

**TOWN OF BOGUE
COUNCIL MEETING
April 20, 2026**

The Town Council of Bogue met on Monday, April 20, 2026, 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, Councilmember Crose led the prayer.

Town Clerk Owens took roll call.

Council Members present were Mayor O'Chat, JoAnn Parker, John Dale, Mike Crose, and Allison Cannon. Also, and Town Clerk Barbara Owens. Council member Albert Taylor had an excused absence, town attorney Donna Boggs arrived late.

Agenda

Mayor O'Chat asked for a motion to approve the agenda as written. Councilmember Dale made the motion to approve the agenda as written, Councilmember Crose seconded the motion, motion carried.

Minutes

Councilmember Parker made a motion to approve March 16, 2026, regular meeting minutes Councilmember Dale seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Mayor O'Chat asked if there was anyone signed up with public comment. Clerk Owens stated that no one had signed up to speak.

Unfinished Business

Mayor O'Chat stated there was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

Mayor O'Chat stated the first item for new business is Misty Long, Carteret County Emergency Services is here to speak about the Carteret County Senior Program. Ms. Long stated that the Senior Safety Program is a program that the county is trying to get the word out to residents about. It consists of a call to each participant in the program at a specified time each morning to conduct a welfare check. The calls are made seven days a week. If there is no answer, law enforcement will respond to the residence first. If determined that rescue is necessary, they will respond to the location as well. The participants fill out a detailed form upon registration in the program that assists law enforcement and rescue with critical information regarding the participant and their caregiver's contact information. Detailed information is crucial. The enrollment in the program must be updated yearly to ensure accurate information. There is also a medically fragile program that the county offers to citizens. Participation in this program allows emergency services to know where the county's medically fragile residents reside and in the event of a natural disaster they deploy law enforcement to check on the participants in the areas that were affected, and make sure that they are able to receive care, transport to shelter, that their medical equipment is functioning. They are also able to make recommendations to participants prior to an event so that they are prepared with medication for extended periods, battery power for medical equipment, etcetera. She also discussed additional community events that Carteret County Emergency

Services will be offering. Ms. Long advised that a lot of the fire departments have a “knox box” program where a box with an entry key into the residence is in a box with a punch pad. It is a completely secure program and beneficial for first responders to be able to enter a residence in the case of an emergency. She encouraged the council to speak to people about the programs and have them sign up either online, mailing the documentation in or calling her office. Mayor O’Chat thanked Ms. Long for coming to speak about the Senior Program. Mayor O’Chat mentioned how beneficial this program will be for some of the residents in Bogue. Ms. Long stated that participants in the programs will be reminded of the need to get at least fourteen (14) days of medication, since Hurricane Florence they are now suggesting more days of medication. Please pass the word around as there are so many seniors that do not have any help in the area. Ms. Long discussed the post disaster simulation event that they have partnered with Trillium on. The simulation will give advice to participants on all aspects of post disaster recovery processes through different scenarios helping to prepare for post disasters. Also, the hurricane expo that is offered each year is May 30, 2026 at the Carteret Community College Civic Center. Attorney Boggs said that she does a lot of wills and estate planning for older people and I would like to provide this information to them because I do not believe many people know about this program. Ms. Long agreed that it would be a good idea they are trying to get the word out. Mayor O’Chat thanked Ms. Long for all the information that she provided in the presentation.

