3,229 from the employees.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

d. Other Employment Benefits

The Town has elected to provide death benefits to employees through the Death Benefit Plan for members of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (Death Benefit Plan), a multiple-employer, State-administered, cost-sharing plan funded on a one-year term cost basis. The beneficiaries of those employees who die in active service after one year of contributing membership in the System, or who die within 180 days after retirement or termination of service and have at least one year of contributing membership service in the System at the time of death are eligible for death benefits. Lump sum death benefit payments to beneficiaries are equal to the employee's 12 highest months' salary in a row during the 24 months prior to the employee's death, but the benefit may not exceed \$50,000 or be less than \$25,000. All death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan. The Town has no liability beyond the payment of monthly contributions. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the post-employment benefit amount and the other benefit amount. The Town considers these contributions to be immaterial.

2. Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

The Town has several deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources are comprised of the following:

Source	Amount
Contributions to pension plan in current fiscal year	\$ 14,803
Differences between expected and actual experience	23,885
Changes of assumptions	14,874
Net difference between projected and actual	53,994
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,810
Total	<u>\$ 109,366</u>

Deferred inflows of resources at year-end are comprised of the following elements:

	Statement of Net Position	General Fund Balance Sheet
Taxes Receivable, less penalties (General Fund)	\$ -	\$ 43,911
Changes of assumptions	4,180	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	25,192	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	38,577	-
	<u>\$ 67,949</u>	<u>\$ 43,911</u>



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

3. Risk Management

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

The Town carries commercial insurance for all risks of loss. Claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded coverage in any of the last three fiscal years. The Town has property, general liability, and auto liability coverage of \$2 million per occurrence and worker's compensation of \$100,000 per occurrence.

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the Town's employees that have access to \$100 or more at any given time of the Town's funds are performance bonded through a commercial surety bond. The Finance Officer is bonded for \$200,000. The remaining employees that have access to funds are bonded under a blanket bond for \$50,000.

4. Long-term Obligations

a. Installment Purchase

The Town has entered into a direct placement installment agreement to purchase a fire truck. The equipment is pledged as collateral for the debt. The agreement was executed on February 22, 2018, and requires annual payments of \$11,827 at an interest rate of 3.375%.

The note contains provision that an event of default would result in: (1) declare the unpaid principal components of the Installment Payments immediately due and payable, (2) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce the Town's performance of the applicable covenants of this Agreement or to recover for the breach thereof, (3) as provided in the Project Fund Agreement, pay over any balance remaining in the Project Fund to be applied against outstanding Required Payments in any manner USDA may reasonably deem appropriate, and (4) avail itself of all available remedies under the Agreement, including execution and foreclosure and recovery of attorney's fees and other expenses.

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the installment purchase, including \$35,335 of interest, are as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
2025	\$ 7,431	\$ 4,396	\$ 11,827
2026	7,682	4,145	11,827
2027	7,941	3,886	11,827
2028	8,209	3,618	11,827
2029	8,486	3,341	11,827
2030-2034	46,923	12,212	59,135
2035-2039	40,554	3,737	59,135
Total	<u>\$ 127,226</u>	<u>\$ 35,335</u>	<u>\$ 177,405</u>

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

e. Changes in Long-term Liabilities

	July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	June 30, 2024	Current Portion
Governmental Activities:					
Compensated absences	\$ 1,065	\$ 2,271	\$ -	\$ 3,336	\$ 3,336
Direct placement -					
Installment purchases	134,414	-	7,188	127,226	7,431
Net pension liability	157,960	43,779	-	201,739	-
Total pension liability	30,814	-	16,118	14,696	-
Total	<u>\$ 441,804</u>	<u>\$ 46,050</u>	<u>\$ 23,306</u>	<u>\$ 346,997</u>	<u>\$ 10,767</u>

At June 30, 2024, the Town of Bethel had a legal debt margin of \$6,371,137.

5. Fund Balance

Net Investment in Capital Assets

	Governmental
Capital Assets	\$ 1,083,569
Less: Long-term debt	(127,226)
Net Investment in Capital Assets	<u>\$ 956,343</u>

The following schedule provides management and citizens with information on the portion of General fund balance that is available for appropriation:

Total fund balance - General Fund	\$ 3,214,460
Less:	
Stabilization by State Statute	178,704
USDA Debt Service	11,827
Streets-Powell Bill	98,940
Remaining Fund Balance	2,924,989

**IV. Summary Disclosure of Significant Contingencies**

Federal and State Assisted Programs

The Town has received proceeds from federal and State grants. Periodic audits of these grants are required, and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the grant agreements. Such audits could result in the refund of grant moneys to the grantor agencies. Management believes that any required refund will be immaterial. No provision has been made in the accompanying financial statements for the refund of grant monies.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**V. Subsequent Events**

As of January 30, 2025, the completion of the financial statements, there were no material subsequent events that were required to be reported.



### **Required Supplementary Financial Data**

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This section contains additional information required by generally accepted accounting principles.

