



**TOWN OF RIVER BEND  
ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET ORDINANCE  
FISCAL YEAR 2026 - 2027**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of River Bend, North Carolina that the following anticipated fund revenues and departmental expenditures, together with certain fees and schedules, and with certain restrictions and authorizations, are hereby appropriated and approved for the operation of the Town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:

**Summary**

General Fund	2,995,400
General Capital Reserve Fund	229,425
Law Enforcement Separation Allowance Fund	1,100
Water Fund	744,500
Water Capital Reserve Fund	25,850
Sewer Fund	802,700
Sewer Capital Reserve Fund	36,250
Total	4,835,225

**Section 1. General Fund**

Anticipated Revenues

AD VALOREM Taxes 2026-2027	1,254,048
AD VALOREM Tax-Motor Vehicle	153,000
Vehicle Registration Fee	30,800
Animal Licenses	1,500
Sales Tax 1% Article 39	242,305
Sales Tax 1/2% Article 40	143,922
Sales Tax 1/2% Article 42	120,990
Sales Tax Article 44	17,861
Sales Tax Hold Harmless Distribution	135,612
Solid Waste Disposal Tax	2,200
Powell Bill Allocation	108,000
Beer and Wine Tax	13,625
Video Programming Sales Tax	39,333
Utilities Franchise Tax	134,899
Telecommunications Sales Tax	6,803
Court Refunds	500
Zoning Permits	5,000
Miscellaneous	9,000
Interest- Powell Bill Investments	5
Interest-General Fund Investments	40,784
Contributions	900
Wildwood Storage Rents	17,395
Rents & Concessions	18,000
Sales Tax	11,365
Sale of Capital Assets	12,057
Transfer From Capital Reserve Fund	176,500
Appropriated Fund Balance	298,996
Total	2,995,400

**Section 1.            General Fund (continued)**

Authorized Expenditures

Governing Body	72,500
Administration	411,800
Finance	165,900
Tax Listing	25,600
Legal Services	42,000
Elections	700
Police	885,900
Public Buildings	74,000
Emergency Services	5,400
Street Maintenance	324,700
Public Works	298,500
Leaf & Limb and Solid Waste	98,200
Stormwater Management	94,500
Wetlands and Waterways	3,000
Planning & Zoning	64,700
Recreation & Special Events	15,200
Parks & Community Appearance	160,500
Contingency	27,400
Transfer To General Capital Reserve Fund	224,900
Transfer To L.E.S.A. Fund	0
Total	<u>2,995,400</u>

**Section 2.            General Capital Reserve Fund**

Anticipated Revenues

Contributions from General Fund	224,900
Interest Revenue	4,525
Total	<u>229,425</u>

Authorized Expenditures

Transfer to General Fund	176,500
Future Procurement	52,925
Total	<u>229,425</u>

**Section 3.            Law Enforcement Separation Allowance Fund**

Anticipated Revenues:

Contributions from General Fund	0
Interest Revenue	1,100
Total	<u>1,100</u>

Authorized Expenditures:

Separation Allowance	0
Future LEOSSA Payments	1,100
Total	<u>1,100</u>



**Section 6. Sewer Fund**

Anticipated Revenues:

Utility Usage Charges, Classes 1 & 2	252,284
Utility Usage Charges, Classes 3 & 4	36,577
Utility Usage Charges, Class 5	28,839
Utility Usage Charges, Class 8	9,812
Utility Customer Base Charges	299,115
Taps & Connection Fees	1,250
Late payment Fees	8,146
Interest Revenue	23,985
Sales Tax	3,992
Sale of Capital Asset	0
Transfer from Sewer Capital Reserve	17,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	121,700
Total	<u>802,700</u>

Authorized Expenditures:

Administration & Finance [2]	559,000
Operations and Maintenance	208,200
Transfer to Fund Balance for Capital Outlay	0
Transfer to Sewer Capital Reserve Fund	35,500
Total	<u>802,700</u>

[2] Portion of department for bond debt service: 112,162

**Section 7. Sewer Capital Reserve**

Anticipated Revenues:

Contributions From Sewer Operations Fund	35,500
Interest Revenue	750
Total	<u>36,250</u>

Authorized Expenditures:

Transfer to Sewer Operations Fund	17,000
Future Expansion & Debt Service	19,250
Total	<u>36,250</u>

**Section 8. Levy of Taxes**

There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of thirty cents (\$0.30) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2026, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed as "Ad Valorem Taxes 2026-2027" in the General Fund Section 1 of this ordinance. This rate is based on a valuation of \$419,400,000 for purposes of taxation of real and personal property with an estimated rate of collection of 99.67%. The estimated collection rate is based on the fiscal year 2024-2025 collection rate of 99.67% by Craven County who has been contracted to collect real and personal property taxes for the Town of River Bend. Also included is a valuation of \$51,000,000 for purposes of taxation of motor vehicles with a collection rate of 100% by the North Carolina Vehicle Tax System.

**Section 9. Fees and Charges**

There is hereby established, for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, various fees and charges as contained in Attachment A of this document.

**Section 10. Special Authorization of the Budget Officer**

- A. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to reallocate any appropriations within departments.
- B. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to execute interfund and interdepartmental transfers in emergency situations. Notification of all such transfers shall be made to the Town Council at its next meeting following the transfer.
- C. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to execute interdepartmental transfers in the same fund, including contingency appropriations, not to exceed \$5,000. Notification of all such transfers shall be made to the Town Council at its next meeting following the transfer.

**Section 11. Classification and Pay Plan**

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all Town employees shall be 2.2% and shall begin the first payroll in the new fiscal year. The Town Manager is hereby authorized to grant merit increases to Town employees, when earned, per the approved Pay Plan.

**Section 12. Utilization of the Budget Ordinance**

This ordinance shall be the basis of the financial plan for the Town of River Bend municipal government during the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The Budget Officer shall administer the Annual Operating Budget and shall ensure the operating staff and officials are provided with guidance and sufficient details to implement their appropriate portion of the budget.

**Section 13. Copies of this Budget Ordinance**

Copies of this Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk, Town Council, Budget Officer and Finance Officer to be kept on file by them for their direction in the disbursement of funds.

Adopted this 23rd day of June, 2026.

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Mark Bledsoe, Mayor

Attest:

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Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC, NCCMC