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Former Mayor Phil Crews will return to his post at the Malabar Town Hall.

Phil Crews appointed Malabar mayor through November

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Former Malabar mayor Phil Crews has returned to his post on an interim basis to fill the unexpired term of Carl Beatty, who died Jan. 31 at age 70.

Crews, a retiree, previously served as mayor from 1997-2004. He also served as interim mayor in 2012 after the death of Tom Eschenberg.

"He'll fill in and guide the town until the November elections. He's very well-versed in parliamentary procedure," Town Clerk/Treasurer Debby Franklin said.

Former councilwoman Marisa Acquaviva, who stepped down in November because of term limits, and Stuart

Borton, owner/chef of Yellow Dog Café, were the other applicants for interim mayor.

Crews is a 20-year Air Force veteran who received the Bronze Star during the Vietnam War. Later, he served as vice president of fund distributions with United Way of Brevard.

Beatty served as Malabar mayor from 1985-87, and he was elected mayor again in November 2012. Town officials honored him last month during a public memorial service at the large pavilion in Malabar Community Park.

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