

TOWN OF BOGUE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
February 25, 2021

The Town Council of Bogue met Monday, February 25, 2021 at the Bogue Town Hall, 121 Chimney Branch Road. Mayor Robert O'Chat called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor O'Chat led a prayer. Council members present: Mayor O'Chat, Charlie Wilton, Richard Dougherty, David Padgett and Albert Taylor. Herbert Page was excused. Also present, Town Clerk Shawne Southard.

Agenda

Councilman Taylor made a motion to accept the agenda. Councilman Padgett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Mayor O'Chat thanked Dale Sowers, Mayor of the Town of Peletier, for attending.

New Business

Mayor O'Chat stated that he attended an information meeting regarding Carteret County's sales tax disbursement method. He explained that the county currently distributes sales tax on an ad valorem basis; this puts mainland towns at a disadvantage because it calculates what each town will get based on real estate value. Mayor O'Chat stated that the Towns of Newport, Cape Carteret, Morehead City, Peletier and Cedar Point have all agreed to ask the County Commissioners to reevaluate how to distribute the sales tax. If the county were to change from ad valorem to per capita the residents of the county would get an equal share of sales tax instead of the higher real estate towns getting the majority. During discussion Mayor O'Chat showed that with the ad valorem way Bogue gets less than 1% of the county sales tax which is approximately \$21 per resident with 732 residents(\$15,500 per year); while Indian Beach gets approximately \$3,800 per resident with 127 residents(\$482,775 per year). If the county were to change to the per capita disbursement method each resident would receive approximately \$297; with Bogue getting \$217,635 per year estimated. Mayor O'Chat also stated that in North Carolina more counties distribute sales tax money the per capita way (53 counties). All this information is on the State of North Carolina's website. Councilman Dougherty asked how is it decided? Mayor O'Chat said the county commissioners decide on ad valorem or per capita and that the commissioners will be having a planning meeting March 3 and their regular meeting March 15. Councilman Padgett asked how beach towns would operate if they received less money with the per capita basis? Dale Sowers stated that the beach towns could raise their property tax to compensate for the difference. Mayor O'Chat also stated that the Town of Bogue residents pay more (.16) for sales tax than Emerald Isle (.15). Councilman Padgett made a motion to send a request to the county commissioners asking the sales tax disbursement change from ad valorem to per capita. Councilman Wilton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous Reports/Announcements

None

Adjournment

At 6:20 p.m. Councilman Wilton made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Dougherty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

BOBBY O'CHAT, MAYOR

SHAWNE SOUTHARD, TOWN CLERK