



AGENDA | BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

March 11, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Burgaw Town Center
108 E Wilmington St

1. Call to Order

2. Invocation

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

*Items under Consent are generally of a routine nature. The Board may take action to approve/disapprove all items in a single vote. Any item may be withheld from a general action, to be discussed and voted upon separately at the discretion of the Board.

A. Approval of the February 11, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of the February 11, 2025 Closed Session Minutes

C. Resolution 2025-09 Designating Authorized Signatories for Town Bank Accounts

D. Ordinance 2025-06 Amending the FY 2024-2025 budget to reflect the transfer of funds for the West Side Trail project

E. Approval of FY 2025 Town of Burgaw and TDA Audit Contracts and Engagement Letters

6. Special Requests/Presentations

A. Retirement Proclamation for Ray Rivenbark

B. Arbor Day Proclamation

C. North Carolina Blueberry Festival - Street Closure Request

D. Pender County Spring Festival - Street Closure Request

7. Departmental Items

A. **Information Technology Department**

Dustin McCullen, IT Manager

B. **Public Works Department**

Alan Moore, Public Works Director

C. **Fire Department**

Johnathan Prevatte, Fire Chief

D. **Facilities & Grounds Department**

Damon Stanley, Facilities & Grounds Director

E. **Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department**

Cody Suggs, Parks & Recreation Director

I. West Side Trail Project Update

F. **Planning Department**

Ron Meredith, Planning Director

I. Resolution 2025-10 Supporting the Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program Application

G. **Building Inspections Department**

Louis Hesse, Building Code Administrator

H. **Finance Department**

Hans Kalwitz, Finance Officer

I. **Human Resources Department**

Kimberly Rivenbark, Human Resources Director/Deputy Town Clerk

J. **Police Department**

Jim Hock, Police Chief

8. Public Forum

9. Items from Assistant Manager

A. Update on current projects

10. Items from Manager

- A. Update on current projects

11. Items from Attorney

12. Items from Mayor and Board of Commissioners

- A. Consideration of one (1) Tourism Development Authority appointment

13. Closed Session

- A. Pursuant to NC GS 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege and NC GS 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel

14. Adjournment

**TOWN OF BURGAW BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

DATE: February 11, 2025
TIME: 4:30 PM
PLACE: Burgaw Town Center
108 E Wilmington St
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Olivia Dawson
Mayor Pro-tem James Malloy
Commissioner Jan Dawson
Commissioner Michael Pearsall
Commissioner William Rivenbark
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Bill George

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dawson at 4:30 PM.

2. Invocation

The invocation was led by Reverend Geraldine Dereef.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

4. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rivenbark made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dawson and carried by unanimous vote.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

*Items under Consent are generally of a routine nature. The Board may take action to approve/disapprove all items in a single vote. Any item may be withheld from a general action, to be discussed and voted upon separately at the discretion of the Board.

Commissioner Pearsall made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rivenbark and carried by unanimous vote.

A. Approval of the December 10, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of the December 10, 2024 Closed Session Minutes

C. Approval of the January 14, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

D. Approval of the January 14, 2025 Closed Session Minutes

6. Special Requests/Presentations

A. Employee Recognitions

Alan Moore, Public Works Director, introduced Utility Technician Jeffrey Coenen, Water & Sewer Maintenance Worker Allen Bowling, and Equipment Operator Jack Mobley as new employees in the Public Works Department.

Mr. Gantt introduced Hans Kalwitz as the new Finance Director for the town.

B. The 1865 Society of Pender County, Inc. - Karen Malloy

Karen Malloy, president of The 1865 Society of Pender County, was present and requested use of the Burgaw Town Center on February 22, 2025 from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM for the showing of a film for the community. Commissioner Pearsall made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rivenbark. Commissioners Dawson and George voted "aye" and Commissioner Malloy stated he abstained. Motion carried.

7. Departmental Items

A. Information Technology Department

Dustin McCullen, IT Manager

Dustin McCullen, IT Manager, said there were approximately 35 IT requests completed over the last month. He also has worked on the Police Department laptops with the latest software updates. Mr. McCullen also advised the town website updates are

going well and the projected live date is February 26, 2025.

B. Public Works Department

Alan Moore, Public Works Director

Alan Moore, Public Works Director, advised his department has been working with traffic control for the sidewalk replacement on Bridgers Street between North Walker Street and Cowan Street. Sidewalk replacement on the same street, south side, will be completed soon. He advised there will be several new water and sewer taps soon.

C. Fire Department

Johnathan Prevatte, Fire Chief

Johnathan Prevatte, Fire Chief, advised the Fire Department responded to 96 calls for service during January and members completed 394 training hours. He also advised of training and certifications within the departmental staff as well.

D. Facilities & Grounds Department

Damon Stanley, Facilities & Grounds Director

Damon Stanley, Facilities & Grounds Director, said his department has been busy with various projects, including the paver and bench project near the depot, removing debris from the cemetery, line striping throughout town, electrical issues in the Fire Department, and working on work orders from the Beautification Committee. Mr. Stanley also commented on the holly trees in the downtown area and the concern of the mounds of mulch at the base of the trees.

E. Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department

Cody Suggs, Parks & Recreation Director

Cody Suggs, Parks & Recreation Director, advised he received a Special Event application from the Boy Scouts requesting to set up a lemonade stand downtown during the Cruise-In events in efforts to raise funds for the splash pad project. There were no concerns voiced by the board.

Mr. Suggs advised Burgaw Parks, Recreation & Tourism received a ShowFest award for Best Children's Program at Autumn Fest. He commended Ms. Augst for her hard work in preparation of Autumn Fest. Mr. Suggs said the Daddy-Daughter and Mother-Son dances were successful. He also said staff is working on various training opportunities. Mr. Suggs also reminded everyone of the upcoming Mayor's Gala hosted by the Parks Foundation of Burgaw.

F. Planning Department
Ron Meredith, Planning Director

Ron Meredith, Planning Director, said he is working on Unified Development Ordinance updates. He said there have been several inquiries about subdivisions, and anticipates quasi-judicial public hearings coming soon. Mr. Meredith advised staff is currently working on 15 zoning violations.

I. Town of Burgaw Planning Board Reappointment Policy

Mr. Meredith presented the recommended Planning Board Reappointment Policy to the board for review. This policy would be an interoffice policy so that terms can be established with the existing Planning Board. There were no concerns voiced by the board.

II. Resolution 2025-08 Opposition to a Subpart 111-K of North Carolina Senate Bill 382 RE: Zoning Authority of Local Governments

Mr. Meredith reviewed the information regarding Resolution 2025-08. There being no concerns by the board, Commissioner Malloy made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-08 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dawson and carried by unanimous vote.

G. Building Inspections Department
Louis Hesse, Building Code Administrator

Ivey English, Building Inspector, was present due to the absence of Building Code Administer Louis Hesse. Mr. English gave a brief update on current construction projects in town and advised everything is progressing smoothly. He advised the old dental office on the hospital property will be demolished soon.

H. Finance Department
Hans Kalwitz, Finance Officer

Hans Kalwitz, Finance Officer, did not have an update to give during the meeting since he recently started in the position. The board welcomed him to the town.

I. Human Resources Department
Kimberly Rivenbark, Human Resources Director/Deputy Town Clerk

Kimberly Rivenbark, Human Resources Director, advised there were two current job openings, Water & Sewer Maintenance Worker and Facilities & Grounds Maintenance Worker.