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- Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability for Local Government Employees' Retirement System
- Schedule of Contributions to Local Government Employees' Retirement System
- Schedule of Funding Progress for the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance
- Schedule of Employer Contributions for the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Town of Bethel's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)  
Required Supplementary Information  
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Local Government Employees' Retirement System

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Town of Bethel's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	0.00305%	0.00280%	0.00533%	0.00622%	0.00579%	0.00529%	0.00758%	0.00705%	0.00687%	0.00681%
Town of Bethel's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (\$)	\$ 201,739	\$ 157,960	\$ 81,741	\$ 222,267	\$ 158,120	\$ 125,497	\$ 115,801	\$ 149,625	\$ 30,832	\$ (40,162)
Town of Bethel's covered-employee payroll	\$ 214,747	\$ 178,951	\$ 336,900	\$ 311,114	\$ 281,479	\$ 277,594	\$ 333,626	\$ 324,607	\$ 400,344	\$ 398,650
Town of Bethel's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	93.94%	88.27%	24.26%	71.44%	56.17%	45.21%	34.71%	46.09%	7.70%	-10.07%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	82.35%	85.14%	95.51%	91.63%	94.18%	91.47%	98.09%	99.07%	102.64%	94.35%

Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Town of Bethel's Contributions  
Required Supplementary Information  
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Local Government Employees' Retirement System

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	\$ 14,803	\$ 27,316	\$ 20,854	\$ 34,992	\$ 29,066	\$ 20,266	\$ 21,832	\$ 24,761	\$ 23,453	\$ 25,259
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contributions	14,803	27,316	20,854	34,992	29,066	20,266	21,832	24,761	23,453	25,259
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Town of Bethel's covered-employee payroll	\$ 117,460	\$ 214,747	\$ 178,951	\$ 336,900	\$ 311,114	\$ 281,479	\$ 277,594	\$ 333,626	\$ 324,607	\$ 400,344
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	12.60%	12.72%	11.65%	10.39%	9.34%	7.20%	7.86%	7.42%	7.23%	6.31%



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability**  
**Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance**  
**June 30, 2024**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Beginning balance	\$ 30,814	\$ 24,694	\$ 9,578	\$ 6,041	\$ 75,371	\$ 52,924	\$ 48,843
Service cost	2,949	5,265	2,999	2,751	2,026	4,784	3,993
Interest on the total pension liability	587	477	312	220	2,382	2,043	1,744
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	(2,962)	1,690	555	99	(73,334)	10,223	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	493	(1,312)	11,250	467	(404)	5,397	(1,656)
Benefit payments	(17,185)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other changes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 14,696</u>	<u>\$ 30,814</u>	<u>\$ 24,694</u>	<u>\$ 9,578</u>	<u>\$ 6,041</u>	<u>\$ 75,371</u>	<u>\$ 52,924</u>

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending December 31.

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll**  
**Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance**  
**June 30, 2024**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total pension liability	\$ 14,696	\$ 30,814	\$ 24,694	\$ 9,578	\$ 6,041	\$ 75,371	\$ 52,924
Covered payroll	-	144,671	161,415	159,050	106,385	202,090	163,863
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	0.00%	21.30%	15.30%	6.02%	5.68%	37.30%	32.30%

Notes to the schedules:

The Town of Bethel has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 73 to pay related benefits.

## **Supplemental Information**



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**General Fund**  
**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Positive (Negative)</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Ad Valorem Taxes:			
Taxes		\$ 521,861	
Penalties and interest		4,196	
Total Ad Valorem Taxes	<u>\$ 495,000</u>	<u>\$ 526,057</u>	<u>\$ 31,057</u>
Unrestricted Intergovernmental:			
Local option sales taxes		\$ 463,842	
Utility franchise tax		73,559	
Beer and wine tax		6,710	
Total Unrestricted Intergovernmental	<u>\$ 524,200</u>	<u>\$ 544,111</u>	<u>\$ 19,911</u>
Restricted Intergovernmental:			
Powell Bill allocation		\$ 55,730	
Solid waste disposal tax		1,091	
Fire and rescue fees		31,141	
Fire department grant		9,759	
Payment in lieu of taxes		3,889	
Miscellaneous grants		14,005	
Total Restricted Intergovernmental	<u>\$ 117,580</u>	<u>\$ 115,615</u>	<u>\$ (1,965)</u>
Sales and Services:			
Solid waste disposal fees		\$ 105,063	
Other fees		1,487	
Cemetery fees		17,825	
Total Sales and Services	<u>\$ 119,200</u>	<u>\$ 124,375</u>	<u>\$ 5,175</u>
Investment earnings	<u>\$ 31,100</u>	<u>\$ 59,147</u>	<u>\$ 28,047</u>
Miscellaneous:			
Donations		\$ 1,650	
Sale of fixed assets		8,510	
Other miscellaneous		16,348	
Total Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 215,145</u>	<u>\$ 26,508</u>	<u>\$ (188,637)</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 1,502,225</u>	<u>\$ 1,395,813</u>	<u>\$ (106,412)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
General Government:			
Governing Body:			
Salaries and employee benefits		\$ 15,410	
Other operating expenditures		517	
Total Governing Body	<u>\$ 22,600</u>	<u>\$ 15,927</u>	<u>\$ 6,673</u>

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**General Fund**  
**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances - Annual Budget and Actual**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

<i>(Expenditures continued)</i>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Positive (Negative)</u>
Administration:			
Salaries and employee benefits		\$ 115,823	
Other operating expenditures		254,326	
Total Administration	\$ 400,150	\$ 370,149	\$ 30,001
Taxes:			
Collection fees		2,247	
Total Taxes	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,247	\$ 3,753
Total General Government	\$ 428,750	\$ 388,323	\$ 40,427
Public Safety:			
Police:			
Contracted services		\$ 182,115	
Other operating expenditures		12,331	
Capital outlay		-	
Total Police	\$ 424,533	\$ 194,446	\$ 230,087
Fire:			
Vehicle maintenance		\$ 20,442	
Capital outlay		64,695	
Other operating expenditures		63,503	
Total Fire	\$ 179,577	\$ 148,640	\$ 30,937
Total Public Safety	\$ 604,110	\$ 343,086	\$ 261,024
Transportation:			
Streets and Highways:			
Salaries and employee benefits		\$ 83,916	
Other operating expenditures		227,011	
Total Transportation	\$ 481,200	\$ 310,927	\$ 170,273
Environmental Protection:			
Solid Waste:			
Salaries and employee benefits		\$ -	
Other operating expenditures		83,876	
Total Environmental Protection	\$ 83,900	\$ 83,876	\$ 24
Cultural and Recreation:			
Parks and Recreation:			
Operating expenditures		\$ 5,444	
Total Parks and Recreation	\$ 4,200	\$ 5,444	\$ (1,244)
Libraries:			
Operating expenditures		\$ 50,314	
Total Libraries	\$ 38,533	\$ 50,314	\$ (11,781)

