



**Town of Bethany Beach**

**FY 2027 Approved Budget**

**Approved on March 20, 2026**

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Budget  
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# **Town of Bethany Beach**

## **FY 2027 Approved Budget Overview**

### **Budgetary Process**

The budget is prepared by the Town Manager in conjunction with the Finance Director and Department Managers. Department requests are discussed with an emphasis on minimizing waste while ensuring that employees have the tools needed to meet operational needs. The town-wide budget is compiled into a draft budget and submitted to the Budget and Finance Committee for review.

The Town Manager discusses the need for large, capital projects with the Assistant Town Manager, and Department Managers, then with Town Council. Capital projects needed for the safety of the public are given the highest priority followed by projects needed to safeguard town or public assets. The town hires engineers for their professional recommendations, bid packages, and construction oversight. Engineer recommendations are used to determine which streets will be repaved each year. Infrastructure is repaired as needed. Maintenance of currently owned assets is prioritized above improvement projects, which are scheduled as funds allow.

The purpose of the Budget and Finance Committee is to provide assistance and guidance to the Town Manager and staff leading to the development, drafting and review of the Town's annual budget, both for the short-term and long-term. The committee reviews the proposed budget and schedule of fees, conducts mid-year reviews comparing the budget to actual results and makes recommendations regarding budget adjustments. The Town's Fund Balance Policy gives direction to the Budget Committee regarding the appropriate level of Operating, Capital Replacement and specific reserves in each fund. The Budget Committee holds meetings, which are open to the public, generally in the months of January, February, March, July and October.

The budget is presented to the Town Council in March. The Town Council reviews the budget and holds a public hearing to allow the public to provide input. The Council then votes to approve the budget or request specific changes. This vote usually occurs at the March Town Council meeting. Fiscal year 2027 runs from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027.

### **Budget Segments**

The General Fund is the largest segment of the Town's budget and encompasses all Town services except for the Sanitation and Water Departments. The three main funding sources are property taxes, rental taxes and parking. The largest portion of funds goes to Public Safety which includes the Police Department and Beach Patrol (lifeguards). The second largest portion of funds goes to Public Works which includes Streets & Parks, Stormwater and maintenance of the Beach, Boardwalk and Comfort Station.

The Sanitation Department is a stand-alone Enterprise Fund. This means that it is a self-supporting department so that sanitation fees are used only for sanitation related expenses. The Sanitation Department's main operational costs are for personnel and for disposal fees charged by the Delaware Solid Waste Authority. Reserves are maintained for the replacement of trash trucks.

The Water Department is also a stand-alone Enterprise Fund. The operational and capital needs of the town water system are funded entirely through water specific revenue. Water services are priced with a goal of fully funding the current and future water service needs of the town. The Water Department's main operational cost is personnel followed by the chemicals needed to treat the water.

The Water Department Debt Service Fund is funded through a Sinking Fund Fee. This fee is charged to all properties based on front footage. Monies raised from this fee are restricted to use for repayment of the principal and interest of Water Department debt.

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FY 2027 Approved Budget**

**General Fund**

Projected cash, receivables & investments at start of FY 2027	14,300,000
FY 2027 Revenue Budget	11,233,000
Total Available Funding	25,533,000
FY 2027 Operating Budget	10,611,000
FY 2027 Capital Budget	625,000
Capital projects remaining & budgeted in prior fiscal years	1,908,000
Committed for post-employment health care benefit	335,000
Committed for Cultural and Historic Committee	41,000
Committed for Storm Emergency Relief Fund	4,350,000
Committed for Capital Replacements - recommended range \$5,202,000 to \$9,938,000	5,541,000
Operating Reserve - recommended range of 15% to 30% of the Operating Budget	2,122,000
Total Allocation of Projected Funds	25,533,000

**Sanitation Department**

Projected cash, receivables & investments at start of FY 2027	1,750,000
FY 2027 Revenue Budget	1,775,000
Total Available Funding	3,525,000
FY 2027 Operating Budget	1,467,000
FY 2027 Capital Budget	90,000
Capital projects remaining & budgeted in prior fiscal years	-
Committed for Capital Replacements - recommended range \$590,000 to \$1,180,000	1,675,000
Operating Reserve - recommended range of 15% to 30% of the Operating Budget	293,000
Total Allocation of Projected Funds	3,525,000

