



Board Meeting Agenda Abstract

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Location:

Agenda Item

Resolution - Water Shortage Response Plan Declaration and Implementation - (Wagner) - Item 10.B

Item Explanation

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to implement the Water Shortage Response Plan.

Staff Comments

North Carolina General Statute 143-355(l) mandates all units of local government that provide or plan to provide public water service and all community water systems having 1,000 or more connections or serving more than 3,000 people in North Carolina be required to prepare and submit to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality - Division of Water Resources (DWR) a Local Water Supply Plan (LWSP).

A Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP) is a requirement of an LWSP. A Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP) establishes authority to declare a water shortage, defines the different phases of water shortage severity, and outlines appropriate responses for each phase. A system's WSRP needs to be reviewed and updated every five years. After DWR approval, the system will need to have the WSRP approved by its governing board. The last Town Board review and resolution was on February 20, 2024.

Per the Town Code of Ordinances, Part 5- Municipal Utilities, Article C - Water Shortages & Conservation, "Whenever the Town experiences a potential Stage I water shortage, the Town Board shall be empowered to declare a water shortage warning and The Town Manager, or his duly authorized agent charged with implementation and enforcement of this article, shall be and is hereby granted the authority to implement and enforce any of the treated water use restrictions".

Having three (3) separate water providers can lead to three (3) separate water supply situations, and the timing of a Town Board meeting and declaration is not always practical. For that reason, management and staff believe it to be more efficient for the Town Manager to be authorized to declare and implement after providing notification to the Town Board of the intent to declare and implement. Therefore, management and staff recommend the adoption of the provided resolution.

The City of Raleigh is a bulk water provider to the Town of Fuquay-Varina. Current conditions have triggered the City of Raleigh to implement Stage 1 of their Water Shortage Response Plan effective Monday, April 20, 2026. The bulk water agreement between the Town of Fuquay-Varina and the City of Raleigh requires the Fuquay-Varina to implement water conservation measures at least as restrictive as those implemented by Raleigh within 7-days of the implementation of their water conservation measures. Stage 1 of Fuquay-Varina's Water Shortage Response Plan meets that responsibility.

Following adoption of the resolution that delegates authority to the Town Manager to declare a water shortage warning, the Town will plan to implement Stage 1 of its Water Shortage Response Plan effective Friday, April 24, 2026 at 12:00 a.m. and it will continue until further notice.

Pursuant to the Water Shortage Response Plan and adopted Town Code of Ordinances, Stage 1 reads as follows:

5-1034. - Water conservation Stage I, water shortage warning.

(a)Whenever the Town experiences a potential Stage I water shortage, the Town Board shall be empowered to declare a water shortage warning. The goal of Stage I conservation measures is to reduce overall consumption by a total of ten percent.

(b)An extensive publicity campaign will be initiated with conservation efforts publicized through the general news media or any other appropriate method for making such notification public. When water shortage warning conditions are declared, the following mandatory conservation measures shall be imposed.

(c)It shall be unlawful to use water from the public water system supplied by the Town:

(1)To water lawns, grass, shrubbery, trees, flowers and vegetable gardens except by the schedule outlined under section 5-1033.

(2)To wash down outside areas such as streets, driveways, service station aprons, parking lots, office buildings, exteriors of existing or newly constructed homes or apartments, sidewalks or patios, or to use water for other similar purposes; provided, however, that any person regularly engaged in the business of washing such areas shall be permitted to use water for such purposes.

(3)To wash vehicles at home on days others than Saturday or Sunday.

(4)To fill new pools or completely refill existing pools.

For the purposes of watering lawns, grass, shrubbery, trees, flowers, and vegetable gardens, 5-1033 states the following:

5-1033. - Annual water conservation measures.

(a)Every Town customer shall comply with the following schedule for the automated irrigation

(sprinklers and irrigation systems) of outdoor landscaping, such as grass, shrubbery, trees, flowers and vegetable gardens, from May 1 through October 31 annually:

(1)For customers whose address numbers end in an even digit, such watering shall be restricted to Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

(2)For customers whose address numbers end in an odd digit, such watering shall be restricted to Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

(b)Exceptions to these restrictions (on a temporary 45-day basis, with the payment of a permit fee) may be granted for landscapers or property owners engaged in establishing new grass seed, sod or landscaping on a site-by-site basis, by permit issued by the Town. Any person regularly engaged in the sale of plants shall be permitted to use water for such purposes. These annual restrictions do not apply to any citizens that utilize a drip irrigation system.

Fiscal Note

No

Recommendation

MOTION TO: Adopt the resolution authorizing the Town Manager to declare and implement Water Shortage Response Plan measures and stages as recommended and presented.

ATTACHMENTS

[Resolution - Water Shortage Response Plan Declaration and Implementation - 2026.04.26.docx](#)

[FV Town Code - Water Shortages and Conservation - Part 5-Chapter 1-Article C .pdf](#)
[Town of Fuquay-Varina WSRP 1.16.2024.pdf](#)