

TOWN OF BOGUE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
March 20, 2023

The Town Council of Bogue met Monday, March 20, 2023 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, David Padgett, Charlie Wilton, Albert Taylor, Richard Dougherty and Mike Crose. Also present; Attorney Donna Boggs and Town Clerk Shawne Southard.

Agenda

Councilman Dougherty made a motion to accept the agenda. Councilman Crose seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Councilman Wilton made a motion to approve the February 20, 2023 minutes with changes to Events showing Hwy 58 not Hwy 70. Councilman Padgett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Clerk Southard presented a Resolution to support the NCDOT Multimodal Planning Grant; the grant would fund the development of a plan for future bicycle and pedestrian improvements in Bogue, Cape Carteret, Cedar Point and Peletier. If all four Towns participate Bogue's cost will be no more than \$800; as each town will pay part of the 10% of the total cost of \$50,000 - \$60,000. Councilman Dougherty made a motion to approve the Resolution to support the NCDOT Multimodal Planning Grant. Councilman Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor O'Chat asked Clerk Southard to look into how the Town can help our residents that may be medically fragile during an emergency/disaster. She explained that the County has an online application that residents fill out and are contacted by the county if there is an emergency/disaster; however, she thinks it would benefit our residents if we mailed out a letter asking if they would like to be on a list to contact in case of an emergency/disaster. Councilman Crose stated that during Florence it would have been beneficial to have a list of residents that needed help. Clerk Southard also told the Town Council that if there was a need for something, for example oxygen, she can request that through the County's Emergency Operations Center. Mayor O'Chat suggested that if the list is too long we could get volunteers to help with contacting residents. Councilman Taylor suggested a refrigerator magnet with helpful information on it for our residents. Attorney Boggs suggested looking into how to make this sustainable in the future. The Town Council asked Clerk Southard to come up with a draft letter to mail out to our residents.

Clerk Southard presented a Draft Budget for 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. Mayor O'Chat suggested the Town Council take it home and look it over and come back in April with any suggestions or changes.

Department Reports

*Finance:* Mayor O'Chat stated total cash funds are \$683,097.93.

*Budget:* Clerk Southard stated property taxes and Vehicle taxes are paid through January, Local Sales tax is paid through February and we got the third installment for our quarterly payout for Utilities Franchise. She also stated that she has reached out to a list of Auditors and will have proposals at the next meeting. Lastly, she stated that the NC Treasurer requested an explanation for why our audit was late and why our budget was 3.85% over in Ad Valorem tax revenue than what we actually received (their recommendation is no more than 3%). A letter explaining the auditor had staffing issues and got behind on their submission and the Town's estimate for tax revenue was higher than what was collected and we will be more conservative in the future. Councilman Wilton made a motion to approve the corrective action plan letter to NC Treasurer. Councilman Padgett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

*Planner:* Clerk Southard stated that one permit was approved; 162 Old Walnut Lane (accessory building).

*ILA:* Councilman Dougherty stated the budget was approved.

*Streets:* None

*Emergency Manager:* None

*Town Hall:* None

*Events:* Next Fireworks meeting is May 18 at Cape Carteret Town Hall at 10am.

Miscellaneous Reports/Announcements

Clerk Southard stated Town Hall will be closed March 23 and 27 for her vacation. Clerk Southard let the Town Council know that the League of Women Voters is hosting a seminar at the Western Carteret Library about local municipalities and what they do. Lastly, on April 18 Clerk Southard will be participating in an emergency hurricane drill with the Emergency Operations Center that will be from 3:30-7:30pm.

Adjournment

At 6:32 p.m. Councilman Wilton made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Padgett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_ BOBBY O'CHAT, MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_ SHAWNE SOUTHARD, TOWN CLERK