**Water Department Operating & Capital**

Projected cash, receivables & investments at start of FY 2027	3,900,000
FY 2027 Operating Revenue Budget	1,849,000
FY 2027 Impact Fee Revenue Budget	75,000
Total Available Funding	5,824,000
FY 2027 Operating Budget	1,693,000
FY 2027 Capital Budget	230,000
Capital projects remaining & budgeted in prior fiscal years	1,417,000
Committed for replacement of filter media	350,000
Committed for Capital Replacements - recommended range \$1,449,000 to \$3,755,000	1,795,000
Operating Reserve - recommended range of 15% to 30% of the Operating Budget	339,000
Total Allocation of Projected Funds	5,824,000

**Water Department Debt Service**

Projected cash, receivables & investments at start of FY 2027	93,000
FY 2027 Sinking Fund Revenue Budget	246,000
Total Available Funding	339,000
FY 2027 Debt Service Budget	246,000
Funds reserved for future Debt Service payments	93,000
Total Allocation of Projected Funds	339,000

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Revenue Budget**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>FY 2024 Actual Revenue</b>	<b>FY 2025 Actual Revenue</b>	<b>FY 2026 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2026 Revenue 3/20/2026</b>	<b>FY 2027 Approved Budget</b>
Property Taxes:					
Property Taxes	2,104,926	2,122,970	2,125,000	2,149,156	2,275,000
Penalties	6,237	4,410	5,000	3,910	5,000
	2,111,163	2,127,380	2,130,000	2,153,065	2,280,000
Real Estate Transfer Taxes	1,245,489	1,057,074	1,000,000	1,344,259	1,000,000
Rental Real Estate Taxes	2,055,126	2,186,436	2,175,000	2,146,338	2,175,000
Licenses, Permits & Fees:					
Concession Fees	89,989	93,589	106,000	106,000	106,000
Business Licenses	163,850	166,180	160,000	175,780	160,000
Commercial Rental Licenses	12,300	14,400	14,000	12,300	14,000
Residential Rental Licenses	55,800	64,200	69,000	65,500	69,000
Franchise Fees	107,191	104,993	115,000	101,887	115,000
Building Permits	930,178	728,499	600,000	783,042	600,000
Shuttle Permits	81,912	70,632	94,000	93,550	94,000
Variance/Public Hearing Fees	6,750	4,250	2,000	4,750	2,000
	1,447,971	1,246,742	1,160,000	1,342,808	1,160,000
Parking:					
Parking Permits - Annual	156,790	159,640	212,000	157,200	157,000
Parking Permits - Daily/Weekly	42,915	52,950	70,000	67,520	68,000
Parking Pay Stations & Meters	2,340,872	2,486,518	3,307,000	2,997,286	3,140,000
Parking Fines	540,266	440,386	578,000	611,167	625,000
	3,080,843	3,139,494	4,167,000	3,833,173	3,990,000
Police:					
Police Department Misc. Revenue	21,407	18,228	15,000	14,889	15,000
Traffic Fines - Alderman Court	4,379	3,741	6,000	1,967	4,000
Traffic Fines - State Court	41,087	33,951	30,000	28,708	32,000
	66,872	55,920	51,000	45,565	51,000
Contributions & Miscellaneous:					
Grass Fees	-	-	2,000	-	2,000
Junior Lifeguard Program Revenue	13,620	13,556	14,000	12,460	14,000
Electric Vehicle Charging Stns	3,186	3,487	4,000	-	4,000
Contributions Private Source	500	3,292	1,000	3,250	1,000
Contributions for Cultural & Historic Affairs	24,208	25,290	26,000	24,476	26,000
Contributions for Fourth of July Parade	22,106	23,508	24,000	29,945	24,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	745	1,799	1,000	6,058	1,000
Returned Check Fees	225	630	-	270	-
Insurance Proceeds	29,614	29,332	-	-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	5,315	14,192	-	18,825	15,000
	99,519	115,086	72,000	95,284	87,000
Interest Income:					
Interest Income	456,062	659,758	537,000	539,601	490,000
<b>General Fund Revenue Total</b>	<b>10,563,046</b>	<b>10,587,890</b>	<b>11,292,000</b>	<b>11,500,093</b>	<b>11,233,000</b>
			Change from prior year budget		(59,000)
					-0.5%