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**General Fund**  
**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances - Annual Budget and Actual**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

<i>(Expenditures continued)</i>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Positive (Negative)</u>
Senior Center:			
Operating expenditures		\$ 9,151	
Total Senior Center	\$ 12,075	\$ 9,151	\$ 2,924
Cemetery:			
Operating expenditures		\$ 24,565	
Total Senior Center	\$ 48,400	\$ 24,565	\$ 23,835
Total Cultural and Recreation	\$ 103,208	\$ 89,474	\$ 13,734
Debt Service:			
Interest		\$ 4,644	
Principal retirement		7,188	
Total Debt Service	\$ 11,832	\$ 11,832	\$ -
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,713,000	\$ 1,227,518	\$ 485,482
Fund balance appropriated	\$ 43,075	\$ -	\$ (43,075)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Transfer-in from ARPA Fund	167,700	\$ 169,364	
Proceeds from disposal of assets	-	-	
Insurance proceeds	-	-	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 167,700	\$ 169,364	\$ 1,664
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 337,659	\$ 337,659
Fund balance, beginning		2,876,801	
Fund balances, ending		\$ 3,214,460	



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Special Revenue Funds - American Rescue Plan Act**  
**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual**  
**From Inception and For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	<u>Project</u>		<u>Actual</u>		<u>Variance</u>
	<u>Authorization</u>	<u>Prior</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Total to</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
		<u>Years</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>(Unfavorable)</u>
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Federal grant	\$ 513,422	\$ -	\$ 169,364	\$ 169,364	\$ (344,058)
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	\$ 513,422	\$ -	\$ 169,364	\$ 169,364	\$ (344,058)
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Capital outlay	513,422	-	169,364	169,364	344,058
Revenues Over					
(Under) Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Financing Sources:					
Transfer in	-	-	-	-	-
Revenues and Other					
Financing Sources Over					
(Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>					
Beginning of year, July 1			-		
End of year, June 30			<u>\$ -</u>		

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina**  
**Capital Project - State Capital Infrastructure Fund**  
**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual**  
**From Inception and For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Actual</b>		<b>Variance</b>
	<b>Authorization</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Favorable</b>
		<b>Years</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>(Unfavorable)</b>
			<b>Total to</b>	
			<b>Date</b>	
<b>Revenues:</b>				
State grant	\$ 500,000	\$ 161,106	\$ 106,807	\$ 267,913
Total Revenues	\$ 500,000	\$ 161,106	\$ 106,807	\$ 267,913
				\$ (232,087)
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Administration	150,000	147,606	-	147,606
Police department	75,000	-	-	-
Street department	150,000	-	105,807	105,807
Recreation department	50,000	-	-	-
Library	75,000	13,500	1,000	14,500
Total Expenditures	\$ 500,000	\$ 161,106	\$ 106,807	\$ 267,913
				\$ 232,087
Revenues Over				
(Under) Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfer out to General Fund	-	-	-	-
Revenues and Other				
Financing Sources Over				
(Under) Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Fund Balance:</b>				
Beginning of year, July 1			-	
End of year, June 30			\$ -	

### **Other Schedules**

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This section contains additional information on property taxes.

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- Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable
- Analysis of Current Tax Levy



**Town of Bethel  
General Fund  
Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable  
June 30, 2024**

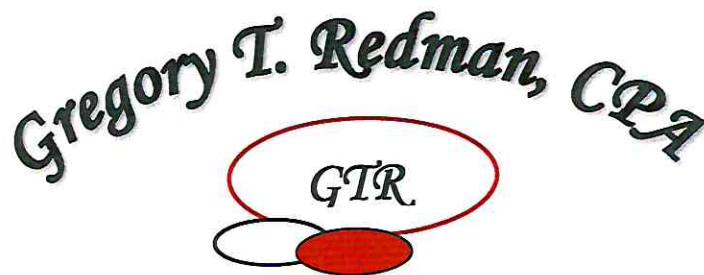
Fiscal Year	Uncollected Balance June 30, 2023	Additions	Collections And Credits	Uncollected Balance June 30, 2024
2023-2024	\$ -	\$ 527,992	\$ 509,953	\$ 18,039
2022-2023	6,115	8,058	3,779	10,394
2021-2022	3,444	2,323	1,798	3,969
2020-2021	2,727	-	-	2,727
2019-2020	2,299	-	-	2,299
2018-2019	1,626	-	-	1,626
2017-2018	1,753	-	-	1,753
2016-2017	1,750	-	-	1,750
2015-2016	957	-	-	957
2014-2015	832	-	435	397
2013-2014	856	-	856	-
	<u>\$ 22,359</u>	<u>\$ 538,373</u>	<u>\$ 516,821</u>	<u>\$ 43,911</u>

Reconciliation with revenues:

Taxes - Ad valorem - General Fund	\$ 526,128
Reconciling Items:	
Interest collected	(4,196)
Taxes written off	-
Releases	-
Adjustments	-
Discounts allowed	(5,111)
Total Reconciling Items	<u>\$ (9,307)</u>
Total Collections and Credits	<u><u>\$ 516,821</u></u>