J. Police Department

Jim Hock, Police Chief

Jim Hock, Police Chief, advised Sergeant Williams has been in firearms training instructor class and Officer Thomas has completed half of her field training. Dylan Byrd was recently hired as Patrol Officer and is currently in BLET. Chief Hock advised upgrades will be completed soon for the body cameras. He also said the department is working with the school system to ensure safety at the local schools. Chief Hock advised he met with District Attorney Jason Smith and his staff, as well as the new SBI Director for the area.

8. Public Forum

Mayor Dawson called for a break between 5:25 PM - 5:33 PM.

There were no speakers present to speak during Public Forum.

9. Items from Assistant Manager

A. Updates on current projects

Chief Hock advised all new vehicles for this budget year have been delivered. He said he attended a scoping meeting with McKim & Creed regarding the Water and Sewer Master Plan. He also said NC DOT has advised they are planning to add additional asphalt to the sides of the curve at North Wright Street in March or April.

Chief Hock said the town has received a request for special K9 and drone training from the Pender County Sheriff's Office to occur in town on February 25, 2025. He said the training would involve K9 units and drones in the downtown area for training on times when searching for suspects, etc. Chief Hock said public notices would be published to the citizens advising them not to be alarmed by the extra activity in town.

Commissioner Pearsall asked if the training would involve entering businesses. Chief Hock advised only if the business owner allowed them too. After discussion, the board agreed to allow the training in town as long as sufficient advertisement was done and letters were given to the businesses in advance. Commissioner Rivenbark suggested a CodeRed call to the citizens as well.

10. Items from Manager

A. Updates on current projects

Mr. Gantt advised the Stormwater Master Plan is going well and the surveying is almost complete. He said he had a meeting and saw the preliminary layout and mapping locations of structures that have been identified. There are over 800 structures, plus an additional 400 structures identified as private culverts.

Mr. Gantt said he and staff had a scoping meeting with McKim & Creed to review the progress of the Water & Sewer Master Plan. He briefly explained the process of the study and reminded the board this plan is covered under part of the \$10 million grant funding.

Mr. Gantt advised he is currently waiting on further information about the streetscape project downtown.

Mr. Gantt thanked town staff for their hard work during the recent winter storm.

11. Items from Attorney

Attorney Rivenbark only had items for Closed Session.

12. Items from Mayor and Board of Commissioners

The commissioners each thanked the staff for a job well done during the recent snow storm. Commissioner Rivenbark said the landscaping around the depot looks good.

Mayor Dawson thanked the staff for their commitment. She also informed everyone that she attended a flood coalition in western NC. Mayor Dawson advised the board of the upcoming State of the County event in Hampstead, as well as the Pender County 150th Year Celebration event to be held on February 16, 2025 on the Courthouse Square.

13. Closed Session

A. Pursuant to NC GS 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege

Commissioner Rivenbark made a motion to go into closed session at 5:35 PM pursuant to NC GS 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Malloy and carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Rivenbark made a motion to go back into open session at 6:14 PM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Malloy and carried by unanimous vote.

14. Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Mayor Dawson commented on the new paver and bench area at the depot, on behalf of the Beautification Committee. She said we need to make sure everything is consistent and matches throughout town. Mr. Gantt said once Courthouse Avenue streetscape plan is decided on, we can make sure everything is consistent with the new look.

Commissioner Rivenbark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 PM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Malloy and carried by unanimous vote.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 2025-09

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BURGAW DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES FOR TOWN
BANK ACCOUNTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Burgaw maintains various bank accounts for the purpose of managing municipal funds and conducting official financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to designate authorized signatories who are empowered to execute financial transactions on behalf of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Commissioners deems it in the best interest of the Town to authorize the Town Manager, Finance Officer, and Deputy Finance Officer as signatories on all Town of Burgaw bank accounts; and

WHEREAS, to ensure proper financial control, all previously authorized signatories not listed in this resolution shall be removed from the Town's bank accounts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF BURGAW THAT:

1. The following individuals are hereby designated as authorized signatories for all Town of Burgaw bank accounts:
 - **James Gantt**, Town Manager
 - **Hans Kalwitz**, Finance Officer
 - **Tiffany Byrd**, Deputy Finance Officer
2. The designated individuals shall have the authority to sign checks, authorize electronic transfers, and execute other necessary financial transactions in accordance with the Town's financial policies and procedures.
3. Any and all previous signatories who are not listed in this resolution shall be removed from all Town of Burgaw bank accounts, effective immediately upon adoption of this resolution.
4. This resolution shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Town Board of Commissioners.

Adopted this the 11th day of March, 2025.

Attest: _____

Kristin J. Wells, Town Clerk

Signed: _____

G. Olivia Dawson, Mayor

ORDINANCE 2025-06

***AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 ANNUAL BUDGET
Increasing Revenues and Expenditures***

WHEREAS, the Town of Burgaw Board of Commissioners passed an ordinance adopting a budget for FY 2024-2025 on June 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the West Side Trail has yet to be completed; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation capital outlay expenditure line has sufficient means to complete the project.

***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN OF BURGAW BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS THAT:***

The FY 2024-2025 budget altered to reflect the following changes:

INCREASE BUDGETED EXPENDITURE

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
To be Determined	Transfer to NC Parks & Trust Fund	\$ 200,000

DECREASE BUDGETED EXPENDITURE

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10-6200-80-740	West Side Trail Building/RENO/EQUIP	\$ 200,000

INCREASE BUDGETED REVENUE

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
52-3916-00-900	ToB General Fund Transfer	\$ 200,000

INCREASE BUDGETED EXPENDITURE

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
52-6200-00-150	West Side Trail Building/RENO/EQUIP	\$ 200,000

Adopted this the 11th day of March, 2025.

Attest: _____
Kristin J. Wells, Town Clerk

Signed: _____
G. Olivia Dawson, Mayor



**Town of Burgaw
ITEM REPORT**

Item: 5E

DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2025 DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Finance	DATE SUBMITTED: 03/05/2025 SUBMITTED BY: Kristin Wells, Town Clerk
AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Approval of FY 2025 Town of Burgaw and TDA Audit Contracts and Engagement Letters	
SUMMARY STATEMENT: Burgaw 2025 Audit Contract & TDA 2025 Audit Contract The Town will be completing the FY 2025 audit with S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP. This contract obligates the firm to work with the Town to complete the financials in the timely manner as required by the Local Government Commission. Knowing the Town has completed prior audits with this firm, it has been deemed best to complete the following audit with the same firm. The decision is based upon the premise of the firms knowledge of the Town's books along with the necessity to maintain an incremental and tranquil transition; given the hire of a new finance director. Burgaw 2025 Engagement Letter & TDA Audit Engagement Letter The Engagement Letter relays the scope of work, terms, and conditions expected from the audit firm as well as expectations from the Town. Just as aforementioned, the necessity of remaining with the same firm as prior years has inherent responsible reasoning.	
STAFF RECOMMENDATION AND REQUESTED ACTION:	
FINANCIAL IMPACT INCLUDING FUNDING SOURCE:	
FINANCE DIRECTOR COMMENTS:	
ATTACHMENTS (IF ANY): Burgaw - 2025 Engagement Letter, Burgaw - 2025 Audit Contract, Burgaw TDA - 2025 Engagement Letter, Burgaw TDA - 2025 Audit Contract	



S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MEMBERS
American Institute of CPAs
N. C. Association of CPAs

July 16, 2024

To the Honorable Mayor and
Members of Board of Commissioners
and the Finance Officer

Town of Burgaw
109 N Walker Street
Burgaw, NC 28425

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Town of Burgaw for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, including the disclosures, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, of Town of Burgaw as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement Town of Burgaw's basic financial statements. Such information, 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 financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to Town of Burgaw's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis
- 2) Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance
- 3) Other Postemployment Benefits – Schedule of Funding Progress and Employer Contributions
- 4) Local Government Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of the Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)
- 5) Schedule of Contributions - Local Government Employees' Retirement System

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the Town of Burgaw's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole, in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements:

- 1) Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund
- 2) Combining Balance Sheet for Nonmajor Governmental Funds
- 3) Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for Nonmajor Governmental Funds
- 4) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – Home Programs
- 5) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – Osgood Canal Greenway Projects Fund
- 6) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – Water and Sewer Fund
- 7) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – Water and Sewer Capital Projects Fund
- 8) Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable
- 9) Analysis of Current Tax Levy – Town-Wide Levy

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP; and report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. 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 and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

The objectives also include reporting on internal control over financial reporting and compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and will include tests of your accounting records of Town of Burgaw and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that comes to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected customers, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

We have identified the following significant risks of material misstatement as part of our audit planning:

- 1) Management override of controls
- 2) Revenue recognitions

We may, from time to time and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

Our audit of financial statements does not relieve you of your responsibilities.