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Revenue Budget**

	FY 2024 Actual Revenue	FY 2025 Actual Revenue	FY 2026 Approved Budget	FY 2026 Revenue 3/20/2026	FY 2027 Approved Budget
<b>Sanitation Department</b>					
Sanitation Fees:					
Refuse Fees	1,260,415	1,695,461	1,700,000	1,702,732	1,705,000
Penalties	1,033	3,128	2,000	2,871	2,000
Refuse Fees - Special	2,372	2,685	3,000	3,000	3,000
Interest	35,391	55,460	54,000	50,924	65,000
Insurance Proceeds	-	-	-	1,237	-
Sales of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	27,900	-
<b>Sanitation Revenue Total</b>	<b>1,299,211</b>	<b>1,756,734</b>	<b>1,759,000</b>	<b>1,788,664</b>	<b>1,775,000</b>
			Change from prior year budget		16,000 0.9%
<b>Water Department Operating Revenue</b>					
Water Usage:					
Water Usage - In Town	1,015,541	1,019,661	1,220,000	698,014	1,195,000
Water Usage - Salt Pond	298,116	326,076	360,000	217,341	370,000
Water Usage - Savannah's Landing	88,568	86,486	105,000	55,814	103,000
Water Usage - Other	29,142	34,648	34,000	22,393	39,000
Penalties	3,776	4,434	4,000	4,663	4,000
	1,435,143	1,471,306	1,723,000	998,226	1,711,000
Other Fees & Interest:					
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,581	(1,241)	1,000	1,505	1,000
Interest Income	106,279	145,632	115,000	112,268	105,000
Insurance Proceeds	-	24,867	-	-	-
Tap Ins	5,900	5,000	3,000	4,500	3,000
Meter Reimbursements	24,450	33,224	15,000	32,283	20,000
Cut Off Fees	5,075	8,150	8,000	9,200	8,000
Inspection Fees	805	1,015	1,000	1,015	1,000
Returned Check fee	225	56	-	585	-
	144,314	216,703	143,000	161,355	138,000
<b>Water Operating Revenue Total</b>	<b>1,579,457</b>	<b>1,688,009</b>	<b>1,866,000</b>	<b>1,159,581</b>	<b>1,849,000</b>
			Change from prior year budget		(17,000) -0.9%
<b>Water Impact Fee Capital Revenue</b>	<b>93,555</b>	<b>96,672</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>83,530</b>	<b>75,000</b>
			Change from prior year budget		- 0.0%
<b>Water Debt Service Revenue</b>					
Sinking Fund Fees:					
Sinking Fund - Town	189,007	188,829	189,000	188,030	189,000
Sinking Fund - Salt Pond	39,694	40,728	40,000	40,728	40,000
Sinking Fund - Savannah's Landing	13,478	13,478	14,000	13,478	14,000
Sinking Fund - Other	3,627	3,627	3,000	3,627	3,000
<b>Water Debt Service Revenue Total</b>	<b>245,806</b>	<b>246,663</b>	<b>246,000</b>	<b>245,863</b>	<b>246,000</b>
			Change from prior year budget		- 0.0%
<b>Town-Wide Revenue</b>	<b>13,781,074</b>	<b>14,375,967</b>	<b>15,238,000</b>	<b>14,777,731</b>	<b>15,178,000</b>
			Change from prior year budget		(60,000) -0.4%