**Town of Bethel**  
**Analysis of Current Tax Levy**  
**Town - Wide Levy**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	Town - Wide			Total Levy	
	Property Valuation	Rate	Total Levy	Property excluding Registered Motor Vehicles	Registered Motor Vehicles
Original Levy:					
Property taxed at current rate	\$ 81,229,538	0.65	\$ 527,992	\$ 432,537	\$ 95,455
Total	\$ 81,229,538		\$ 527,992	\$ 432,537	\$ 95,455
Discoveries	-	0.65	-	-	-
Abatements	-	0.65	-	-	-
Total Property Valuation	<u>\$ 81,229,538</u>				
Net Levy			\$ 527,992	\$ 432,537	\$ 95,455
Uncollected Taxes at June 30, 2024			<u>\$ (18,039)</u>	<u>\$ (18,039)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Current Year's Taxes Collected			<u>\$ 509,953</u>	<u>\$ 414,498</u>	<u>\$ 95,455</u>
Current Levy Collection Percentage			<u>96.58%</u>	<u>95.83%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>



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American Institute of  
Certified Public Accountants

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting  
and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit  
of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with  
*Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor  
and Members of the Town Council  
Bethel, North Carolina

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund of the Town of Bethel, North Carolina as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated January 30, 2025.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered the Town of Bethel, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Bethel's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Bethel's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operating of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Town of Bethel's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.



My consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questions costs, I identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that I consider to be material weaknesses reported as 2024-001 and 2024-002.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of Bethel's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statements amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit, and accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### Town of Bethel's Response to Findings

The Town of Bethel's responses to the findings identified in my audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The Town of Bethel's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on it.

#### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Gregory T. Redman, CPA  
Tarboro, North Carolina  
January 30, 2025

## Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted           yes   X  no

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021**

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Section II – Financial Statement Findings

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**Material Weakness**

**Finding 2024-001**

**Late Submission of Audit**

Criteria: The Town is required to submit the audit report to the Local Government Commission by October 31 following the year end of June 30.

Statement of Condition: The audit report for the year ended June 30, 2024 was due to the Local Government Commission by October 31, 2024. The audit report was not submitted to the Local Government Commission until January 2025.

Questioned Cost: N/A

Cause: Subsidiary ledgers did not reconcile to the general ledger and bank reconciliations were not performed timely. Records were not submitted for audit in a timely manner.

Effect: Audit reports completed a year after the June 30 yearend do not provide useful information to management, the Board, lenders, and the Local Government Commission.

Identification of a repeat finding: No

Recommendation: The Board should remain diligent in expecting and receiving timely financial information from the staff and the outside accountant. Management should constantly monitor the financial information and be aware of whether reporting deadlines are met.

Views of responsible officials and planned corrective actions: With new personnel in place, Management plans to have all future audits submitted timely.



**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021**

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Section II – Financial Statement Findings

---

**Material Weakness**

**Finding 2024-002**

**Bank and Accounting Record Reconciliation**

Criteria:	All bank accounts should be reconciled to the Town's records on a monthly basis. In addition, subsidiary ledgers should be reconciled to the general ledger on a timely basis.
Statement of Condition:	The bank accounts and subsidiary ledgers are not being reconciled on a timely basis.
Questioned Cost:	N/A
Cause:	The Town's former Finance Officer did not perform his accounting duties in a timely manner.
Effect:	Since the records were not complete at the time of the audit, the audit report was submitted late to the Local Government Commission.
Identification of a repeat finding:	Nos
Recommendation:	The Board and management should establish internal controls and implement them in order to ensure that records are reconciled in a timely manner.
Views of responsible officials and planned corrective actions:	The Town agrees with this finding and will adhere to the corrective action plan in this audit report.



**Town of Bethel  
Bethel, North Carolina  
Corrective Action Plan  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**Section II – Financial Statement Findings**

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**Finding 2024-001**

**Late Submission of Audit**

Name of Contact Person:

Scott Elliott  
Interim Town Manager

Corrective Action:

The Town has completed the audits for 2022-2024 since January 2024. Management has stressed the importance of timely records. Management and the Interim Town Manager will work together to make sure that financial records are prepared timely for future audits.

Proposed Completion Date:

June 30, 2025

**Finding 2024-002**

**Bank and Accounting Record Reconciliation**

Name of Contact Person:

Scott Elliott  
Interim Town Manager

Corrective Action:

Management will establish internal controls and implement them in order to ensure that records are reconciled on a timely basis.

Proposed Completion Date:

June 30, 2025

**Town of Bethel, North Carolina  
Summary Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Finding 2023-001	Segregation of Duties
Status:	Corrected.
Finding 2023-002	Late Submission of Audit
Status:	Reported as a finding in the current year.
Finding 2023-003	Bank Account and Record Reconciliation
Status:	Reported as a finding in the current year.
Finding 2023-004	Semi-annual Report on Deposits Filed Late
Status:	Corrected.
Finding 2023-005	Expenditures Exceeded Authorized Budget
Status:	Corrected



**INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**

D. Scott Elliott



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Carl Wilson, Mayor  
Barbara Bynum, Mayor Pro Temp  
Ferrell Blount  
Thomas Lilley  
Tina Staton  
Fred Whitehurst

**TOWN OF BETHEL**

**Agenda Abstract**

Meeting Date/Time: March 4, 2025

**Agenda Section:** PRESENTATION

**Agenda Title:** Stormwater System Asset Inventory and Assessment Project - UPDATE

**Presenter:** Rivers & Associates: Ben Williams & Scott Godefrey

**Summary of Information:** Rivers & Associates will be in attendance to provide a project update regarding the overall stormwater study. The attached project schedule lays out the study work phases to be performed. Rivers & Associates had originally targeted the month of June to have the first phase of the study completed. A formal presentation to the Board would then be scheduled.