Audit Procedures—Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including the system of internal control, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*. 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, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards and *Government Auditing Standards*.

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of Town of Burgaw's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements and Single Audit

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for designing, implementing, establishing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; following laws and regulations; and ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements.

You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and all accompanying information in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is responsible for making drafts of financial statements, all financial records, and related information available to us; for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers); and for the evaluation of whether there are any conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for the 12 months after the financial statements date or shortly thereafter (for example, within an additional three months if currently known). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about your responsibilities for the financial statements; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and for confirming to us in the written representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements of each opinion unit taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants and for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, or contracts or grant agreements that we report.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to [include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon OR make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon]. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Scope and Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

Other Services

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements and related notes of Town of Burgaw in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America based on information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statement services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements and related notes and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to Local Government Commission or its designee. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the Local Government Commission or its designee. The Local Government Commission or its designee may intend or decide to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

We expect to begin our audit on approximately August 15, 2025 and to issue our reports no later than December 1, 2025. Lee Grissom CPA, CFE, CISA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report or authorizing another individual to sign it.

Our fee for these services will be at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, etc.) except that we agree that our gross fee, including expenses will not exceed \$27,300. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Town of Burgaw and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Respectfully yours,



S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP
Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Town of Burgaw.

Finance Officer's signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Mayor's signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

The	Governing Board
of	Primary Government Unit
and	Discretely Presented Component Unit (DPCU) (if applicable)

Primary Government Unit, together with DPCU (if applicable), hereinafter referred to as Governmental Unit(s)

and	Auditor Name
	Auditor Address

Hereinafter referred to as Auditor

for	Fiscal Year Ending	Date Audit Will Be Submitted to LGC
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Must be within six months of FYE

hereby agree as follows:

1. The Auditor shall audit all statements and disclosures required by U.S. generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) and additional required legal statements and disclosures of all funds and/or divisions of the Governmental Unit(s). The non-major combining, and individual fund statements and schedules shall be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and an opinion shall be rendered in relation to (as applicable) the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate DPCUs, each major governmental and enterprise fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information (non-major government and enterprise funds, the internal service fund type, and the fiduciary fund types). The basic financial statements shall include budgetary comparison information in a budgetary comparison statement, rather than as RSI, for the General Fund and any annually budgeted Special Revenue funds.

2. At a minimum, the Auditor shall conduct the audit and render the report in accordance with GAAS. If the Governmental Unit expended \$100,000 or more in combined Federal and State financial assistance during the reporting period, the Auditor shall perform the audit in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* (GAGAS). The Governmental Unit is subject to federal single audit requirements in accordance with Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200 *Uniform Administration Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, Subpart F (*Uniform Guidance*) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Currently the threshold is \$750,000 for a federal single audit and \$500,000 for a State Single Audit. This audit and all associated audit documentation may be subject to review by Federal and State agencies in accordance with Federal and State laws, including the staffs of the Office of State Auditor (OSA) and the Local Government Commission (LGC). If the audit requires a federal single audit in accordance with the Uniform Guidance (§200.501) the Auditor and Governmental Unit(s) should discuss, in advance of the execution of this contract, the responsibility for submission of the audit and the accompanying data collection form to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse as required under the Uniform Guidance (§200.512) to ensure proper submission.

Effective for audits of fiscal years beginning on or after June 30, 2023, the LGC will allow auditors to consider whether a unit qualifies as a State low-risk auditee. Please refer to "Discussion of Single Audits in North Carolina" on the LGC's website for more information.

If the audit and Auditor communication are found in this review to be substandard, the results of the review may be forwarded to the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (NC State Board).

3. If an entity is determined to be a component of another government as defined by the group audit standards, the entity's auditor shall make a good faith effort to comply in a timely manner with the requests of the group auditor in accordance with AU-6 §600.41 - §600.42.
4. This contract contemplates an unmodified opinion being rendered. If during the process of conducting the audit, the Auditor determines that it will not be possible to render an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of the unit, the Auditor shall contact the LGC Staff to discuss the circumstances leading to that conclusion as soon as is practical and before the final report is issued. The audit shall include such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as are considered by the Auditor to be necessary in the circumstances. Any limitations or restrictions in scope which would lead to a qualification should be fully explained in an attachment to this contract.
5. If this audit engagement is subject to the standards for audit as defined in *Government Auditing Standards*, 2018 revision, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, then by accepting this engagement, the Auditor warrants that he/she has met the requirements for a peer review and continuing education as specified in *Government Auditing Standards*. The Auditor agrees to provide a copy of the most recent peer review report to the Governmental Unit(s) and the Secretary of the LGC prior to the execution of an audit contract. Subsequent submissions of the report are required only upon report expiration or upon auditor's receipt of an updated peer review report. If the audit firm received a peer review rating other than pass, the Auditor shall not contract with the Governmental Unit(s) without first contacting the Secretary of the LGC for a peer review analysis that may result in additional contractual requirements.

If the audit engagement is not subject to *Government Auditing Standards* or if financial statements are not prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and fail to include all disclosures required by GAAP, the Auditor shall provide an explanation as to why in an attachment to this contract or in an amendment.

6. It is agreed that time is of the essence in this contract. All audits are to be performed and the report of audit submitted to LGC Staff within six months of fiscal year end. If it becomes necessary to amend the audit fee or the date that the audit report will be submitted to the LGC, an amended contract along with a written explanation of the change shall be submitted to the Secretary of the LGC for approval.
7. It is agreed that GAAS include a review of the Governmental Unit's (Units') systems of internal control and accounting as same relate to accountability of funds and adherence to budget and law requirements applicable thereto; that the Auditor shall make a written report, which may or may not be a part of the written report of audit, to the Governing Board setting forth his/her findings, together with his recommendations for improvement. That written report shall include all matters defined as "significant deficiencies and material weaknesses" in AU-C 265 of the *AICPA Professional Standards (Clarified)*. The Auditor shall file a copy of that report with the Secretary of the LGC.

For GAAS or *Government Auditing Standards* audits, if an auditor issues an AU-C §260 report, commonly referred to as "Governance Letter," LGC staff does not require the report to be submitted unless the auditor cites significant findings or issues from the audit, as defined in AU-C §260.12 - .14. This would include issues such as difficulties encountered during the audit, significant or unusual transactions, uncorrected misstatements, matters that are difficult or contentious reviewed with those charged with governance, and other significant matters. If matters identified during the audit were required to be reported as described in AU-C §260.12-.14 and were communicated in a method other than an AU-C §260 letter, the written documentation must be submitted.

8. All local government and public authority contracts for audit or audit-related work require the approval of the Secretary of the LGC. This includes annual or special audits, agreed upon procedures related to internal controls, bookkeeping or other assistance necessary to prepare the Governmental Unit's records for audit, financial statement preparation, any finance-related investigations, or any other audit-related work in the State of North Carolina. Approval is also required for the Alternative Compliance Examination Engagement for auditing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds expenditures as allowed by US Treasury. Approval is not required on audit contracts and invoices for system improvements and similar services of a non-auditing nature.
9. Invoices for services rendered under these contracts shall not be paid by the Governmental Unit(s) until the invoice has been approved by the Secretary of the LGC. This also includes any progress billings [G.S. 159-34 and 115C-447]. All invoices for audit work shall be submitted in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. The invoice marked 'approved' with approval date shall be returned to the Auditor to present to the Governmental Unit(s) for payment. This paragraph is not applicable to contracts for audits of hospitals.
10. In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the provisions of this contract, the Governmental Unit(s) shall pay to the Auditor, upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC if required, the fee, which includes any costs the Auditor may incur from work paper or peer reviews or any other quality assurance program required by third parties (federal and state grantor and oversight agencies or other organizations) as required under the Federal and State Single Audit Acts. This does not include fees for any pre-issuance reviews that may be required by the NC Association of CPAs (NCACPA) Peer Review Committee or NC State Board of CPA Examiners (see Item 13).
11. If the Governmental Unit(s) has/have outstanding revenue bonds, the Auditor shall submit to LGC Staff, either in the notes to the audited financial statements or as a separate report, a calculation demonstrating compliance with the revenue bond rate covenant. Additionally, the Auditor shall submit to LGC Staff simultaneously with the Governmental Unit's (Units') audited financial statements any other bond compliance statements or additional reports required by the authorizing bond documents, unless otherwise specified in the bond documents.
12. After completing the audit, the Auditor shall submit to the Governing Board a written report of audit. This report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information: (a) Management's Discussion and Analysis, (b) the financial statements and notes of the Governmental Unit(s) and all of its component units prepared in accordance with GAAP, (c) supplementary information requested by the Governmental Unit(s) or required for full disclosure under the law, and (d) the Auditor's opinion on the material presented. The Auditor shall furnish the required number of copies of the report of audit to the Governing Board upon completion.
13. If the audit firm is required by the NC State Board, the NCACPA Peer Review Committee, or the Secretary of the LGC to have a pre-issuance review of its audit work, there shall be a statement in the engagement letter indicating the pre-issuance review requirement. There also shall be a statement that the Governmental Unit(s) shall not be billed for the pre-issuance review. The pre-issuance review shall be performed prior to the completed audit being submitted to LGC Staff. The pre-issuance review report shall accompany the audit report upon submission to LGC Staff.

14. The Auditor shall submit the report of audit in PDF format to LGC Staff. For audits of units other than hospitals, the audit report should be submitted when (or prior to) submitting the final invoice for services rendered. The report of audit, as filed with the Secretary of the LGC, becomes a matter of public record for inspection, review and copy in the offices of the LGC by any interested parties. Any subsequent revisions to these reports shall be sent to the Secretary of the LGC. These audited financial statements, excluding the Auditors' opinion, may be used in the preparation of official statements for debt offerings by municipal bond rating services to fulfill secondary market disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission and for other lawful purposes of the Governmental Unit(s) without requiring consent of the Auditor. If the LGC Staff determines that corrections need to be made to the Governmental Unit's (Units') financial statements and/or the compliance section, those corrections shall be provided within three business days of notification unless another deadline is agreed to by LGC Staff.

15. Should circumstances disclosed by the audit call for a more detailed investigation by the Auditor than necessary under ordinary circumstances, the Auditor shall inform the Governing Board in writing of the need for such additional investigation and the additional compensation required therefore. Upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC, this contract may be modified or amended to include the increased time, compensation, or both as may be agreed upon by the Governing Board and the Auditor.

16. If an approved contract needs to be modified or amended for any reason, the change shall be made in writing and pre-audited if the change includes a change in audit fee (pre-audit requirement does not apply to hospitals). This amended contract shall be completed in full, including a written explanation of the change, signed and dated by all original parties to the contract. It shall then be submitted to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. No change to the audit contract shall be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the LGC.

17. A copy of the engagement letter, issued by the Auditor and signed by both the Auditor and the Governmental Unit(s), shall be attached to this contract, and except for fees, work, and terms not related to audit services, shall be incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein as part of this contract. In case of conflict between the terms of the engagement letter and the terms of this contract, the terms of this contract shall take precedence. Engagement letter terms that conflict with the contract are deemed to be void unless the conflicting terms of this contract are specifically deleted in Item 30 of this contract. Engagement letters containing indemnification clauses shall not be accepted by LGC Staff.

18. Special provisions should be limited. Please list any special provisions in an attachment.

19. A separate contract should not be made for each division to be audited or report to be submitted. If a DPCU is subject to the audit requirements detailed in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act and a separate audit report is issued, a separate audit contract is required. If a separate report is not to be issued and the DPCU is included in the primary government audit, the DPCU shall be named along with the primary government on this audit contract. DPCU Board approval date, signatures from the DPCU Board chairman and finance officer also shall be included on this contract.

20. The contract shall be executed, pre-audited (pre-audit requirement does not apply to hospitals), and physically signed by all parties including Governmental Unit(s) and the Auditor, then submitted in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC.

21. The contract is not valid until it is approved by the Secretary of the LGC. The staff of the LGC shall notify the Governmental Unit and Auditor of contract approval by email. The audit should not be started before the contract is approved.

22. Retention of Client Records: Auditors are subject to the NC State Board of CPA Examiners' Retention of Client Records Rule 21 NCAC 08N .0305 as it relates to the provision of audit and other attest services, as well as non-attest services. Clients and former clients should be familiar with the requirements of this rule prior to requesting the return of records.

23. This contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent and agreement of the Governmental Unit(s) and the Auditor, provided that (a) the consent to terminate is in writing and signed by both parties, (b) the parties have agreed on the fee amount which shall be paid to the Auditor (if applicable), and (c) no termination shall be effective until approved in writing by the Secretary of the LGC.

24. The Governmental Unit's (Units') failure or forbearance to enforce, or waiver of, any right or an event of breach or default on one occasion or instance shall not constitute the waiver of such right, breach or default on any subsequent occasion or instance.

25. There are no other agreements between the parties hereto and no other agreements relative hereto that shall be enforceable unless entered into in accordance with the procedure set out herein and approved by the Secretary of the LGC.

26. E-Verify. Auditor shall comply with the requirements of NCGS Chapter 64 Article 2. Further, if Auditor utilizes any subcontractor(s), Auditor shall require such subcontractor(s) to comply with the requirements of NCGS Chapter 64, Article 2.

27. **Applicable to audits with fiscal year ends of June 30, 2020 and later.** For all non-attest services, the Auditor shall adhere to the independence rules of the AICPA Professional Code of Conduct and *Government Auditing Standards, 2018 Revision* (as applicable). Preparing financial statements in their entirety shall be deemed a "significant threat" requiring the Auditor to apply safeguards sufficient to reduce the threat to an acceptable level. If the Auditor cannot reduce the threats to an acceptable level, the Auditor cannot complete the audit. If the Auditor is able to reduce the threats to an acceptable level, the documentation of this determination, including the safeguards applied, must be included in the audit workpapers.