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Operating Budget**

	FY 2024 Actual Expended	FY 2025 Actual Expended	FY 2026 Approved Budget	FY 2026 Expended 3/20/2026	FY 2027 Approved Budget
<b>General Fund</b>					
Administration & Trolley	1,493,161	1,642,090	1,612,000	1,452,340	1,735,000
Public Safety:					
Police	2,401,407	2,589,805	3,033,000	2,891,457	3,365,000
Parking	780,676	793,268	924,000	764,935	918,000
Alderman Court	41,521	45,501	48,000	44,150	51,000
Beach Patrol	791,618	971,558	1,055,000	1,049,759	1,146,000
	<u>4,015,222</u>	<u>4,400,132</u>	<u>5,060,000</u>	<u>4,750,301</u>	<u>5,480,000</u>
Public Works:					
Streets and Parks	1,377,923	1,488,659	1,601,000	1,342,984	1,696,000
Stormwater Management	247,067	188,502	257,000	149,732	250,000
Beach, Boardwalk, & Comfort St.	513,490	511,065	589,000	532,366	580,000
	<u>2,138,480</u>	<u>2,188,226</u>	<u>2,447,000</u>	<u>2,025,083</u>	<u>2,526,000</u>
Building Official / Code Enforcement	283,433	341,629	350,000	331,299	379,000
Bandstand & Entertainment	303,060	367,570	409,000	376,395	431,000
Cultural & Historic Affairs	19,811	18,062	30,000	19,984	30,000
Fourth of July Parade	17,934	25,521	30,000	27,623	30,000
Total General Fund Operating Costs	8,271,100	8,983,231	9,938,000	8,983,025	10,611,000
			Change from prior year budget		673,000 6.8%
<b>Sanitation Fund</b>	1,160,951	1,172,086	1,408,000	1,115,050	1,467,000
			Change from prior year budget		59,000 4.2%
<b>Water Fund</b>	1,426,324	1,486,430	1,629,000	1,492,743	1,693,000
			Change from prior year budget		64,000 3.9%
<b>Town-Wide Operating Budget</b>	10,858,374	11,641,746	12,975,000	11,590,817	13,771,000
			Change from prior year budget		796,000 6.1%

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Operating Budget by Expenditure Type**

	<b>Full-Time Employees</b>	<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Contract Services</b>	<b>Operations</b>	<b>Minor Capital</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>General Fund</b>							
Administration	4.65	908,000	49,000	601,000	62,000	115,000	1,735,000
Public Safety:							
Police	13.45	2,685,000	120,000	339,000	64,000	157,000	3,365,000
Parking	2.45	346,000	17,000	508,000	3,000	44,000	918,000
Alderman Court	0.25	49,000	-	1,000	-	1,000	51,000
Beach Patrol	-	922,000	64,000	79,000	48,000	33,000	1,146,000
Public Works:							
Streets and Parks	8.00	925,000	139,000	541,000	5,000	86,000	1,696,000
Stormwater Management	-	18,000	11,000	210,000	1,000	10,000	250,000
Beach, Boardwalk, & Comfort St.	-	280,000	68,000	206,000	2,000	24,000	580,000
Building Official / Code Enforcement	2.25	332,000	13,000	22,000	4,000	8,000	379,000
Bandstand & Entertainment	1.00	154,000	5,000	263,000	1,000	8,000	431,000
Cultural & Historic Affairs	-	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Fourth of July Parade	-	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>32.05</b>	<b>6,619,000</b>	<b>486,000</b>	<b>2,770,000</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>486,000</b>	<b>10,611,000</b>
Percentage by Expenditure type		62%	5%	26%	2%	5%	
<b>Sanitation Fund</b>	<b>6.80</b>	<b>882,000</b>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>458,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>55,000</b>	<b>1,467,000</b>
Percentage by Expenditure type		60%	5%	31%	0%	4%	
<b>Water Fund</b>	<b>6.15</b>	<b>862,000</b>	<b>209,000</b>	<b>603,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>1,693,000</b>
Percentage by Expenditure type		51%	12%	36%	0%	1%	
<b>Town-Wide Total</b>	<b>45.00</b>	<b>8,363,000</b>	<b>765,000</b>	<b>3,831,000</b>	<b>256,000</b>	<b>556,000</b>	<b>13,771,000</b>
Percentage by Expenditure type		60%	6%	28%	2%	4%	

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Capital and Debt Service Approved Budget Summary**

