

**River Bend Town Council
Work Session Minutes
January 8, 2026
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
Town Attorney: Trey Ferguson
Town Clerk: Kristie Nobles

Members of the Public Present: 5

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bledsoe called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at the River Bend Town Hall with a quorum present.

VOTE – Approval of Agenda

Councilwoman Benton motioned to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Eastern Carolina Council Municipal Appointment

The Manager stated that Mrs. Patty Leonard currently serves as the Town's representative to the Eastern Carolina Council, and she has agreed to continue as the representative if the Council chooses to re-appoint her.

VOTE – Eastern Carolina Council Municipal Appointment

Councilman Weaver motioned to re-appoint Patty Leonard as the Town's ECC Representative. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

Discussion – Surplus Property Resolution for Vehicle

The Manager stated that there is a 2016 Dodge Charger in the police fleet that is set to be sold in the upcoming budget. He stated that the car now has mechanical issues that will cost more to fix than the car is worth in his opinion. He recommended that the Council declare the car as surplus, which would allow the car to be auctioned in the normal process on GovDeals.

VOTE – Surplus Property Resolution

Councilman Leonard motioned to approve the Surplus Property Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Christmas Tree Expansion

Councilman Sheffield stated that he wants to add a four-foot panel to the town's Christmas tree. He stated that a quote was included in the agenda package and the panels are cheaper during the off season. He stated that he would like to use the Council's discretionary funds to purchase the panel.

VOTE – Christmas Tree Expansion

Councilman Sheffield motioned to use discretionary funds from the Governing Body department to purchase a panel for the Christmas Tree as discussed. The motion passed with Councilwoman Benton voting nay.

Discussion – Building Use Policy

Councilman Weaver stated that he has included some recommendations to update the current Building Use Policy and Fees. He reviewed his recommendation, which included defining “minors” and restructuring the rental fee model and increasing the deposit. The Town Manager stated that he does not have any issues with the changes and updates. He stated that the current deposit of \$100 does not offer much protection to the town. Councilman Leonard asked how often does the staff have to clean the building after a rental and the Town Clerk stated that it happens often. The Council agreed to review the recommendation and discuss this at a later meeting.

Discussion – Budget Kick-Off Announcement

The Town Manager stated that the official budget kickoff presentation will be at next week’s regular council meeting.

Discussion – Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Audit Presentation Announcement

The Finance Director stated that Sam Potts of Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., would give an audit presentation for fiscal year 2024-2025 at next week’s regular council meeting.

REVIEW – Agenda for the January 15, 2026, Council Meeting

The Council reviewed the agenda for the January 15, 2026, Council Meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilwoman Noonan motioned to go into Closed Session under NCSG §143-318.11(a)(3). The Council entered Closed Session at 5:19 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Councilwoman Noonan motioned to return to Open Session at 6:02 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

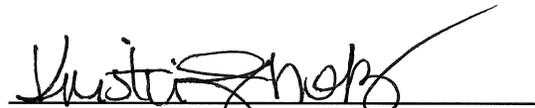
VOTE – Prohibit Signs in Council Chambers

Councilman weaver motioned to prohibit signs from being displayed in the Council Chambers during Council Meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Mayor stated that he is calling a Special Meeting on January 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. to have a question-and-answer session with residents concerning the town’s potable water system.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS

There being no further business, *Councilman Weaver moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.



Kristie J. Nobles, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

Resolution Declaring Surplus Property and Authorizing Sale of General Fund Vehicle

WHEREAS, the Town of River Bend desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the Town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of River Bend that:

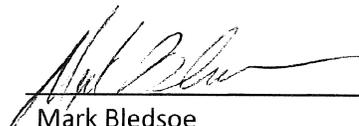
1. The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the Town:

**2016 Dodge Charger
VIN: 2C3CDXAT8GH188344**

2. The Town Manager is authorized and directed to receive, on behalf of the Town Council, bids for the purchase of the property described above and shall establish a time and date by which all bids must be received. He is also authorized to employ the action method he deems most advantageous to the Town.

3. The Town Clerk shall cause a notice of this sale to be posted on the town's webpage and on the town's bulletin board. The Town shall retain the right to reject any and all bids.

Adopted this 8th day of January, 2026



Mark Bledsoe
Mayor

Attest:



Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC