



Town of Bayboro

Town Council Regular Meeting - Minutes

January 6, 2026

Present: Vennie Himbry, JE Hardison, Christopher Broughton, Mayor Keith Cowell, Joseph Cole, and Glenn Williamson, Property Manager Mark Howell, Finance Officer - Denise Celvik, and Town Clerk - Melissa Watson

Call to Order: Mayor Keith Cowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance and the opening prayer which was offered by Joseph Cole.

Approval of the Minutes: Councilman Glenn Williamson moved to approve the November minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Vennie Himbry seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved with no changes or additions.

Grant of Update:

Bayboro has received \$15,000.00 from The Harold H. Bate Foundation. It was suggested that the town apply for more funds.

Audit of Update:

Denise Cilvik reported that the audit information was submitted by the requested due date.

Mayor Cowell asked Financial Officer Denise Cilvik if the town had received the money from the tax office. Denise said that the town had started receiving the tax money, but a total of the amount received was unavailable at this time. Mayor Cowell commented that state (North Carolina) funding has been promised, but the state budget will not be passed until April.

Public Participation: None

Maintenance Report: Mark Howell reported on the following areas:

- **Town:** Several trash cans have been delivered.
- **Himbry Park:** Mark reported that he had put tape on ledge of the ramp. The climbing wall needed repair. Mark removed the broken portion until repairs could be completed.

- **Veteran's Park:** Kids are already using and enjoying the park. Mark is going to take two trash cans to the park to help keep the park tidy. Mayor Cowell suggested that councilmen check on the park regularly to find and discourage vandalism.

Old Business:

Councilman Christopher Broughton provided for the assembled a spreadsheet of the budget (Attachment B) for Veteran's Park and updated everyone on the progress. Internet has now been installed at the park. This will enable the use of security cameras to monitor the park. The cameras will be installed 30' up poles to protect the cameras from detection and vandalism. The future parking lot will accommodate 20 vehicles. If the town is able to get more funding, the parking area may be increased to accommodate 40 vehicles. Further discussion included talking with the neighboring church and sharing a driveway which would be mutually beneficial for both the town and the church.

New Business:

Mayor Pro Tem Vennie Himbry suggested that the Town of Bayboro initiate a festival similar to Bayboro's Blue Crab Festival during the 1990s. Discussion including possible locales for the event. Mayor Cowell suggested that times/dates of other town festivals be researched so there will not be a conflict. No action at this time. Research of possible dates suggested.

Meeting adjourned 7:23p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Watson, Town Clerk

Keith Cowell, Mayor

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