	<b>FY 2026 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2026 Expended 3/20/2026</b>	<b>FY 2026 Est. Carryover to FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027 Approved Budget</b>
<b>General Fund</b>				
Administration & Trolley	159,000	152,958	-	-
Police	162,000	131,629	14,000	75,000
Parking	16,000	15,930	-	-
Beach Patrol	-	-	-	-
Streets and Parks	1,590,000	1,043,719	491,000	500,000
Stormwater Management	1,561,000	423,193	875,000	50,000
Beach, Boardwalk, & Comfort St.	698,000	147,104	528,000	-
Building Official	-	-	-	-
Bandstand & Entertainment	70,000	67,624	-	-
Cultural / Historic & Parade	-	-	-	-
<b>General Fund Capital</b>	<b>4,256,000</b>	<b>1,982,157</b>	<b>1,908,000</b>	<b>625,000</b>
<b>Sanitation Fund Capital</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>84,587</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>90,000</b>
<b>Water Fund Capital</b>	<b>1,778,000</b>	<b>314,180</b>	<b>1,417,000</b>	<b>230,000</b>
<b>Water Fund Debt Service</b>	<b>246,000</b>	<b>169,642</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>246,000</b>
<b>Town-Wide Capital &amp; Debt Budget</b>	<b>6,370,000</b>	<b>2,550,565</b>	<b>3,325,000</b>	<b>1,191,000</b>

**Town of Bethany Beach**  
**FY 2027 Capital and Debt Service Approved Budget Detail**

<b>General Fund</b>		<b>FY 2026 Est. Carryover to FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2027 Total Funding</b>
Vehicles & Equipment	Replacement of two police vehicles with some grant funds	14,000	75,000	89,000
<b>Police Total</b>		<b>14,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>89,000</b>
Streets	Paving, street safety, alleys, parking lots, & lighting	303,000	500,000	803,000
Land & Building	Replacing the Public Works building on Rt 1	100,000	-	100,000
Land & Building	Renovations of Museum and Nature Center	88,000	-	88,000
<b>Streets and Parks Total</b>		<b>491,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>991,000</b>
Drainage Projects	Lake Bethany Retaining Wall and Living Shoreline	115,000	-	115,000
Drainage Projects	Bethany West Stormwater Improvements Study	-	50,000	50,000
Drainage Projects	Loop Canal retractable dam design	273,000	-	273,000
Drainage Projects	Repairs to drainage on N Pennsylvania Ave	487,000	-	487,000
<b>Stormwater Total</b>		<b>875,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>925,000</b>
Boardwalk	Repairs to the Boardwalk substructure and replacement ramps	528,000	-	528,000
<b>Beach, Boardwalk, &amp; Comfort Station Total</b>		<b>528,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>528,000</b>
<b>Total General Fund Capital Budget</b>		<b>1,908,000</b>	<b>625,000</b>	<b>2,533,000</b>
		<b>FY 2026 Est. Carryover to FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2027 Total Funding</b>
<b>Sanitation Fund</b>				
Vehicles & Equipment	Replace a 2015 Ford F-350 Diesel pickup	-	90,000	90,000
<b>Sanitation Total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>90,000</b>
		<b>FY 2026 Est. Carryover to FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2027 Total Funding</b>
<b>Water Fund</b>				
Machinery & Equipment	SCADA & controls upgrade for wells and transfer pumps	175,000	-	175,000
Machinery & Equipment	Clarifier replacement and building in addition to State loan	1,167,000	-	1,167,000
Machinery & Equipment	Purchase of a vacuum trailer to clear ditches and worksites	-	80,000	80,000
Machinery & Equipment	Replace equipment as needed	33,000	75,000	108,000
Water Systems	Distribution system repair work as needed	42,000	75,000	117,000
<b>Total Water Department Capital Budget</b>		<b>1,417,000</b>	<b>230,000</b>	<b>1,647,000</b>
Debt Service	Water loan repayment	-	246,000	246,000
<b>Total Water Department Debt Service Budget</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>246,000</b>	<b>246,000</b>
<b>Town-Wide Capital &amp; Debt Budget</b>		<b>3,325,000</b>	<b>1,191,000</b>	<b>4,516,000</b>

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Special Funds (Grants) Approved Budget**

