

**River Bend Town Council  
Work Session Meeting  
August 11, 2016**

Present Council Members:	Mayor John Kirkland Luci Avery Bill Camp Buddy Sheffield Irving Van Slyke Pat Yocum
Town Manager:	Delane Jackson
Town Attorney:	Aaron Arnett
Town Clerk:	Ann Katsuyoshi
Police Chief:	Ryland Matthews
Finance Administrator:	Margaret Theis

**AMEND ORDINANCE TO CHANGE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

Manager Jackson reminded the Council of previous discussions regarding the Environment and Waterways Advisory Board (EWAB). When this Board was established it provided for a nine-member Board. However, all of the other Advisory Board were set up with seven members. The members of the EWAB do not believe that nine members are necessary and have asked the Council to reduce the membership to seven. In addition to making that change, this Ordinance Amendment also includes small changes to the wording of other Advisory Board Establishment Ordinances.

**DISCUSSION – CHANGING TIME OF WORK SESSION**

Mr. Jackson said that the Council has been discussing the possibility of changing the time of the Work Session for several months. He pointed out that they have solicited resident input for several weeks. While only a few residents had responded, the majority had opposed the time change.

Councilwoman Yocum said that the Work Sessions could be videotaped like the Regular Meetings to offer an alternative for those who cannot attend daytime meetings. She also pointed out that she had received the following responses from residents on this issue:

**For Time Change**

Kay Alkire	126 Wildwood DR.
William Alkire	126 Wildwood DR
Jenny Garcia	125 Wildwood DR
Brandon Breisch	125 Wildwood DR
Mary Holihan	106 Portside LN
Kevin Holihan	106 Portside LN
Howard Barret	219 Rockledge DR
Margaret Pederson	210 Rockledge DR
Richard Pederson	210 Rockledge DR
William Ritchie	324 Plantation DR

Nancy Ritchie	324 Plantation DR
Amos Phillips	222 Shoreline DR
Nancy Phillips	222 Shoreline DR
Al Kindler	426 Gatewood DR
Maureen Johnson	307 Gatewood DR
Wayne Sunday	307 Gatewood DR
Ann Kearney	316 Lakemere Dr
Ed Kearney	316 Lakemere Dr
Joanna Archer	102 Courtney Lane
Lonnie Scott	434 Gatewood DR
Brenda Scott	434 Gatewood DR
George Tumlin	236 Shoreline DR

**Against Time Change**

Bruce Jenkins	303 Shoreline DR
Lonnie Dow	103 Virginia CT
Constance Casey	106 Quarterdeck

**UPDATE ON CHICKEN ISSUE**

Councilman Sheffield said that the Planning Board considered a request by a citizen that the board amend the town ordinance banning farm animals to allow backyard chickens in River Bend. That citizen did not attend the meeting but several of his neighbors did.

The Board heard comments from those in attendance which were universally against amending the farm animal ordinance. Reasons given included health concerns, noise issues, adverse effect on property values and chicken feces washing into the river.

**DISCUSSION – POLICE CAR ISSUE**

The Town Manager reported that the 2007 Police car has developed mechanical problems. It is estimated that repairs would cost a minimum of \$3,000. The Town can purchase a new patrol car off the state contract for approximately \$24,000. Since this car was scheduled to be replaced in the next fiscal year, the staff recommended that the Town move ahead with the purchase now, rather than invest a large sum of money in such an old vehicle. Since the Council places money in a CIP each year for vehicle replacement, this purchase will not require any additional funds.

**LETTER OF APPRECIATION FOR JANET NAWOJSKI**

Mayor Kirkland said that he had forwarded a suggested thank you letter to Janet Nawojski for all of her hard work on the Town Hall gardens. It was the consensus of the Council that this letter should be sent.

**REVIEW AGENDA FOR THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

The Council reviewed the Agenda for the September 15, 2016 Council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT/RECESS**

There being no further business, Councilman Sheffield **moved to adjourn**. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

---

Ann H. Katsuyoshi  
Town Clerk

**River Bend Town Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 18, 2016**

Present Council Members:	Mayor John Kirkland Luci Avery Bill Camp Buddy Sheffield Irving Van Slyke Pat Yocum
Town Manager:	Delane Jackson
Town Clerk:	Ann Katsuyoshi
Town Attorney:	Jimmie Hicks
Police:	Chief Ryland Matthews
Finance Administrator:	Margaret Theis

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kirkland at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2016 in the Town Hall Meeting Room with a quorum present.

