

City Council

City Council

Bobby Merritt, Joseph M. Tyson, Mayor BJ Murphy, Mayor Pro Tem William W. Barker, Alice S. Tingle and Robert A. Swinson, IV

The City Council of Kinston is comprised of five Council members and the Mayor. The Council members and Mayor are elected to four year, staggered terms - meaning they don't all come up for re-election at once. They are elected "at-large" and they represent everyone in the city, as opposed to residents in certain districts. The Mayor is the chairman of the City Council, and leads all meetings of the Council. The Mayor is not, however, a voting member of the board, but may vote to break a tie, which is rare. When the Mayor is absent, the Mayor Pro Tem leads meetings. The Mayor Pro Tem is appointed by the Mayor and is always an elected City Council member. The City Council meets in regular session in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7 pm. The meetings are broadcast live on Government Access Channel 2, and replayed at 10 am, 7 pm and Midnight daily. The City Council holds a work session on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. All City Council meetings, except those designated as Closed Sessions, are open to the public. Residents are encouraged to attend. The City Council appoints the City Manager, the City Attorney, and the City Clerk. The City Attorney acts as legal counsel for the City. The City Manager oversees the City staff and day to day operations of the City. The City Clerk is the custodian of all the official records for the City and serves as liaison between the Mayor/City Council and the public. Persons wishing to reach the Mayor, or a member of the City Council, should contact the City Clerk by telephone at 252-939-3115 or by email at carol.barwick@ci.kinston.nc.us.