	<b>FY 2026 Approved Budget</b>	<b>FY 2026 Actually Awarded</b>	<b>FY 2026 Expended 3/20/2026</b>	<b>FY 2026 Total Remaining</b>	<b>FY 2027 Approved Budget</b>
Municipal Street Aid Street Repair (MSA) with interest	122,000.00	116,848.71	116,600.00	248.71	117,000.00
Electric Vehicle and EV Charging Stations (DESEU)	127,480.28	127,480.28	-	127,480.28	-
Outdoor Recreation, Parks, and Trails (ORPT)	9,422.13	9,422.13	5,910.00	3,512.13	-
State Bond Bill Lake Bethany Bulkhead Design	10,285.95	10,285.95	10,285.95	-	-
State Bond Bill Lake Bethany Erosion Mitigation	475,000.00	475,000.00	475,000.00	-	-
Federal Lake Bethany Erosion Mitigation Project	500,000.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	-	-
Bethany West Stormwater Improvements Study	-	50,000.00	18,042.50	31,957.50	-
Playground Replacement Grant	-	-	-	-	150,000.00
Police Retirement Plan	100,000.00	84,615.66	84,615.66	-	85,000.00
Criminal Justice Council (CJC)	10,000.00	6,150.00	6,150.00	-	7,000.00
Office of Highway Safety (OHS)	20,000.00	29,796.50	29,796.50	-	25,000.00
Sussex County Police Vehicle	40,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	-	45,000.00
Bulletproof Vest Grant	2,000.00	7,322.57	7,322.57	-	5,000.00
Emergency Illegal Drug Enforcement (EIDE)	5,000.00	4,310.16	473.51	3,836.65	5,000.00
State Aid to Local Law Enforcement (SALLE)	8,835.82	8,317.18	8,317.18	-	6,000.00
Fund to Combat Violent Crime (FCVC)	30,000.00	36,059.68	1,916.76	34,142.92	30,000.00
Police Body Cameras	25,230.01	25,230.01	25,230.01	-	25,324.00
<b>Total General Fund Grant Budget</b>	<b>1,485,254.19</b>	<b>1,535,838.83</b>	<b>1,334,660.64</b>	<b>201,178.19</b>	<b>500,324.00</b>
Water Asset Management Grant	85,662.79	85,662.79	785.29	84,877.50	-
Clarifier Planning Grant	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	-	-
<b>Total Water Fund Grant Budget</b>	<b>135,662.79</b>	<b>135,662.79</b>	<b>50,785.29</b>	<b>84,877.50</b>	<b>-</b>

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Schedule of Fees**

**ADMINISTRATIVE FEES:**

Property Owner Address printed labels or listing (Tax List)	150.00
Property Owner Address on disc or email (Tax List)	50.00
Return Check Fee	45.00

**APPLICATIONS TO PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Application for Land Combining	250.00
Application for Land Partitioning	250.00
PRDs and Minor Residential Subdivisions	\$500 plus \$250 per dwelling
Major Residential Subdivisions	\$1,000 plus \$250 per dwelling

**ADDITIONAL COSTS:**

For all Planned Residential Developments, major and minor subdivisions and all construction projects that require engineering reviews, making periodic inspections or both, the applicants shall make a cash deposit in an amount to be determined by the Building Inspector for the purpose of covering all costs and expenses incurred by the Town of Bethany Beach in using any outside consultant or resource (engineer, scientists, consultant, etc.) in considering, examining, reviewing and making reports and recommendations concerning the plan, as submitted, or making inspections during construction. Upon the final review and approval of the submitted plans, but prior to the issuing of a building permit, the Building Inspector shall determine the costs which have been incurred by the Town for any outside consultant or resource and shall deduct those costs from the deposit made by the applicant(s). If the deposit exceeds the costs incurred by the Town, the Building Inspector shall refund the remaining funds to the applicant(s) without interest. If the deposit is less than the costs incurred by the Town, the applicant(s) shall pay the difference to the Town prior to the issuance of any approval for construction by any Town Official, Committee, or Commission.