**Submitter Recommendations/Motions:** Information only.

**Number of Attachments:** 1





# Project Schedule

## Projected Project Schedule

PROJECT GENERAL TASKS	MONTH	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
GPS Survey / GIS Mapping Phase													
Condition Assessment & System Analysis Phase													
Asset Assessment & Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Phase													
Stormwater Asset Management Plan (SWAMP) Phase													
Project Close-out													



ENGINEERS, PLANNERS, SURVEYORS & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Since 1978



**INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**

D. Scott Elliott



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Ferrell Blount  
Thomas Lilley  
Tina Staton  
Fred Whitehurst

**TOWN OF BETHEL**

**Agenda Abstract**

Meeting Date/Time: March 4, 2025

**Agenda Section:** OLD BUSINESS

**Agenda Title:** Residential Debris Pick-up Services

**Presenter:** Scott Elliott, Interim Town Manager

**Summary of Information:** This item has been tabled several times while the Town waited to receive information from Pitt County Solid Waste. The County proposed to the Town to allow them to utilize their new dump truck with a "grapple" to perform the residential debris pick-up service. This proposal by the County occurred during the same time as the RFP for Lawn Mowing and Debris Pick-up was going on.

In terms of the County's proposal, they have stated that they would charge \$175 per hour. When calculated and annualized, this would be an estimated cost of \$72,800 (\$175 x 16 hours x 26 weeks). This cost is double the bid response cost the Town received from C&W Lawn Care Services. Based upon this, it is recommended to award the residential debris pick-up to C&W at an annual cost of \$36,000.

It is noted that the Town may utilize the County's service to clean out the Town's residential debris collection site off Price Rd. This site is full and has a substantial amount of debris needing to be removed. Also, the County's grapples device can assist in cleaning up several large problem debris sites within the Town.

**Submitter Recommendations/Motions:** Motion to approve C&W Lawn Care Services contract for residential debris pick-up services at a cost of \$36,000 annually.

**Number of Attachments:** None



**INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**

D. Scott Elliott

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Carl Wilson, Mayor  
 Barbara Bynum, Mayor Pro Temp  
 Ferrell Blount  
 Thomas Lilley  
 Tina Staton  
 Fred Whitehurst

**TOWN OF BETHEL**

## Agenda Abstract

Meeting Date/Time: March 4, 2025

**Agenda Section:** NEW BUSINESS**Agenda Title:** 2025 Municipal Elections**Presenter:** Interim Manager Scott Elliott

**Summary of Information:** This year (2025) is the year for municipal elections. The Pitt County Board of Elections Office (PC-BOE) has written the Town concerning its upcoming municipal election. The following summarizes the PC-BOE communications.

- Bethel's estimated cost for elections will be \$2,775.82. (This will be included in the FY 25-26 budget.)
- Information is given regarding hosting an optional Early Voting Site at a cost of \$11,529.37. (Optional activity – not recommend being budgeted.)
- Important dates:
  - Candidate filing: July 7 to July 18
  - Absentee mail-out begins: October 3
  - Early Voting: October 16 to November 1
  - Election Day: November 4
  - Canvass: November 14
- Verification of the Town's filing fee cost of \$10.00 needs to be submitted back to the PC-BOE.

**Submitter Recommendations/Motions:** Motion to direct staff to verify to the PC-BOE that the Town of Bethel's filing fee for office will remain at \$10.00.

**Number of Attachments:** 1

Board Members

Etsil S. Mason, Chair  
Jeffrey Blick

Debbie Avery, Secretary  
Derek Brown

Patricia C. Dunn

Town of Bethel  
PO Box 337  
Bethel, NC 27812

February 7, 2025

Dear Town of Bethel:

We have calculated the Town of Bethel's estimated costs for the 2025 Municipal Election to be \$2,775.82. This estimate is based on the maximum utilization of all possible resources. The actual final costs may be lower. If the Town of Bethel wishes to host an additional Early Voting site(s), the cost for each site is estimated to be \$11,529.37:

Paragraph six of the current Municipal Agreement states that the expenses related to two Early Voting sites (Ag. Center and Community Schools) will be shared proportionally among the participating municipalities.

*SIXTH: For all municipal elections two One-Stop sites will be in operation. The first site shall be located at the Pitt County Agricultural Center at 403 Government Cir.; the second site shall be located at the Community Schools Building at 4561 County Home Rd. Each municipality shall be responsible for its proportional share of the expenses, based on the percentage of municipal registered voters, related to these two sites.*

*A municipality may request the Board of Elections provide an additional One-Stop site located within their jurisdiction. If approved by the Board of Elections, said municipality shall be responsible for all expenses related to the operation of the additional One-Stop site.*

Changes in election law and State Board of Elections directives have altered how we can fulfill the agreement. NC State Board of Elections Numbered Memo 2020-13 stipulates the location of an Early Voting "in lieu of" site as within the same city/town as the Elections Office, and within 4 miles from the Elections Office or a 10-minute drive. As our office is too small to serve as an Early Voting site, we must utilize an "in lieu of" site.

In NC General Statute 163-166.35(e) sites in addition to the "in lieu of" site may be opened at a later date; however, all additional sites must be open on the same days and hours. In an effort to reduce expenses for the municipalities additional sites will open the last week of Early Voting (October 27 – November 1). Municipalities must notify the Director of the Pitt County Board of Elections by June 1, 2025 the number of additional sites, if any, they desire to host. The five-member Board of Elections



Board Members

Etsil S. Mason, Chair  
Jeffrey Blick

Debbie Avery, Secretary  
Derek Brown

Patricia C. Dunn

will determine the location of all sites no later than July 2025. NC General Statute grants the authority to select Early Voting site locations only to the County or State Board of Elections.