Mayor O’Chat stated item number two (2) Town of Bogue property acquisition deeded to the town by the Conservation Fund and the Military, there is an attached GIS map in the agenda packet, and we have Mrs. Rhonda Murray here to give a brief overview. Rhonda Murray, Director Community Plans and Liaison Office, gave a brief about the property acquisition. Ms. Murray said the Federal government has the Readiness and Environmental Protection Program which partnered with the Conservation Fund and with the Department of Navy. The Conservation Fund purchased the property then got a grant through the North Carolina Land and Water and split the acquisition costs, which were ninety-five thousand dollars (\$95000.00) for each one of the partners. They then deeded the property to the Town of Bogue for a park. There are North Carolina Land and Water Fund restrictions and maintenance of the creek, for the Department of Navy it must remain a park, no housing which is not compatible with the flying mission; or any other types of uses that would be congregation of people or anything of that nature. It was a great partnership. The Department of Navy has done this with the Town of Emerald Isle, the park that they have near their administrative buildings, which was a partnership with the Department of Navy. It is a great program, and they enjoy working with local communities for these types of outcomes. Attorney Boggs said she just received the title insurance. Mayor O’Chat thanked Mrs. Murray for attending the meeting. Mayor O’Chat asked if there were any questions relating to the property acquisition. There were none. Mayor O’Chat said item number three (3) will require a motion, is to fill the vacancy on the planning board. There are two alternates, Cecil Hurst and Scott Stoner. Mayor O’Chat inquired if Mr. Hurst wanted to remain an alternate. Mr. Hurst said he wanted to remain an alternate on the planning board. Council member Parker motioned to appoint Scott Stoner to the planning board as a regular member. Councilmember Cannon said this will leave us with just one alternate on the planning board. Mayor O’Chat stated that is correct and we will fill it later. Mayor O’Chat said we have a motion, does anyone want to second it? Councilmember Dale seconded the motion, Councilmember Cannon asked Mr. Stoner if he was interested in the position. Mr. Stoner said he was interested in the position. The council voted unanimously to appoint Scott Stoner to the planning board vacancy. Mayor O’Chat said that has passed. Mayor O’Chat said that we will hear the department reports before our next item.

Department Reports

Finance: Mayor O'Chat stated total cash funds are \$678,340.

Budget: Clerk Owens stated that the sales tax has been received by the town through February, Property tax through March, vehicle tax through February and Utilities Franchise tax through the fourth quarter.

Planner: The town has an application for a Special Use Permit which will come up next month for retail sales in Business one (B1) zoning district, with retail sales being listed as a special use in the town.

Attorney Boggs mentioned the only issue with that is she would not be able to attend the May 18, 2026, town council meeting due to a previously scheduled medical procedure. She advised that it would be prudent to move the meeting to another date, allowing her to attend the meeting as there will be a Special Use Permit coming before the council. Discussion ensued. Mayor O'Chat asked for a motion to cancel the May 18, 2026, Town Council meeting and reschedule the May town council meeting to be held May 14, 2026. Council member Crose made a motion to cancel the May 18, 2026, council meeting and reschedule it for Thursday May 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., Council member Cannon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously to cancel the May 18, 2026, council meeting and reschedule the meeting to Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

ILA: Mayor O'Chat asked if there was anything new with the ILA. Councilmember Dale said Western Fire Department hired Dustin Clapp Fire Chief full time, with a six-month probationary period.

Streets: Mayor O'Chat stated the paving for Chimney branch is scheduled for June

Emergency Manager: no report.

Town Hall: Councilmember Dale no report.

Events: Councilmember Cannon and Councilmember Parker stated no report.

Miscellaneous Reports/Announcements

There are no miscellaneous reports/announcements.

Mayor O'Chat stated the next item is for the council to go into closed session. We will have to ask everyone to step outside. Mayor O'Chat stated we will need a motion to enter closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege SS 143-318.11(a)(3). At 6:25 p.m. Council member Parker made the motion to enter closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege SS 143-318.11(a)(3), Council member Dale seconded the motion to enter closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege SS 143-318.11(a)(3), motion to enter closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege SS 143-318.11(a)(3) passed unanimously.

At 7:15 p.m. Council member Crose made a motion to come out of closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege SS 143-318.11(a)(3), Council member Parker made the second to come out of closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege SS 143-318.11(a)(3), motion carried unanimously.

Mayor O'Chat stated the next Town Council meeting is May 14, 2026.

Adjournment Council member Dale made a motion to adjourn, Council member Parker seconded, town council meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m. with a unanimous vote.

_____ ROBERT O'CHAT, MAYOR

_____ BARBARA OWENS, TOWN CLERK