

**River Bend Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2025
Town Hall
5:00 p.m.**

Present Council Members:

Mayor Mark Bledsoe
Buddy Sheffield
Lisa Benton
Brian Leonard
Kathy Noonan
Jeff Weaver

Town Manager: Delane Jackson
Finance Director: Mandy Gilbert
Police Chief: Sean Joll
Town Clerk: Kristie Nobles
Town Attorney: David Baxter

Members of the Public Present: 7

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bledsoe called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 25, 2025, at the River Bend Town Hall with a quorum present.

VOTE – Agenda - Addition / Deletion

Councilwoman Benton motioned to amend the agenda by removing item #9, Pickleball Court until the quote comes in. The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE – Approval of Agenda

Councilman Weaver motioned to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor presented the Council with the Consent Agenda. *Councilwoman Noonan 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 January 9, 2025 Work Council Meeting
Minutes of the January 16, 2025 Regular Council Meeting

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Manager gave the following updates:

- The town currently has two RFP's for the Pickleball Court and WWTP - Phase 1.
- The used BIRM media had to be tested to see if it can be disposed of at the local landfill and it has been approved for disposal there.
- The mobile sign trailer was delivered last week and has to be assembled.

- The town applied for a grant in the amount of \$10,429,895 and was awarded a \$3,500,000 grant and a \$6,929,895 0% interest loan for Water Treatment Improvements. He stated that the town scored the highest out of all the applicants in the state. He suggested that the Council call a Special Meeting to review funding options.

VOTE – Special Meeting

Councilman Sheffield motioned to schedule a Special Meeting on March 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at Town Hall for the purpose of discussing funding options and scope of work for the town's water and sewer projects. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilwoman Noonan

Councilwoman Noonan stated that Community Watch meets on Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

PARKS & RECREATION – Councilman Weaver

Councilman Weaver provided the following report from the February meeting.

Parks and Recreation met on February 5 and will meet again on March 5 at 6:30 at the Municipal Building. He stated that all meetings are open to the public.

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY ORGANIC GARDEN

Councilman Weaver gave the following report from the February meeting:

RBCOG met on February 3 and will meet again on March 3 at 1:30 at the Municipal Building. He stated that all meetings are open to the public.

CAC – Councilwoman Benton

Councilwoman Benton gave the following report from the January meeting:

Things are getting busy with the CAC advisory board following their last meeting on January 15, 2024. All members of the CAC were present, and we discussed their projects for the year, which include the Plantation Median Rejuvenation Project, CAC Sidewalk Gardens, raised flower beds, and the Veterans Memorial Garden. Maintenance for these gardens will be assigned to a committee member or volunteer each month. They also discussed the Festive Awards in detail for Independence Day, Fall Festive, and Christmas Festive Awards. It was decided to eliminate the April awards and instead hold the awards in May and June. Additionally, they will include neighborhood entrances in the award program. The Arbor Day event is set for March 22, 2025. Following the success of the Holly Trolley, Brenda will explore organizing a fall hay ride, and they hope that the Holly Trolley will turn into an annual event as it was so well received. The board raised concerns about the Christmas globe workshop, particularly regarding the globes not being hung or stored properly by the town. The CAC will still host the star workshop for the Fourth of July celebration. Currently, they have three openings on the board and are actively seeking volunteers who want to help make River Bend even more beautiful. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2025, at 4 PM in the municipal building.

FINANCE – Councilman Leonard

Financial Report – Finance Director, Mandy Gilbert, presented the financial statement for the month of January to the Council. She stated the total of the Town's Cash and Investments as of January 31, 2025, were \$3,081,190 and Ad Valorem Tax Collections for FY24-25 were \$763,011 and Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax Collections were \$60,879.

Discussion – FY25-26 Water and Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan Resolution

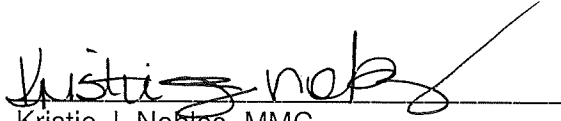
The Manager presented and discussed the FY25-26 Capital Improvement Plans for the water and sewer departments. He stated that he and the Public Works Director review and adjust these plans every year as part of the budget process.

VOTE – FY25-26 Water and Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan Resolution

Councilman Leonard motioned to approve the FY25-26 Water and Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, *Councilman Sheffield moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.



Kristie J. Nobles, MMC
Town Clerk

