

**River Bend Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2021
Town Hall
5:00 p.m.**

Present Council Members: Mayor John Kirkland
Don Fogle
Bud Van Slyke
Buddy Sheffield
Brian Leonard
Barbara Maurer (via telephone)

Town Manager: Delane Jackson
Public Works Director: Brandon Mills

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kirkland called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at the River Bend Town Hall with a quorum present.

DISCUSSION – American Rescue Plan Project – Water Sewer Administration Building

The Mayor recognized the Town Manager Delane Jackson. The Manager reviewed the agenda for the meeting and stated that the purpose was to look at four sites that may be used for the construction of the new water/sewer office. He stated that the Public Works Director, Brandon Mills was in attendance to answer any questions about the sites. The Manager then introduced Beth Walker of The Walker Group, who has been hired to serve as the architect on this project. He also introduced Kevin Avolis of Avolis Engineering, who is providing engineering services for this project.

Kevin Avolis presented a PowerPoint presentation that showed a map of each site and listed the pros and cons of each site. The four sites were:

- Option A - Near 115 Wildwood Drive in an area of the Town Commons near the volleyball court
- Option B - Near 1019 Plantation Drive in an area of the Town Commons near the soccer field
- Option C - 1411 Plantation Drive, which is currently home to a water tank
- Option D - 25 Shoreline Drive, which is currently home to a water tank and the Rhems Fire Department substation

There was a general discussion about the pros and cons of each site. Brandon Mills was asked which site he thought was best. He stated that none of the sites were ideal. The Manager stated that these sites were looked at because they are owned by the town, thus there would be no land acquisition costs. He stated that the town could purchase a site if none of these were suitable to the Council. Councilman Sheffield stated that the town also owns land that was near the waste treatment plant and is being used for storage space rental. It was discussed and not considered a good option. The Manager stated that the town also owned land on Wakefield Drive, which is being used by the organic garden. That site was not considered a good option. The Manager stated that land is for sale on Old Pollocksville Road. That site was not considered a good option. Councilman Van Slyke stated that he did not think the site at 25 Shoreline was a good location. The Manager stated that there was currently a fire station building and CenturyLink telephone building on the 25 Shoreline Drive site and he had never seen any documentation on the legal aspects of those buildings relative to the site.

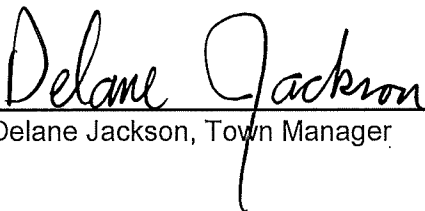
Vote – Site Location – Councilman Leonard motioned to accept Option D as the location of the new building.

The Manager stated that the survey that had been performed was not an in-depth survey and he suggested that the site be looked at in more detail before making a final decision. He suggested doing more research into the buildings that are currently on the site and any easements that may exist.

Amended Vote – Site Location – Councilman Leonard amended his motion to direct the architect and engineer to further study the site at 25 Shoreline Drive for the construction of the new building. The motion passed. (4 ayes, 1 nay with Councilman Van Slyke voting nay.)

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS

There being no further business, Councilman Sheffield moved to adjourn, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.



Delane Jackson, Town Manager