**PUBLIC ADDRESSES**

Chris Barta, 404 Gatewood, said that changing the time of the Work Session to 11:00 a.m. would preclude working residents from attending the meetings.

Connie Casey, 106 Quarterdeck, said that many of the Town's residents volunteer for organizations outside of the Town. Changing the meeting time to business hours would make it difficult on their schedules.

Barbara Maurer, 300 Shoreline Drive, said that moving the time for Work Sessions could cause conflicts with the schedules of employees.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Mayor presented the Council with the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Avery **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 June 9, 2016 Closed Session*
  - Minutes of the July 14, 2016 Work Session*
  - Minutes of the July 21, 2016 Regular Meeting*

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER RESOURCES – MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND**

The Public Works Advisory Board met on August 2nd. Public Works Superintendent Brandon Mills reported that the elevated tank on Shoreline Drive was returned to service following servicing and painting by the vendor that performs inspection and maintenance on the Town's elevated

water tanks. He also reported that the annual flushing of water distribution lines has been completed.

Manager Jackson discussed the response to the severe storm event that occurred on 15 July. He explained that the Rhems Fire Department had provided very timely assistance to the Public Works staff in removing a large tree that had blocked Shoreline Drive. He also discussed that when a tree or limb from your neighbor's tree falls on your yard that the responsibility for removal rests with the homeowner where the tree or limb comes to rest.

The Manager reported to the Board that the pond water level at Town Hall is fluctuating with the water level in the Plantation Canal. This occurs because since the wear structure that normally controls the level has been breached. The Town's engineer is working on the project to accomplish a repair. This was an unplanned work item and not in the budget, therefore it will require Council action.

Chairman Bruno reminded members that the next meeting would be on October.

#### **FINANCE – COUNCILMAN IRVING VAN SLYKE, JR.**

Financial Report – Finance Administrator Margaret Theis told the Council that the total of the Fund Cash Balances as of July 31, 2016 was \$3,275,753. Ad valorem tax collections were at \$1,797. Ms. Theis reminded the Council that this is the beginning of the fiscal year so tax collections will be negligible.

Vote – Amendments to Advisory Board Ordinances – Councilman Van Slyke reminded the Council of previous discussions regarding the Environment and Waterways Advisory Board (EWAB). When this Board was established it provided for a nine-member Board. However, all of the other Advisory Board were setup with seven members. The members of the EWAB do not believe that nine members are necessary and have asked the Council to reduce the membership to seven. In addition to making that change, this Ordinance Amendment also includes small changes to the wording of other Advisory Board Establishment Ordinances.

Councilman Van Slyke **moved to approve the Amendments to the Advisory Board Ordinances as presented.** The motion carried unanimously.

Vote – Approve Resolution to Surplus Police Car – Mr. Van Slyke reminded the Council of the discussion at the Work Session regarding the 2007 Police cruiser. This car is in need for some very expensive repair. It was the consensus of the Council at the Work Session that, rather than repair and old car, they would move of the purchase of a new cruiser from FY 2017-2018 to this fiscal year. Councilman Van Slyke, therefore, **moved to approve the Resolution to Surplus the Police Car as presented.** The motion carried unanimously.

Vote – Budget Ordinance Amendment 16-B-01 – Mr. Van Slyke said this budget amendment would provide the financing necessary to purchase the Police car. We are moving funds from the Capital Improvement area to the Police Department. He **moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment 16-B-01 as presented.** The motion carried unanimously.

#### **PLANNING BOARD –COUNCILMAN BUDDY SHEFFIELD**

Planning Board Report - The regular meeting of the Planning Board was held on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall. Assistant Zoning Administrator Harmon gave the report on building permits issued. Councilman Sheffield updated the Board on actions taken by the Town Council since the last board meeting.

The only business undertaken was consideration of a request by a citizen that the board amend the town ordinance banning farm animals to allow backyard chickens in River Bend. That citizen did not attend the meeting but several of his neighbors did.

The Board heard comments from those in attendance which were universally against amending the farm animal ordinance. Reasons given included health concerns, noise issues, adverse effect on property values and chicken feces washing into the river.

Chairman Lippert polled the Board for their opinions. All Board members in attendance agreed with those opposed to amending the ordinance for mostly the same reasons. It was also widely felt that the Town does not have the resources to adequately enforce the amended ordinance. It was further pointed out that the Town would be placed in the position of being responsible for the welfare of the chickens.

