

River Bend Town Council
Work Session Minutes
January 10, 2019
River Bend Town Hall
7:00 P.M.

Present Council Members:	Mayor John Kirkland Bill Camp Bud McClard Buddy Sheffield Bud Van Slyke
Town Manager:	Delane Jackson
Town Attorney:	Dave Baxter
Town Clerk:	Ann Katsuyoshi
Police Chief:	Sean Joll

COUNCIL RESIGNATION

Town Manager Jackson announced that he had received a call late in the afternoon from Councilman Wanamaker. Mr. Wanamaker said that he will not be returning to River Bend. He and his wife have decided to live in Arizona. His resignation is effective immediately.

Councilman Sheffield **moved to accept Councilman Wanamaker's resignation effective immediately.** The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF JONES COUNTY WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, TYNDALL LEWIS, MCDAVID ASSOCIATES

Town Manager Delane Jackson told the Council that he was recently contacted by Jones County regarding a new water treatment facility that they plan to construct just across the Craven County line in Jones County. He introduced Mr. Tyndall Lewis of McDavid Associates.

Mr. Lewis said that this new facility will produce a backwash effluent that needs to be discharged somewhere. Our wastewater treatment plant is the closest permitted facility. Jones County is interested in discharging into our treatment plant. Our plant has more than enough capacity to handle the additional inflow and this would create a new sewer customer for us. However, Jones County does soften their water which means that we would have to remove the additional salt before it was discharged. This is a process that the Town currently does not do for its own water and would involve much more processing than normal.

The Council discussed this item briefly. Councilman Van Slyke **moved to deny Jones County's request to discharge into our wastewater treatment plant at the current time.** The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Mr. Jackson reminded the Council that former Councilman Bauer had been a member of the Audit Committee. With his resignation, a new Council member needs to be appointed to that position. Councilman Sheffield said that since Councilman McClard had taken over all of Councilman

Bauer's other duties, it would be logical that he assume this one as well. Councilman Sheffield **moved to appoint Councilman McClard to the Audit Committee effective immediately.** The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

The Manager presented the Council with a new Council Responsibility Chart. He said that this new chart assumed that Councilman McClard would, in fact, take over Councilman Bauer's previous responsibility. However, Mr. Jackson wanted the Council's approval before posting the Chart. After brief discussion, Councilman Sheffield **moved to appoint Harry McClard to the positions previously held by Gene Bauer on the Council Responsibilities Chart as presented.** The motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET KICK-OFF

Manager Jackson presented a short PowerPoint presentation outlining the usual budget process. The Council reviewed their Priorities and Vision Statement and the proposed meeting schedule. With no objections or changes, this will be the schedule that is posted.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS

There being no further business, Councilman Sheffield **moved to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Ann Katsuyoshi
Town Clerk

**River Bend Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2019**

Present Council Members:	Mayor John Kirkland Bill Camp Bud McClard Buddy Sheffield Irving Van Slyke
Town Manager:	Delane Jackson
Town Clerk:	Ann Katsuyoshi
Town Attorney:	Dave Baxter
Police Chief:	Sean Joll
Zoning Assistant:	Allison McCollum

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kirkland at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 17, 2019 in the Town Hall Meeting Room with a quorum present.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor presented the Council with the Consent Agenda. Councilman Sheffield **moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.** The motion carried unanimously. Within this motion the following items were approved:

- A. Approve:
Minutes of the December 13, 2018 Work Session
Minutes of the December 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Delane Jackson reported to the Council that several of our residents still have piles of storm debris on their property. The Town's pick up of this debris ended last November and it became the residents' responsibility to dispose of the material. Mr. Jackson suggested to the Council that enough time has passed since the storm that we now need to set a deadline for removal of this debris.

The Council discussed this issue briefly. Councilman Sheffield **moved to set a deadline of 45 days from today for storm debris removal and that the residents be advised of this deadline.** The motion passed unanimously.

Assistant Zoning Administrator Allison McCollum gave the Council members an update on the number of homes that were damaged by Hurricane Florence and the number of permits the Town has issued for repairs.

The Manager then reminded the Council members of the process for filling a Council vacancy. He said that applicants will be interviewed at the February Work Session and a selection will be made at the February Regular Meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – COUNCILMAN BUDDY SHEFFIELD

Councilman Sheffield had no report.

PLANNING BOARD – COUNCILMAN BUDDY SHEFFIELD

Councilman Sheffield had no report.

PARKS & RECREATION/CAC – COUNCILMAN BUD MCCLARD

Parks and Recreation – Councilman McClard said that Parks and Rec met January 9 and discussion was centered around the upcoming year's budget and some of the planned activities. The budget will likely again be less than \$2000 for all activities for the entire year. The Board is currently three members short but one person has applied to be appointed. This leaves two openings and we are seeking volunteers.

Red Caboose Library – The Library has moved into its new location across from Town Hall. This location is smaller and a bit cramped but the rent is a little over half of the prior location. The library continues to be funded entirely by donations. The library has open Wi-Fi available and it is looking into other ways to serve River Bend.

CAC - The CAC meets Wednesday January 16 to review design of the entrance to River Bend.

Organic Garden - The garden has been quiet during hurricane recovery and the holidays but a small winter garden is doing well. The spring-summer garden is planned and ready, with the first vegetables scheduled to be planted by the end of this month (January).

Two community workshops will be offered this winter. The first one is the Fifth Annual Roundtable on Tuesday, February 12 at 6:30 pm. The theme will be “getting your garden on track to grow healthy herbs and vegetables following last year’s destructive storm.” Information will be posted in the E-News and on the town website and RBCOG Facebook page. Reservations are suggested. Contact Dee Smith at 252-349-4000.

PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER RESOURCES – MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

PWAB Report – The Mayor had no report.

ENVIRONMENT/WATERWAYS – COUNCILMAN BILL CAMP

EWAB Report – Councilman Camp reported that the EWAB met on January 15. Under Old Business they discussed the following items.

- 1) Signs for the channel markers NO Wake Zone have been approved. Ralph will check with the town manager and check on their status.
- 2) Canal dredging and ownership was discussed. As a first step the board believes a survey of the channel system would be required to ascertain if dredging is needed. Brian Leonard

offered to check with his contacts at DNR (Dept. Natural Resources) and ask their advice as to how we should proceed in this matter.

- 3) The kayak ramp repair is on hold until the contractor is in the area.

New Business topics included:

- 1) Ralph will look into transporting Christmas Trees to Morehead City to help in their beach erosion project. They use the trees under sand dunes to help secure the dunes.
- 2) A copy of the Comprehensive Plan will be again distributed to the board. The board has new members not familiar with the Comprehensive Plan. Bryan has emailed all members copies of the current plan.
- 3) The proposed EWAB Budget for next fiscal year was discussed and approved.

FINANCE – COUNCILMAN IRVING VAN SLYKE, JR.

Financial Report – Town Manager Jackson told the Council that the total of the General Fund Cash Balances as of December 31, 2018 was \$4,348,535. Ad valorem tax collections were at \$450,568.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor said that it is hard to realize that four months have passed since Hurricane Florence visited River Bend. This hurricane was the most destructive storm to hit the area in recent years. Certainly the most destructive to hit River Bend during its years as an incorporated municipality. Four months past the hit by Hurricane Florence, recovery efforts are evident and progress is being made; however, there is a long way to go to complete the recovery effort. Patience needs to be a characteristic to be practiced by all residents during this prolonged period.

Residents of River Bend with homes in the floodplain area of Town experienced significant damage. Most homes not in the floodplain had little or no damage. Please show compassion and understanding to those working through rebuilding efforts if you are one of the fortunate homeowners without damage.

Council Members Gene Bauer and Bill Wanamaker had homes that experienced severe flooding and both have decided to move to other locations. Gene has relocated to Goldsboro, NC and Bill to Phoenix, AZ. The Council took action under the ordinance for appointing a Council Member to the position vacated by Mr. Bauer at the December meeting. Mr. Harry McClard was selected from among five applicants for that position. Mr. Wanamaker resigned just before the December Council Meeting and his position will be filled by the Council during the January Council Meetings. Information about this process is posted on the Town's web page. We thank both Gene and Bill for their service to the Town during their tenure as Council Members. Their commitment to the citizens of River Bend during this period of service is greatly appreciated and we wish them the best in their new homes.

The decision process required for homeowners to make the refitting of homes is a difficult one and contractors and tradesmen to accomplish the work associated with refitting are in short supply. These factors demand patience and acceptance that normal conditions throughout Town will take some time to be realized. I am certain that residents struggling with the rebuilding process

would appreciate the understanding and support of Town residents who have not experienced loss or damage in the hurricane.

The Town staff has performed in an exemplary fashion during the hurricane event and through the recovery period. They have worked long hours and have performed their normal duties as well as the demands of this emergency event. Please express appreciation to these staff members as you encounter them in the normal course of business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilman Sheffield **moved to adjourn**. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Ann H. Katsuyoshi
Town Clerk