Important dates for the election are:

- Candidate filing: July 7 to July 18
- Absentee mail-out begins: October 3
- Early Voting: October 16 to November 1
- Election Day: November 4
- Canvass: November 14

Please review the enclosed 2025 Municipal Election checklist to verify the information is correct. If there are any errors, please provide us with the correct information. Also, indicate the filing fees that are to be charged to candidates for the 2025 election.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



David P. Davis







# NORTH CAROLINA

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## STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

*Mailing Address:*  
P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611

(919) 814-0700 or  
(866) 522-4723

*Fax:* (919) 715-0135

### Numbered Memo 2020-13

**TO:** County Boards of Elections  
**FROM:** Karen Brinson Bell, Executive Director  
**RE:** One-Stop Planning for the 2020 General Election  
**DATE:** June 24, 2020

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### Submission of One-Stop Plans

The deadline for submission of one-stop plans is **Friday, July 31, 2020**. July 31 is the deadline for both unanimous and non-unanimous plans. We need to receive all proposed majority and minority plans by this deadline to ensure that our data team has time to complete its data analysis prior to the State Board's meeting. Letters explaining the rationale for the proposed plan and other supporting documents may be submitted after July 31. Supporting documents may be sent directly to the Legal Division.

We anticipate that the State Board will hold its meeting to consider non-unanimous plans during the last week of August.

### Recommendations for One-Stop Sites

Counties should begin work now on one-stop plans and have those ready for the final week of July. **As Executive Director, I strongly encourage all counties to consider expanding the number of one-stop voting sites for the 2020 general election, for which Session Law 2020-17 appropriated funds.**

Presidential elections traditionally have high turnout, and as we have seen in some other states and jurisdictions, conducting an election during the coronavirus pandemic has caused long lines for in-person voting, which conflicts with recommendations from public health officials about large gatherings and the spread of the virus. It may take longer to process voters as we employ health and safety measures and social distancing. Counties should also consider conducting one-stop early voting each of the 17 days permitted by law to further accommodate the large volume of voters and to adhere to health and safety measures.

the sites chosen will not disproportionately favor any party, racial or ethnic group, or candidate. In providing the site or sites for early voting under this Part, the county board of elections shall make a request to the State, county, city, local school board, or other entity in control of the building that is supported or maintained, in whole or in part, by or through tax revenues at least 90 days prior to the start of early voting under this Part. The request shall clearly identify the building, or any specific portion thereof, requested the dates and times for which that building or specific portion thereof is requested and the requirement of an area for election related activity. If the State, local governing board, or other entity in control of the building does not respond to the request within 20 days, the building or specific portion thereof may be used for early voting as stated in the request. If the State, local governing board, or other entity in control of the building or specific portion thereof responds negatively to the request within 20 days, that entity and the county board of elections shall, in good faith, work to identify a building or specific portion thereof in which to conduct early voting under this Part. If no building or specific portion thereof has been agreed upon within 45 days from the date the county board of elections received a response to the request, the matter shall be resolved by the State Board.

(d) For all sites approved for early voting under this section, a county board of elections shall provide the following:

- (1) Each early voting site across the county shall be open at that same location during the period required by G.S. 163-166.40(b).
- (2) If any early voting site across the county is opened on any day during the period required by G.S. 163-166.40(b), all early voting sites shall be open on that day.
- (3) On each weekday during the period required by G.S. 163-166.40(b), all early voting sites shall be open from 8:00 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.
- (4) If the county board of elections opens early voting sites on Saturdays other than the last Saturday before the election during the period required by G.S. 163-166.40(b), then all early voting sites shall be open for the same number of hours uniformly throughout the county on those Saturdays.
- (5) If the county board of elections opens early voting sites on Sundays during the period required by G.S. 163-166.40(b), then all early voting sites shall be open for the same number of hours uniformly throughout the county on those Sundays.
- (6) All early voting sites shall be open on the last Saturday before the election, for the hours required under G.S. 163-166.40(b) for that last Saturday.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, a county board of elections by unanimous vote of all its members may propose a Plan for Implementation providing for the number of sites set out below in that county for ballots to be cast with days and hours that vary from the county board of elections, or its alternate, and other additional early voting sites in that county. If the county board of elections is unable to reach unanimity in favor of a Plan for Implementation, a member or members of the county board of elections may petition the State Board to adopt a plan for the county and the State Board may adopt a Plan for Implementation for that county. However, any Plan for Implementation approved under this subsection shall provide for uniform location, days, and hours for that one site throughout the period required by G.S. 163-166.40(b). This subsection applies only to a county that meets any of the following:

- (1) One site in a county that includes a barrier island, which barrier island meets all of the following conditions:
  - a. It has permanent inhabitation of residents residing in an unincorporated area.
  - b. It is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and on the west by a coastal sound.



# Town of Bethel

Office	Elected Official	Last Election	Next Election	Correct?
Mayor	Carl Wilson	2021	2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Commissioner	Ferrell Blount	2021	2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Commissioner	Barbara Bynum	2021	2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Commissioner	Thomas Lilley	2021	2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Commissioner	Tina Staton	2021	2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Commissioner	Fred Whitehurst	2021	2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Office	Previous Filing Fee	2025 Filing Fee
Mayor	\$10.00	
Commissioner	\$10.00	

**§ 163-294.2. Notice of candidacy and filing fee in nonpartisan municipal elections.**

(e) The filing fee for the primary or election shall be fixed by the governing board not later than the day before candidates are permitted to begin filing notices of candidacy. There shall be a minimum filing fee of five dollars (\$5.00). The governing board shall have the authority to set the filing fee at not less than five dollars (\$5.00) nor more than one percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought unless one percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought is less than five dollars (\$5.00), in which case the minimum filing fee of five dollars (\$5.00) will be charged. The fee shall be paid to the board of elections at the time notice of candidacy is filed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorizing agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of authorizing agent