The vote was taken and those present voted unanimously not to recommend that the Council amend the ordinance and allow chickens in River Bend.

There was discussion about the date of the next meeting. It was decided that, since there were no pressing issues, there would not be a Board meeting in September. The next meeting will be October 6<sup>th</sup>. As always any and all interested parties are welcome to attend.

#### **ENVIRONMENT/WATERWAY – COUNCILMAN BILL CAMP**

Councilman Camp said that the EWAB did not meet during August.

**Vote – Change Work Session Time** - Mr. Camp said that the Council has been discussing the possibility of changing the time of the Work Session for several months. He pointed out that they have solicited resident input for several weeks. He, therefore, **proposed that the Town Council Work Session be rescheduled from its current 7:00 p.m. hour on the second Thursday of the month to 11:00 a.m. on the second Thursday of the month.** The motion failed with one aye and four nays.

**Vote – Have Work Sessions Televised** – It has also been suggested that the Town have the Work Session televised like the Regular Council meetings. Councilman Camp **moved that the Work Sessions be televised by Channel 10.** The motion carried unanimously. The Town Manager will make the necessary arrangements.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY – COUNCIL MEMBER PAT YOCUM**

CERT- The CERT meeting was held July 25, 2016. This was a short meeting because of the small amount of participants. There was a shared demonstration of Hands-On CPR using the kits we received from American Heart Assoc. that includes the blow-up Annie mannequin. These kits are available to all residents of River Bend. A kit can be obtained by contacting Kelly Walker, CERT, Public Instruction Director at 252-474-4846 or by contacting Pat Yocum. The next meeting scheduled for August 29 is cancelled.

Community Watch - There was no meeting this month. The next meeting is October 19, 2016. Remember the Night-Out event for River Bend is scheduled for October 7, 2016

### **PARKS & RECREATION/CAC – COUNCILWOMAN LUCI AVERY**

Parks and Rec – This Board did not meet in August but will meet on September 7 at 7:00 p.m. An afternoon of Bunco has been scheduled for September 22 at 1:00 p.m. in Town Hall.

CAC – This group met on August 8. Members participated in rating the 32 summer crops for heartiness and for taste. Plans for cool weather crops were discussed. Sara Snyder, a current Duke University student, River Bender and former member of the high school Green Team visited to share her upcoming study of food security in Tanzania, India and Italy. She has agreed to present her project at a January workshop. The first fall workshop will be October 11 and the topic will be gourds, unusual squash and pumpkins.

Organic Garden - There was no August meeting but members watered and weeded established plantings. CAC and users of the dog park thank Public Works for the new fresh water source in the park. The next meeting will be September 14 at 1:30 p.m.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor said that in the annual cycle that represents local municipal government, the summer quarter is typically a slow period and this is true in River Bend. The work of the Council, Manager and Staff in creating the new fiscal year budget has been completed. The work necessary to execute the capital improvement work authorized in the budget is being accomplished by the Manager and Staff working with vendors. Normal maintenance and operations are being carried out.

Volunteers continue to work even during these hot summer days in their respective areas of interest. Our Town is very much indebted to each person who works in any of the volunteer organizations. Members not only contribute to the River Bend fabric but also make friendships with neighbors who have similar interest in service.

All of us need to remember that the Atlantic hurricane season runs until the end of November and we need to stay prepared to meet the emergency conditions that could develop should a hurricane strike our coast this year. It has been four years since Hurricane Irene visited North Carolina and a look at the record of storms indicates that this is longer than the usual frequency for Carolina hurricane hits.

Our CERT volunteers presented their annual “severe weather awareness” program on a Saturday in early June. Any member of this team of volunteers could brief you on important factors to consider for protection and recovery should a major storm target our coast this year.

The organization, HurricaneCity, lists the fifty most frequently impacted cities and islands on the east coast of the US and Mexico. That listing shows the following:

Number 1 Cape Hatteras	Every 1.37 years
Number 2 Morehead City	Every 1.55 years

River Bend Town Council Regular Meeting  
August 18, 2016  
Page 5 of 5 pages

Number 3 Grand Bahama Island	Every 1.64 years
Number 4 Cayman Islands	Every 1.69 years
Number 5 Wilmington	Every 1.73 years

It is apparent that our North Carolina coast is preferred.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Councilman Sheffield **moved to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

---

Ann H. Katsuyoshi  
Town Clerk