**APPLICATION FOR BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS:**

Basic Application to the Board	1,000.00
Application requiring Town Solicitor review	2,500.00
Application requiring Town Solicitor and court stenographer	3,250.00

**BUILDING PERMITS:**

Building Permit Fee	3%
Based on actual construction costs, but in an amount not less than the cost computed by the International Code Council's square foot construction cost standard (R-3 VB), if applicable. Charged on all commercial and residential primary buildings, accessory buildings, and improvements to an existing open deck, screen porch, accessory building or patio by adding walls and/or roof to become enclosed living space.	
Fee for renovations and retrofits is based on actual construction costs, but in an amount not less than the cost computed by the ICC's square foot construction cost standard (R-3 VB) if applicable.	
Building Permit Fee - 501 (c)(3) organizations with proper documentation	1%
Based on actual construction costs, but in an amount not less than the cost computed by the International Code Council's square foot construction cost standard (R-3 VB), if applicable. Charged on all commercial and residential primary buildings, accessory buildings, and improvements to an existing open deck, screen porch, accessory building or patio by adding walls and/or roof to become enclosed living space	
Fee for renovations and retrofits is based on actual construction costs, but in an amount not less than the cost computed by the ICC's square foot construction cost standard (R-3 VB) if applicable.	
Publicly funded organizations offering a public service (Bethany Beach Volunteer Fire Company and South Coastal Library) are exempt from Building Permit Fees.	
Building an Open Deck or Patio - Gross floor area of attached or unattached open deck with area open to sky	0.75/sq. foot
Repairs	
\$30.00 for 1st \$1,000 or fraction thereof	30.00
\$10.00 per additional \$1,000 of value or fraction thereof	10.00
All Other Permits	
Relocation of dwelling unit	100.00
Demolition of any building or structure	150.00
Driveway and sidewalk	150.00
Fence and permanent subdivision sign	75.00
Private swimming pool permit	150.00
Public swimming pool permit	300.00
Bulkheads, docks, and ramps, installation of new or removal of existing to replace with new	50.00
Solar Systems and GCL Heat Exchange Well Systems	50.00
Signs	50.00
Minimum Permit Fee	30.00

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Schedule of Fees**

**MERCANTILE LICENSE FEES:**

Business License (may purchase up to 3 years for \$250 per year)	250.00
Application for Home Occupation	50.00
Special Events Vendor Fee (per vendor engaging in for-profit activities at an event)	50.00
Rental License, Commercial or Residential. Residential license will not be issued without notarized safety certificate	100.00
Administrative fee for failure to obtain a license by the renewal due date.	100.00
Rental Tax - these taxes are due to the Town of Bethany Beach in addition to the State of Delaware's 4.5% short-term rental lodging tax (if applicable)	
Tax on gross rental receipts on Commercial and Residential rentals	7.00%
Tax on gross rental receipts on rentals subject to State Public Accommodations Tax of 8% on hotels, motels, and tourist homes	3.25%

**OTHER FEES:**

Shuttle Bus Permit (shuttle with seating capacity of 11 or more)	12,770.00
Shuttle Bus Permit (shuttle with seating capacity of 10 or less)	6,390.00
Shuttle Bus Permit (single day)	208.00
Permit for Portable on Demand Storage Unit (POD) or similar temporary storage, personal use	25.00
Permit or permit renewal for Portable on Demand Storage Unit (POD) or similar temporary storage, construction	50.00

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Document Fee	18.50
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**PARKING DEPARTMENT:**

Parking meter rate per hour	4.00
Park Mobile Convenience Fee. Charged on each credit card transaction	0.60
Booting of vehicle for non-payment of parking fines	100.00
Collection agency fee equal to the original fine will be assessed when unpaid parking tickets are turned over to a collection agency.	

**PARKING PERMITS:**

**RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNERS**

1st Permit. One free Side Street permit per property or unit.	N/C
2nd Permit. One additional permit may be purchased for improved residential properties of either a Side-Street or a Sand & Side Street permit.	
Side Street Permit	50.00
Sand & Side Street Permit (allows parking in beach end lots)	200.00 **
Replacement Permits (Only a Side-Street permit may be purchased to replace a lost or stolen permit)	50.00

**C-1 BUSINESS LICENSE HOLDER**

Employee parking permit for businesses located east of Rt 1.	50.00
Gold Permits - Excludes 2 hour meters, beach lots, and handicapped spaces (Limit 2 Gold or Premier).	500.00 *
Premier Permits - Includes all metered space and beach lots, excludes handicapped spaces (Limit 1).	1,800.00 *

**VISITOR PARKING PERMITS**

Fee per calendar day. Permits are sold as 1-day, 3-day, 5-day, and 7-day passes	40.00
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**CONSTRUCTION PARKING PERMITS (8:00am to 5:30pm on weekdays only)**

1-day	25.00
Annual permit	500.00

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:**

Administrative fee -Violation of Town Code @ Property Maintenance (Per Lot) First Offense	300.00
Administrative fee -Violation of Town Code @ Property Maintenance (Per Lot) Second Offense	600.00
Administrative fee -Violation of Town Code @ Property Maintenance (Per Lot) Additional Offenses	900.00
An additional fee may be charged for employee time or contracted work to bring properties into compliance with the Town Code.	

**REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX:**

1.5% of Gross Sales Price	
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**PROPERTY TAX RATE :**

Per \$100 of Town of Bethany Beach Assessed Value (100% of Assessed value)	0.208 *
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**TRASH FEES:**

4 yard dumpster	3,560.00
3 yard dumpster	3,000.00
2 yard dumpster	2,300.00

**Town of Bethany Beach  
FY 2027 Approved Schedule of Fees**

Commercial: Flat Rate Per Unit	810.00
Residential: Flat Rate Per Unit	580.00
Special Trash or yard waste collection (minimum charge)	50.00

**WATER BOND SINKING FUND**

Per Front Footage, minimum of 50 feet	1.07
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**WATER SERVICES:**

In Town Flat Rate per year	216.00
0 - 10,000 gallons used	5.40/1000 gal
10,001 - 40,000 gallons used	6.60/1000 gal
over 40,000 gallons used	7.80/1000 gal
Out of Town Limits - \$6.50/1000 Gallons of Usage plus Flat Rate (Connection Charge) \$265/year for 5/8" Meter	\$318 Flat rate plus \$7.80/1000 gal
Additional water meter readings requested by property owner	25.00
Check meter accuracy (will be refunded if meter is defective)	35.00
Water turn on or off at meter (during regular Water Department service hours)	25.00
Water turn on or off at meter (after regular Water Department service hours or on holidays)	200.00
Water turn off at meter for non-payment	100.00
Additional fee for restoring water service after regular Water Department service hours or on holidays	200.00
Water Meter	Cost plus 20%
Water Department Inspection Fee	35.00
Install a tap into town water main with installation of lateral and curb stop	\$1,000 to \$1,500
All costs associated with new or "re-taps" into the Bethany Beach water system will be borne by the property owner	
Water Impact Fee applicable to new construction and reconstruction	5,250.00

For meters in excess of 1" the following multiplier table is used to calculate the fee for residential and commercial properties:

Meter Type	Meter Size	Maximum Rate (GPM)	Ratio to 1" meter
Simple	1"	25	1.0
Simple	1.5"	50	2.0
Simple	2"	80	3.2
Compound	2"	160	6.4
Turbine	2"	200	8.0
Compound	3"	350	14.0
Turbine	3"	450	18.0
Compound	4"	700	28.0
Turbine	4"	1200	48.0
Compound	6"	1400	56.0
Turbine	6"	2500	100.0
Compound	8"	2000	80.0
Turbine	8"	4000	160.0
Turbine	10"	6500	260.0

Buildings being demolished and rebuilt that were originally built during or after 1989 will be given a credit of \$1,250 representing the previously charged Water Impact Fee

Additional fee for renovations and additions to current structures	1.50/sq. foot
Sale of water to noncustomers (metered) \$7.50 @ 1000 Gallons - Minimum of fee of \$25.00 (One day advanced notice required)	

**ALDERMAN COURT**

Basic court cost	20.00
Additional court security fee per violation	2.00
Additional fee for appearance before the Alderman for traffic or town ordinance violations (per violation)	20.00
Appearance before the Alderman for parking tickets	10.00
Issuance of capias/bench warrant	15.00
Returned check fee (state mandated)	30.00
Additional fee for deferred payment plan	25.00
Additional fee for probation before judgement agreement, per case	10.00

**AMBULANCE SERVICE FEE**

The Town collects an annual fee for the Bethany Beach Volunteer Fire Department, which performs the ambulance service.

The amount charged is based on the financial history and projections of the ambulance service.	60.00
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\* Change in fee amount

\*\* New fee