All non-attest service(s) being performed by the Auditor that are necessary to perform the audit must be identified and included in this contract. The Governmental Unit shall designate an individual with the suitable skills, knowledge, and/or experience (SKE) necessary to oversee the services and accept responsibility for the results of the services performed. If the Auditor is able to identify an individual with the appropriate SKE, s/he must document and include in the audit workpapers how he/she reached that conclusion. If the Auditor determines that an individual with the appropriate SKE cannot be identified, the Auditor cannot perform both the non-attest service(s) and the audit. See "Fees for Audit Services" page of this contract to disclose the person identified as having the appropriate SKE for the Governmental Unit.

28. **Applicable to audits with fiscal year ends of June 30, 2021 and later.** The auditor shall present the audited financial statements including any compliance reports to the government unit's governing body or audit committee in an official meeting in open session as soon as the audited financial statements are available but not later than 45 days after the submission of the audit report to the Secretary. The auditor's presentation to the government unit's governing body or audit committee shall include:

- a) the description of each finding, including all material weaknesses and significant deficiencies, as found by the auditor, and any other issues related to the internal controls or fiscal health of the government unit as disclosed in the management letter, the Single Audit or Yellow Book reports, or any other communications from the auditor regarding internal controls as required by current auditing standards set by the Accounting Standards Board or its successor;
- b) the status of the prior year audit findings;
- c) the values of Financial Performance Indicators based on information presented in the audited financial statements; and
- d) notification to the governing body that the governing body shall develop a "Response to the Auditor's Findings, Recommendations, and Fiscal Matters," if required under 20 NCAC 03 .0508.

29. Information based on the audited financial statements shall be submitted to the Secretary for the purpose of identifying Financial Performance Indicators and Financial Performance Indicators of Concern. See 20 NCAC 03 .0502(c)(6).

30. All of the above paragraphs are understood and shall apply to this contract, except the following numbered paragraphs shall be deleted (See Item 17 for clarification).

31. The process for submitting contracts, audit reports and invoices is subject to change. Auditors and units should use the submission process and instructions in effect at the time of submission. Refer to the N.C. Department of State Treasurer website at <https://www.nctreasurer.com/state-and-local-government-finance-division/local-government-commission/submitting-your-audit>

32. All communications regarding audit contract requests for modification or official approvals will be sent to the email addresses provided on the signature pages that follow.

33. Modifications to the language and terms contained in this contract form (LGC-205) are not allowed.

FEES FOR AUDIT SERVICES

1. For all non-attest services, the Auditor shall adhere to the independence rules of the AICPA Professional Code of Conduct (as applicable) and *Government Auditing Standards, 2018 Revision*. Refer to Item 27 of this contract for specific requirements. The following information must be provided by the Auditor; contracts presented to the LGC without this information will not be approved.

Financial statements were prepared by: ☐ Auditor ☐ Governmental Unit ☐ Third Party

If applicable: Individual at Governmental Unit designated to have the suitable skills, knowledge, and/or experience (SKE) necessary to oversee the non-attest services and accept responsibility for the results of these services:

Name:

Title and Unit / Company:

Email Address:

OR Not Applicable (Identification of SKE Individual on the LGC-205 Contract is not applicable for GAAS-only audits or audits with FYEs prior to June 30, 2020.)

2. Fees may not be included in this contract for work performed on Annual Financial Information Reports (AFIRs), Form 990s, or other services not associated with audit fees and costs. Such fees may be included in the engagement letter but may not be included in this contract or in any invoices requiring approval of the LGC. See Items 8 and 13 for details on other allowable and excluded fees.

3. The audit fee information included in the table below for both the Primary Government Fees and the DPCU Fees (if applicable) should be reported as a specific dollar amount of audit fees for the year under this contract. If any language other than an amount is included here, the contract will be returned to the audit form for correction.

4. Prior to the submission of the completed audited financial report and applicable compliance reports subject to this contract, or to an amendment to this contract (if required) the Auditor may submit interim invoices for approval for services rendered under this contract to the Secretary of the LGC, not to exceed 75% of the billings for the unit's last annual audit that was submitted to the Secretary of the LGC. All invoices for services rendered in an audit engagement as defined in 20 NCAC .0503 shall be submitted to the Commission for approval before any payment is made. Payment before approval is a violation of law. (This paragraph not applicable to contracts and invoices associated with audits of hospitals).

Primary Government Unit	
Audit Fee (financial and compliance if applicable)	\$
Fee per Major Program (if not included above)	\$
Additional Fees Not Included Above (if applicable):	
Financial Statement Preparation (incl. notes and RSI)	\$
All Other Non-Attest Services	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED	\$

Discretely Presented Component Unit	
Audit Fee (financial and compliance if applicable)	\$
Fee per Major Program (if not included above)	\$
Additional Fees Not Included Above (if applicable):	
Financial Statement Preparation (incl. notes and RSI)	\$
All Other Non-Attest Services	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED	\$

SIGNATURE PAGE**AUDIT FIRM**

Audit Firm*	
Authorized Firm Representative (typed or printed)*	Signature*
Date*	Email Address*

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT

Governmental Unit*	
Date Governing Board Approved Audit Contract* (Enter date in box to right)	
Mayor/Chairperson (typed or printed)*	Signature*
Date	Email Address*

Chair of Audit Committee (typed or printed, or "NA")	Signature
Date	Email Address

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT – PRE-AUDIT CERTIFICATE

Required by G.S. 159-28(a1) or G.S. 115C-441(a1). Not applicable to hospital contracts.

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

Sum Obligated by This Transaction:	\$
Primary Governmental Unit Finance Officer* (typed or printed)	Signature*
Date of Pre-Audit Certificate*	Email Address*



S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MEMBERS
American Institute of CPAs
N. C. Association of CPAs

February 25, 2025

To the Honorable Mayor and
Members of Board of Commissioners
and the Finance Officer

Burgaw Tourism Development Authority
109 N Walker Street
Burgaw, NC 28425

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Burgaw Tourism Development Authority for the years ended June 30, 2025.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, and the disclosures, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of Burgaw Tourism Development Authority as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement Burgaw Tourism Development Authority's basic financial statements. Such information, 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 financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to Burgaw Tourism Development Authority's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by GAAP and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

1) Management's Discussion and Analysis

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the Burgaw Tourism Development Authority's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole, in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements:

1) Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP; and report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

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. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS and will include tests of your accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that comes to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected customers, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

We may, from time to time and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you of your responsibilities.

Audit Procedures—Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including the system of internal control, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. 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, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control.

Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards.

We have identified the following significant risk(s) of material misstatement as part of our audit planning:

- 1) Management override of controls
- 2) Revenue recognition

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of Burgaw Tourism Development Authority's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America with the oversight of those charged with governance.

Management is responsible for making drafts of financial statements, all financial records, and related information available to us; for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers); and for the evaluation of whether there are any conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for the 12 months after the financial statements date or shortly thereafter (for example, within an additional three months if currently known). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements of each opinion unit taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws and regulations.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Other Services

We will also prepare the financial statements of Burgaw Tourism Development Authority in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles based on information provided by you.

We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statement services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the financial statement preparation services and any other nonattest services we provide; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for them.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to Local Government Commission or its designee. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to Local Government Commission or its designee. The Local Government Commission or its designee may intend or decide to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

Lee Grissom, CPA, is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report or authorizing another individual to sign it. We expect to begin our audit on approximately August 1, 2025 and to issue our reports no later than October 31, 2025.