**INTERIM TOWN MANAGER**

D. Scott Elliott



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Ferrell Blount  
Thomas Lilley  
Tina Staton  
Fred Whitehurst

**TOWN OF BETHEL**

**Agenda Abstract**

Meeting Date/Time: March 4, 2025

**Agenda Section:** DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

**Agenda Title:** Interim Town Manager Items

**Presenter:** Scott Elliott, Interim Town Manager

**Summary of Information:** The following topics are provided as information for board action:

- a. Monthly Town Public Safety Report January 2025) [Info only]
- b. Financials- January 2025 [Action Needed]
- c. Report Concerning Upset Bid Process for Tax Parcels 1440 and 1441 [Report Only]
- d. Next meeting date: April 1, 2025 [Info only]
- e. Bethel Community Day Event rescheduled to May 3, 2025
- f. Other

**Submitter Recommendations/Motions:** Approve Financial Report

**Number of Attachments:** 2

**Town of Bethel**  
**Monthly Crime Statistic January 2025**  
 February 3, 2025

Total Calls For Service N= 145 (CAD Data)  
 Total Incident Reports N= 37

**Index Crimes**

<b>Violent Crime</b>	<b>November 2024</b>	<b>December 2024</b>	<b>Janary 2025</b>
Murder	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0
Assault	3	2	2
<b>Property Crime</b>			
Burglary	0	1	0
Larceny	1	3	1
Auto Theft	0	0	1
Arson	0	0	0

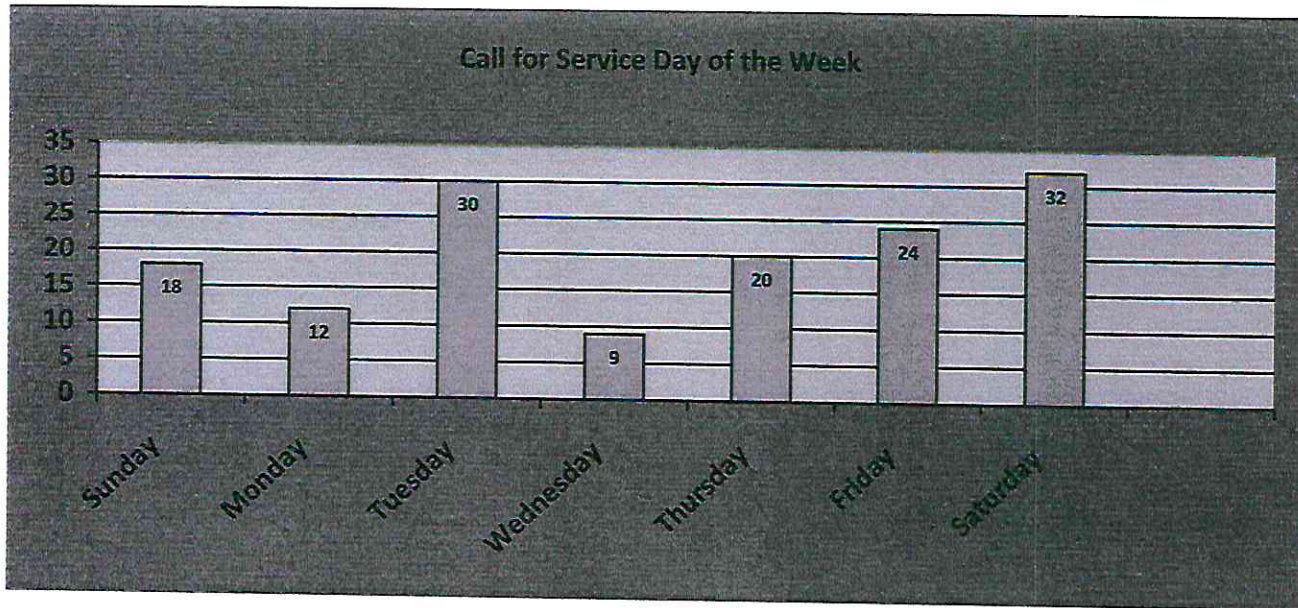
Total Part II Crimes reported N= 33  
 (Numbers Based on the number of incident reports)

**The most common Calls For Service prefomed with in the city of Bethel.**

Traffic Accident Report	0
Traffic Stops	6
Business Checks	166(These are done in addition to calls for service.)
Sex Offender Check	12
Welfare Check	2
Alarm	7
Warrant Service	6
Ride By	52

## Calls for Service Day of the Week

N= 145 (CAD Data)





# Budget vs Actual (Summary)

Town of Bethel  
2/11/2025 10:43:32 AM

Page 1 Of 1

Period Ending 1/31/2025

10 GENERAL FUND								
Description	Budget	Encumbrance	MTD	QTD	YTD	Variance	Percent	
Revenues	2,431,032	0.00	227,038.43	227,038.43	1,108,869.36	(1,322,162.64)	46%	
Revenues Totals:	2,431,032	0.00	227,038.43	227,038.43	1,108,869.36	(1,322,162.64)	46%	
Expenses								
GOVERNING BODY	35,575	0.00	2,065.06	2,065.06	14,335.26	21,239.74	40%	
ADMINISTRATION-GF	484,492	1,383.16	35,999.13	35,999.13	270,776.83	212,332.01	56%	
TAX COLLECTION PITT COUNTY	6,000	0.00	1,785.30	1,785.30	6,459.96	(459.96)	108%	
POLICE DEPARTMENT	228,500	70.00	24,060.06	24,060.06	108,297.66	120,132.34	47%	
FIRE DEPARTMENT	148,611	3,830.77	18,133.90	18,133.90	95,857.63	48,922.60	67%	
STREET DEPARTMENT	1,105,212	497.52	22,217.93	22,217.93	271,022.32	833,692.16	25%	
SANITATION DEPARTMENT	84,500	0.00	7,076.30	7,076.30	42,402.66	42,097.34	50%	
RECREATION DEPARTMENT	51,775	0.00	656.94	656.94	14,210.79	37,564.21	27%	
LIBRARY	29,508	0.00	1,040.93	1,040.93	23,565.27	5,942.73	80%	
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT	22,000	0.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	10,750.00	11,250.00	49%	
SENIOR CENTER	13,000	45.00	3,360.27	3,360.27	8,985.66	3,969.34	69%	
STORMWATER	181,000	162,000.00	8,100.00	8,100.00	18,000.00	1,000.00	99%	
CONTINGENCY	29,027	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,027.00		
DEBT SERVICE	11,832	0.00	986.00	986.00	6,902.00	4,930.00	58%	
Expenses Totals:	2,431,032	167,826.45	128,281.82	128,281.82	891,566.04	1,371,639.51	44%	
10 GENERAL FUND	Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses:		98,756.61	98,756.61	217,303.32			