Our fee for services will be at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, confirmation service provider fees, etc.) except that we agree that our gross fee, including expenses, will not exceed \$3,500. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

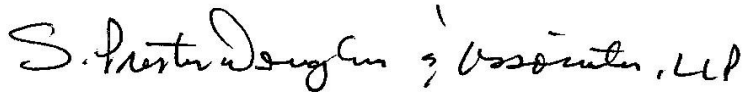
Reporting

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of Burgaw Tourism Development Authority's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to Board Chairman and Board of Directors of Burgaw Tourism Development Authority. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report, or if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or withdraw from this engagement.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Burgaw Tourism Development Authority and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement.

If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Respectfully yours,



S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP
Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Burgaw Tourism Development Authority.

Finance Officer's signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Mayor's signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

The	Governing Board
of	Primary Government Unit
and	Discretely Presented Component Unit (DPCU) (if applicable)

Primary Government Unit, together with DPCU (if applicable), hereinafter referred to as Governmental Unit(s)

and	Auditor Name
	Auditor Address

Hereinafter referred to as Auditor

for	Fiscal Year Ending	Date Audit Will Be Submitted to LGC
-----	--------------------	-------------------------------------

Must be within six months of FYE

hereby agree as follows:

1. The Auditor shall audit all statements and disclosures required by U.S. generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) and additional required legal statements and disclosures of all funds and/or divisions of the Governmental Unit(s). The non-major combining, and individual fund statements and schedules shall be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and an opinion shall be rendered in relation to (as applicable) the governmental activities, the business- type activities, the aggregate DPCUs, each major governmental and enterprise fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information (non-major government and enterprise funds, the internal service fund type, and the fiduciary fund types). The basic financial statements shall include budgetary comparison information in a budgetary comparison statement, rather than as RSI, for the General Fund and any annually budgeted Special Revenue funds.

2. At a minimum, the Auditor shall conduct the audit and render the report in accordance with GAAS. If the Governmental Unit expended \$100,000 or more in combined Federal and State financial assistance during the reporting period, the Auditor shall perform the audit in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* (GAGAS). The Governmental Unit is subject to federal single audit requirements in accordance with Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200 *Uniform Administration Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, Subpart F (*Uniform Guidance*) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Currently the threshold is \$750,000 for a federal single audit and \$500,000 for a State Single Audit. This audit and all associated audit documentation may be subject to review by Federal and State agencies in accordance with Federal and State laws, including the staffs of the Office of State Auditor (OSA) and the Local Government Commission (LGC). If the audit requires a federal single audit in accordance with the Uniform Guidance (§200.501) the Auditor and Governmental Unit(s) should discuss, in advance of the execution of this contract, the responsibility for submission of the audit and the accompanying data collection form to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse as required under the Uniform Guidance (§200.512) to ensure proper submission.

Effective for audits of fiscal years beginning on or after June 30, 2023, the LGC will allow auditors to consider whether a unit qualifies as a State low-risk auditee. Please refer to "Discussion of Single Audits in North Carolina" on the LGC's website for more information.

If the audit and Auditor communication are found in this review to be substandard, the results of the review may be forwarded to the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (NC State Board).

3. If an entity is determined to be a component of another government as defined by the group audit standards, the entity's auditor shall make a good faith effort to comply in a timely manner with the requests of the group auditor in accordance with AU-6 §600.41 - §600.42.
4. This contract contemplates an unmodified opinion being rendered. If during the process of conducting the audit, the Auditor determines that it will not be possible to render an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of the unit, the Auditor shall contact the LGC Staff to discuss the circumstances leading to that conclusion as soon as is practical and before the final report is issued. The audit shall include such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as are considered by the Auditor to be necessary in the circumstances. Any limitations or restrictions in scope which would lead to a qualification should be fully explained in an attachment to this contract.
5. If this audit engagement is subject to the standards for audit as defined in *Government Auditing Standards*, 2018 revision, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, then by accepting this engagement, the Auditor warrants that he/she has met the requirements for a peer review and continuing education as specified in *Government Auditing Standards*. The Auditor agrees to provide a copy of the most recent peer review report to the Governmental Unit(s) and the Secretary of the LGC prior to the execution of an audit contract. Subsequent submissions of the report are required only upon report expiration or upon auditor's receipt of an updated peer review report. If the audit firm received a peer review rating other than pass, the Auditor shall not contract with the Governmental Unit(s) without first contacting the Secretary of the LGC for a peer review analysis that may result in additional contractual requirements.

If the audit engagement is not subject to *Government Auditing Standards* or if financial statements are not prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and fail to include all disclosures required by GAAP, the Auditor shall provide an explanation as to why in an attachment to this contract or in an amendment.

6. It is agreed that time is of the essence in this contract. All audits are to be performed and the report of audit submitted to LGC Staff within six months of fiscal year end. If it becomes necessary to amend the audit fee or the date that the audit report will be submitted to the LGC, an amended contract along with a written explanation of the change shall be submitted to the Secretary of the LGC for approval.
7. It is agreed that GAAS include a review of the Governmental Unit's (Units') systems of internal control and accounting as same relate to accountability of funds and adherence to budget and law requirements applicable thereto; that the Auditor shall make a written report, which may or may not be a part of the written report of audit, to the Governing Board setting forth his/her findings, together with his recommendations for improvement. That written report shall include all matters defined as "significant deficiencies and material weaknesses" in AU-C 265 of the *AICPA Professional Standards (Clarified)*. The Auditor shall file a copy of that report with the Secretary of the LGC.

For GAAS or *Government Auditing Standards* audits, if an auditor issues an AU-C §260 report, commonly referred to as "Governance Letter," LGC staff does not require the report to be submitted unless the auditor cites significant findings or issues from the audit, as defined in AU-C §260.12 - .14. This would include issues such as difficulties encountered during the audit, significant or unusual transactions, uncorrected misstatements, matters that are difficult or contentious reviewed with those charged with governance, and other significant matters. If matters identified during the audit were required to be reported as described in AU-C §260.12-.14 and were communicated in a method other than an AU-C §260 letter, the written documentation must be submitted.

8. All local government and public authority contracts for audit or audit-related work require the approval of the Secretary of the LGC. This includes annual or special audits, agreed upon procedures related to internal controls, bookkeeping or other assistance necessary to prepare the Governmental Unit's records for audit, financial statement preparation, any finance-related investigations, or any other audit-related work in the State of North Carolina. Approval is also required for the Alternative Compliance Examination Engagement for auditing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds expenditures as allowed by US Treasury. Approval is not required on audit contracts and invoices for system improvements and similar services of a non-auditing nature.
9. Invoices for services rendered under these contracts shall not be paid by the Governmental Unit(s) until the invoice has been approved by the Secretary of the LGC. This also includes any progress billings [G.S. 159-34 and 115C-447]. All invoices for audit work shall be submitted in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. The invoice marked 'approved' with approval date shall be returned to the Auditor to present to the Governmental Unit(s) for payment. This paragraph is not applicable to contracts for audits of hospitals.
10. In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the provisions of this contract, the Governmental Unit(s) shall pay to the Auditor, upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC if required, the fee, which includes any costs the Auditor may incur from work paper or peer reviews or any other quality assurance program required by third parties (federal and state grantor and oversight agencies or other organizations) as required under the Federal and State Single Audit Acts. This does not include fees for any pre-issuance reviews that may be required by the NC Association of CPAs (NCACPA) Peer Review Committee or NC State Board of CPA Examiners (see Item 13).
11. If the Governmental Unit(s) has/have outstanding revenue bonds, the Auditor shall submit to LGC Staff, either in the notes to the audited financial statements or as a separate report, a calculation demonstrating compliance with the revenue bond rate covenant. Additionally, the Auditor shall submit to LGC Staff simultaneously with the Governmental Unit's (Units') audited financial statements any other bond compliance statements or additional reports required by the authorizing bond documents, unless otherwise specified in the bond documents.
12. After completing the audit, the Auditor shall submit to the Governing Board a written report of audit. This report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information: (a) Management's Discussion and Analysis, (b) the financial statements and notes of the Governmental Unit(s) and all of its component units prepared in accordance with GAAP, (c) supplementary information requested by the Governmental Unit(s) or required for full disclosure under the law, and (d) the Auditor's opinion on the material presented. The Auditor shall furnish the required number of copies of the report of audit to the Governing Board upon completion.
13. If the audit firm is required by the NC State Board, the NCACPA Peer Review Committee, or the Secretary of the LGC to have a pre-issuance review of its audit work, there shall be a statement in the engagement letter indicating the pre-issuance review requirement. There also shall be a statement that the Governmental Unit(s) shall not be billed for the pre-issuance review. The pre-issuance review shall be performed prior to the completed audit being submitted to LGC Staff. The pre-issuance review report shall accompany the audit report upon submission to LGC Staff.