# Cash Balance Report

Period Ending 1/31/2025

Town of Bethel

2/11/2025 10:40 AM

Page 1/1

Bank 5 SOUTHERN BANK & TRUST Acct# 5531103060		
Account		Balance
10-102-0000 GENERAL FUND CHECKING		\$231,672.94
63-102-0000 ARP GRANT CHECKING		\$159,499.09
64-102-0000 SCIF GRANT FUND CHECKING		-\$73,611.52
65-102-0000 RTG CASH		-\$2,565.00
Bank 5 Total:		\$314,995.51
Bank 6		
Account		Balance
10-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS		\$3,195,651.44
64-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS		\$237,527.87
Bank 6 Total:		\$3,433,179.31

Total Cash Balance:	\$3,748,174.82
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# Budget vs Actual

Town of Bethel  
2/11/2025 10:46:51 AM

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Period Ending 1/31/2025

63 ARP GRANT FUND									
Description	Budget	Encumbrance	MTD	QTD	YTD	Variance	Percent		
Revenues									
63-354-0000 ARP GRANT FUNDING	513,421	0.00	31,923.92	31,923.92	353,682.49	(159,738.51)	69%		
Revenues Totals:	513,421	0.00	31,923.92	31,923.92	353,682.49	(159,738.51)	69%		
Expenses									
63-980-0010 TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND	513,421	0.00	31,923.92	31,923.92	353,802.49	159,618.51	69%		
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	513,421	0.00	31,923.92	31,923.92	353,802.49	159,618.51	69%		
Expenses Totals:	513,421	0.00	31,923.92	31,923.92	353,802.49	159,618.51	69%		
63 ARP GRANT FUND	Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses:		0.00	0.00	(120.00)				



# Budget vs Actual

Town of Bethel  
2/11/2025 10:45:50 AM

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Period Ending 1/31/2025

## 64 SCIF GRANT FUND

Description	Budget	Encumbrance	MTD	QTD	YTD	Variance	Percent
<b>Revenues</b>							
64-329-0000 INTEREST INCOME	0	0.00	862.62	862.62	4,499.87	4,499.87	
64-354-0000 SCIF GRANT FUNDING	500,000	0.00	(3,247.85)	(3,247.85)	184,004.86	(315,995.14)	37%
Revenues Totals:	500,000	0.00	(2,385.23)	(2,385.23)	188,504.73	(311,495.27)	38%
<b>Expenses</b>							
64-420-1500 TOWN HALL RENOVATIONS	150,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	175,236.26	(25,236.26)	117%
ADMINISTRATION-GF Totals:	150,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	175,236.26	(25,236.26)	117%
64-510-1500 POLICE BUILDING REPAIRS	70,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70,000.00	
POLICE DEPARTMENT Totals:	70,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70,000.00	
64-560-7200 STREET PAVING & REPAIRS	150,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	105,807.26	44,192.74	71%
STREET DEPARTMENT Totals:	150,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	105,807.26	44,192.74	71%
64-620-1500 SENIOR CENTER REPAIRS	50,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	
RECREATION DEPARTMENT Totals:	50,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	
64-630-1500 LIBRARY BUILDING REPAIRS	75,000	28,300.00	34,500.00	34,500.00	56,400.00	(9,700.00)	113%
LIBRARY Totals:	75,000	28,300.00	34,500.00	34,500.00	56,400.00	(9,700.00)	113%
64-818-3000 GRANT ADMINISTRATION	5,000	0.00	60.00	60.00	480.00	4,520.00	10%
CONTINGENCY Totals:	5,000	0.00	60.00	60.00	480.00	4,520.00	10%
Expenses Totals:	500,000	28,300.00	34,560.00	34,560.00	337,923.52	133,776.48	73%
64 SCIF GRANT FUND			(36,945.23)	(36,945.23)	(149,418.79)		

# Budget vs Actual

Town of Bethel  
2/11/2025 10:45:22 AM

Page 1 Of 1

Period Ending 1/31/2025

65 SMITH STREET PARK FUND								
Description	Budget	Encumbrance	MTD	QTD	YTD	Variance	Percent	
Revenues								
65-354-0000 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE	200,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(200,000.00)		
Revenues Totals:	200,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(200,000.00)		
Expenses								
65-818-0000 CONSTRUCTION	180,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	180,000.00		
65-818-3000 GRANT ADMINISTRATION	20,000	0.00	60.00	60.00	2,565.00	17,435.00	13%	
CONTINGENCY Totals:	200,000	0.00	60.00	60.00	2,565.00	197,435.00	1%	
Expenses Totals:	200,000	0.00	60.00	60.00	2,565.00	197,435.00	1%	
65 SMITH STREET PARK FUND	Revenues Over/(Under)	Expenses:	(60.00)	(60.00)	(2,565.00)			