14. The Auditor shall submit the report of audit in PDF format to LGC Staff. For audits of units other than hospitals, the audit report should be submitted when (or prior to) submitting the final invoice for services rendered. The report of audit, as filed with the Secretary of the LGC, becomes a matter of public record for inspection, review and copy in the offices of the LGC by any interested parties. Any subsequent revisions to these reports shall be sent to the Secretary of the LGC. These audited financial statements, excluding the Auditors' opinion, may be used in the preparation of official statements for debt offerings by municipal bond rating services to fulfill secondary market disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission and for other lawful purposes of the Governmental Unit(s) without requiring consent of the Auditor. If the LGC Staff determines that corrections need to be made to the Governmental Unit's (Units') financial statements and/or the compliance section, those corrections shall be provided within three business days of notification unless another deadline is agreed to by LGC Staff.

15. Should circumstances disclosed by the audit call for a more detailed investigation by the Auditor than necessary under ordinary circumstances, the Auditor shall inform the Governing Board in writing of the need for such additional investigation and the additional compensation required therefore. Upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC, this contract may be modified or amended to include the increased time, compensation, or both as may be agreed upon by the Governing Board and the Auditor.

16. If an approved contract needs to be modified or amended for any reason, the change shall be made in writing and pre-audited if the change includes a change in audit fee (pre-audit requirement does not apply to hospitals). This amended contract shall be completed in full, including a written explanation of the change, signed and dated by all original parties to the contract. It shall then be submitted to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. No change to the audit contract shall be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the LGC.

17. A copy of the engagement letter, issued by the Auditor and signed by both the Auditor and the Governmental Unit(s), shall be attached to this contract, and except for fees, work, and terms not related to audit services, shall be incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein as part of this contract. In case of conflict between the terms of the engagement letter and the terms of this contract, the terms of this contract shall take precedence. Engagement letter terms that conflict with the contract are deemed to be void unless the conflicting terms of this contract are specifically deleted in Item 30 of this contract. Engagement letters containing indemnification clauses shall not be accepted by LGC Staff.

18. Special provisions should be limited. Please list any special provisions in an attachment.

19. A separate contract should not be made for each division to be audited or report to be submitted. If a DPCU is subject to the audit requirements detailed in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act and a separate audit report is issued, a separate audit contract is required. If a separate report is not to be issued and the DPCU is included in the primary government audit, the DPCU shall be named along with the primary government on this audit contract. DPCU Board approval date, signatures from the DPCU Board chairman and finance officer also shall be included on this contract.

20. The contract shall be executed, pre-audited (pre-audit requirement does not apply to hospitals), and physically signed by all parties including Governmental Unit(s) and the Auditor, then submitted in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC.

21. The contract is not valid until it is approved by the Secretary of the LGC. The staff of the LGC shall notify the Governmental Unit and Auditor of contract approval by email. The audit should not be started before the contract is approved.

22. Retention of Client Records: Auditors are subject to the NC State Board of CPA Examiners' Retention of Client Records Rule 21 NCAC 08N .0305 as it relates to the provision of audit and other attest services, as well as non-attest services. Clients and former clients should be familiar with the requirements of this rule prior to requesting the return of records.

23. This contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent and agreement of the Governmental Unit(s) and the Auditor, provided that (a) the consent to terminate is in writing and signed by both parties, (b) the parties have agreed on the fee amount which shall be paid to the Auditor (if applicable), and (c) no termination shall be effective until approved in writing by the Secretary of the LGC.

24. The Governmental Unit's (Units') failure or forbearance to enforce, or waiver of, any right or an event of breach or default on one occasion or instance shall not constitute the waiver of such right, breach or default on any subsequent occasion or instance.

25. There are no other agreements between the parties hereto and no other agreements relative hereto that shall be enforceable unless entered into in accordance with the procedure set out herein and approved by the Secretary of the LGC.

26. E-Verify. Auditor shall comply with the requirements of NCGS Chapter 64 Article 2. Further, if Auditor utilizes any subcontractor(s), Auditor shall require such subcontractor(s) to comply with the requirements of NCGS Chapter 64, Article 2.

27. **Applicable to audits with fiscal year ends of June 30, 2020 and later.** For all non-attest services, the Auditor shall adhere to the independence rules of the AICPA Professional Code of Conduct and *Government Auditing Standards, 2018 Revision* (as applicable). Preparing financial statements in their entirety shall be deemed a "significant threat" requiring the Auditor to apply safeguards sufficient to reduce the threat to an acceptable level. If the Auditor cannot reduce the threats to an acceptable level, the Auditor cannot complete the audit. If the Auditor is able to reduce the threats to an acceptable level, the documentation of this determination, including the safeguards applied, must be included in the audit workpapers.

All non-attest service(s) being performed by the Auditor that are necessary to perform the audit must be identified and included in this contract. The Governmental Unit shall designate an individual with the suitable skills, knowledge, and/or experience (SKE) necessary to oversee the services and accept responsibility for the results of the services performed. If the Auditor is able to identify an individual with the appropriate SKE, s/he must document and include in the audit workpapers how he/she reached that conclusion. If the Auditor determines that an individual with the appropriate SKE cannot be identified, the Auditor cannot perform both the non-attest service(s) and the audit. See "Fees for Audit Services" page of this contract to disclose the person identified as having the appropriate SKE for the Governmental Unit.

28. **Applicable to audits with fiscal year ends of June 30, 2021 and later.** The auditor shall present the audited financial statements including any compliance reports to the government unit's governing body or audit committee in an official meeting in open session as soon as the audited financial statements are available but not later than 45 days after the submission of the audit report to the Secretary. The auditor's presentation to the government unit's governing body or audit committee shall include:

- a) the description of each finding, including all material weaknesses and significant deficiencies, as found by the auditor, and any other issues related to the internal controls or fiscal health of the government unit as disclosed in the management letter, the Single Audit or Yellow Book reports, or any other communications from the auditor regarding internal controls as required by current auditing standards set by the Accounting Standards Board or its successor;
- b) the status of the prior year audit findings;
- c) the values of Financial Performance Indicators based on information presented in the audited financial statements; and
- d) notification to the governing body that the governing body shall develop a "Response to the Auditor's Findings, Recommendations, and Fiscal Matters," if required under 20 NCAC 03 .0508.

29. Information based on the audited financial statements shall be submitted to the Secretary for the purpose of identifying Financial Performance Indicators and Financial Performance Indicators of Concern. See 20 NCAC 03 .0502(c)(6).

30. All of the above paragraphs are understood and shall apply to this contract, except the following numbered paragraphs shall be deleted (See Item 17 for clarification).

31. The process for submitting contracts, audit reports and invoices is subject to change. Auditors and units should use the submission process and instructions in effect at the time of submission. Refer to the N.C. Department of State Treasurer website at <https://www.nctreasurer.com/state-and-local-government-finance-division/local-government-commission/submitting-your-audit>

32. All communications regarding audit contract requests for modification or official approvals will be sent to the email addresses provided on the signature pages that follow.

33. Modifications to the language and terms contained in this contract form (LGC-205) are not allowed.

FEES FOR AUDIT SERVICES

1. For all non-attest services, the Auditor shall adhere to the independence rules of the AICPA Professional Code of Conduct (as applicable) and *Government Auditing Standards, 2018 Revision*. Refer to Item 27 of this contract for specific requirements. The following information must be provided by the Auditor; contracts presented to the LGC without this information will not be approved.

Financial statements were prepared by: ☐ Auditor ☐ Governmental Unit ☐ Third Party

If applicable: Individual at Governmental Unit designated to have the suitable skills, knowledge, and/or experience (SKE) necessary to oversee the non-attest services and accept responsibility for the results of these services:

Name:

Title and Unit / Company:

Email Address:

OR Not Applicable (Identification of SKE Individual on the LGC-205 Contract is not applicable for GAAS-only audits or audits with FYEs prior to June 30, 2020.)

2. Fees may not be included in this contract for work performed on Annual Financial Information Reports (AFIRs), Form 990s, or other services not associated with audit fees and costs. Such fees may be included in the engagement letter but may not be included in this contract or in any invoices requiring approval of the LGC. See Items 8 and 13 for details on other allowable and excluded fees.

3. The audit fee information included in the table below for both the Primary Government Fees and the DPCU Fees (if applicable) should be reported as a specific dollar amount of audit fees for the year under this contract. If any language other than an amount is included here, the contract will be returned to the audit form for correction.

4. Prior to the submission of the completed audited financial report and applicable compliance reports subject to this contract, or to an amendment to this contract (if required) the Auditor may submit interim invoices for approval for services rendered under this contract to the Secretary of the LGC, not to exceed 75% of the billings for the unit's last annual audit that was submitted to the Secretary of the LGC. All invoices for services rendered in an audit engagement as defined in 20 NCAC .0503 shall be submitted to the Commission for approval before any payment is made. Payment before approval is a violation of law. (This paragraph not applicable to contracts and invoices associated with audits of hospitals).

Primary Government Unit	
Audit Fee (financial and compliance if applicable)	\$
Fee per Major Program (if not included above)	\$
Additional Fees Not Included Above (if applicable):	
Financial Statement Preparation (incl. notes and RSI)	\$
All Other Non-Attest Services	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED	\$

Discretely Presented Component Unit	
Audit Fee (financial and compliance if applicable)	\$
Fee per Major Program (if not included above)	\$
Additional Fees Not Included Above (if applicable):	
Financial Statement Preparation (incl. notes and RSI)	\$
All Other Non-Attest Services	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED	\$

SIGNATURE PAGE**AUDIT FIRM**

Audit Firm*	
Authorized Firm Representative (typed or printed)*	Signature*
Date*	Email Address*

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT

Governmental Unit*	
Date Governing Board Approved Audit Contract* (Enter date in box to right)	
Mayor/Chairperson (typed or printed)*	Signature*
Date	Email Address*

Chair of Audit Committee (typed or printed, or "NA")	Signature
Date	Email Address

GOVERNMENTAL UNIT – PRE-AUDIT CERTIFICATE

Required by G.S. 159-28(a1) or G.S. 115C-441(a1). Not applicable to hospital contracts.

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

Sum Obligated by This Transaction:	\$
Primary Governmental Unit Finance Officer* (typed or printed)	Signature*
Date of Pre-Audit Certificate*	Email Address*

Arbor Day Proclamation

Whereas, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Olivia Dawson, Mayor of the Town of Burgaw, do hereby proclaim March 21, 2025 as

Arbor Day

In the Town of Burgaw, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant and care for trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Dated this 11th day of March in the year 2025.

Olivia Dawson, Mayor



**Town of Burgaw
ITEM REPORT**

Item: 7FI

DATE OF MEETING: March 11, 2025 DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Planning	DATE SUBMITTED: 02/25/2025 SUBMITTED BY: Ron Meredith, Planning Director
AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Resolution 2025-10 Supporting the Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program Application	
SUMMARY STATEMENT: The resolution supports the Town of Burgaw's application for the Multimodal Planning Grant Program 2025 (MMPG 2025) to improve pedestrian and cyclist mobility and enhance transportation safety and connectivity. The Cape-Fear Rural Planning Organization (CFRPO) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) provide transportation planning services for Brunswick, Columbus, and Pender counties. The resolution seeks to endorse Burgaw's MMPG 2025 application, facilitated by NCDOT's Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) and Transportation Planning Division (TPD). The goal is to improve pedestrian and cyclist mobility, by expanding connectivity and enhancing safety in the transportation network.	
STAFF RECOMMENDATION AND REQUESTED ACTION:	
FINANCIAL IMPACT INCLUDING FUNDING SOURCE:	
FINANCE DIRECTOR COMMENTS:	
ATTACHMENTS (IF ANY): Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program Application 3.11.2025, RESOLUTION 2025- Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program Application 3.11.2025	



Town of Burgaw Board of Commissioners

Item To Be Considered: Request for review of a resolution supporting the Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program Application.

Date: March 11, 2025

Prepared by: Ron Meredith, Certified Zoning Official

Purpose: This resolution endorses and supports the Town of Burgaw's application for the Multimodal Planning Grant Program 2025, aimed at improving pedestrian and cyclist mobility. It aligns with the goals of enhancing transportation safety and connectivity within the Town.

Background: The Cape-Fear Rural Planning Organization (CFRPO) provides transportation planning services for the counties of Brunswick, Columbus, and Pender in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). NCDOT is dedicated to enhancing transportation safety, efficiently delivering and maintaining infrastructure, and improving the reliability and connectivity of the transportation system.

Purpose of the Resolution: The resolution seeks to endorse and support the Town of Burgaw's application for the MMPG 2025. This program, facilitated by NCDOT's Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) and the Transportation Planning Division (TPD), offers an annual matching grant to encourage municipalities to develop comprehensive multimodal plans. The Town of Burgaw has committed to improving its multimodal transportation environment to enhance mobility for pedestrians and cyclists.

Expected Outcomes: With a new multimodal transportation plan, anticipated improvements in pedestrian and cyclist mobility by identifying projects that expand connectivity and enhance safety. This effort aligns with the broader goals to create a more efficient and connected transportation network.

Resolution 2025-10

Resolution Supporting the Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program Application

WHEREAS, the Cape-Fear Rural Planning Organization (CFRPO) provides transportation planning services for the counties of Brunswick, Columbus, and Pender in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) strives to improve transportation safety, deliver and maintain infrastructure effectively and efficiently, and improve the reliability and connectivity of the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) and the Transportation Planning Division (TPD) facilitate an annual matching grant program - the Multimodal Planning Grant Program (MMPG)- to encourage municipalities to develop comprehensive bicycle plans and pedestrian plans; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Burgaw has made a commitment to improve its multimodal transportation environment; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear RPO believes a new multimodal transportation plan will improve pedestrian and bicyclist mobility by identifying projects that expand connectivity and enhance safety.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Cape Fear RPO endorses and: fully supports the Town of Burgaw's Multimodal Planning Grant Program 2025 Application.

Adopted this 11th day of March 2025.

Attest: _____
Kristin Wells, Town Clerk

Signed: _____
G. Olivia Dawson, Mayor