

**River Bend Town Council
Budget Workshop Minutes
April 28, 2026
River Bend Town Hall
4:00 P.M.**

Present Council Members: Mayor Mark Bledsoe
Brian Leonard
Kathy Noonan
Buddy Sheffield
Jeff Weaver
Lisa Benton

Town Manager: Delane Jackson
Finance Director: Mandy Gilbert

Members of the Public Present: 2

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Councilwoman Noonan motioned to accept the draft agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Leonard motioned to approve the Wastewater Collection System Grant Application Resolution as presented (see attached). The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Benton motioned to approve the Water AIA Projection Completion Resolution as presented (see attached). The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Benton motioned to approve the Sewer AIA Projection Completion Resolution as presented (see attached). The motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor then called on Manager Jackson to begin his presentation. The Council agreed to pause for public comments/questions after items #4, 10 and 14 on the agenda. Councilman Sheffield stated that he wanted to take a moment and say a few words about former Councilman Bud Van Slyke, who had recently passed at the age of 93. Councilman Sheffield praised Bud for the leadership he had exhibited in the area of finance and budgeting and acknowledged Bud's contribution to the town's current fiscal wellbeing. All agreed.

The Manager then began discussions of the Proposed Budget for FY2026-2027, which included a PowerPoint presentation. He presented the Council's priorities and vision statement, which were approved at the February 12, 2026 Council meeting. The Manager noted the "Fundamentals of Budgeting 101" slides. He also noted the slide that outlined his 10 main goals during budget preparation. He stated that he felt his recommended budget accomplishes 10 of 10 goals.

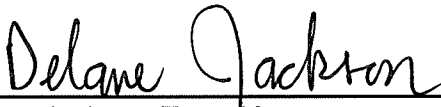
The Manager began to follow the advertised budget agenda and presented details related to employee compensation and staffing levels, followed by the capital improvement plans, utility and fuel prices, the vehicle replacement plan, IT and various budget-related topics. During the vehicle

replacement plan item, the Manager recommended retaining the police vehicle that is scheduled for replacement and to use it as a spare vehicle. He also noted that this year's CIP included funding for future road projects and two pickleball courts. That was followed by a detailed discussion of the following departments: governing board, administration, finance, tax listing, legal services, elections, street maintenance, stormwater, public works and public buildings.

There was some discussion about the COLA and inflation and the rising costs of many items/services in the budget. There was some discussion about the fund balance in the general fund. There was also some discussion about the North Carolina General Assembly's possible action to limit property tax rate increases by local governments. No questions were posed by the public during the meeting. Councilman Weaver asked the Manager if River Bend had ever completed a pay study. The Manager replied that it had not been done during his 12-year tenure and he was not aware of one ever being done. The Manager did point out that each year he uses data from the NCLM's Salary Survey to compare employee salaries in our population group. Councilman Weaver then asked if our salaries were comparable. Jackson replied in his opinion, yes.

The Manager ended the session with a slide that showed a summary of the departments that had been discussed and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Councilman Weaver motioned to recess the meeting until April 30, 2026 at 4 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting recessed at 5:10 p.m.



Delane Jackson, Town Manager

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE COMPLETION OF THE
RIVER BEND WASTEWATER SYSTEM
ASSET AND INVENTORY ASSESSMENT GRANT
STATE PROJECT NO. AIA-W-ARP-0131**

- WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and the North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction and planning of improvements of wastewater and drinking water systems, and
- WHEREAS, The North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure (NCDWI) administers the Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant (AIA) program in North Carolina; and
- WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend has been awarded funding in the amount of \$150,000 to complete an asset inventory and assessment of the wastewater system described as the River Bend Wastewater System Asset Inventory and Assessment, and
- WHEREAS, The total grant amount will be \$150,000 with the Town of River Bend, and
- WHEREAS, Municipal Engineering, Inc., was awarded the contract with the Town of River Bend to perform the work and complete the deliverables outlined in the Asset and Inventory Assessment Grant, and
- WHEREAS, The project has been completed and all project tasks have been completed and all project deliverables have been provided to the Town.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of River Bend confirms completion and acceptance of the work performed as outlined in the Wastewater System Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant and Executive Summary.



Adopted this 28th day of April, 2026.

TOWN OF RIVER BEND

By:


Mark Bledsoe, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE COMPLETION OF THE
RIVER BEND WATER SYSTEM
ASSET AND INVENTORY ASSESSMENT GRANT
STATE PROJECT NO. AIA-D-ARP-0132**

- WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and the North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction and planning of improvements of wastewater and drinking water systems, and
- WHEREAS, The North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure (NCDWI) administers the Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant (AIA) program in North Carolina; and
- WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend has been awarded funding in the amount of \$150,000 to complete an asset inventory and assessment of the water system described as the River Bend Water System Asset Inventory and Assessment, and
- WHEREAS, The total grant amount will be \$150,000 with the Town of River Bend, and
- WHEREAS, Municipal Engineering, Inc., was awarded the contract with the Town of River Bend to perform the work and complete the deliverables outlined in the Asset and Inventory Assessment Grant, and
- WHEREAS, The project has been completed and all project tasks have been completed and all project deliverables have been provided to the Town.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of River Bend confirms completion and acceptance of the work performed as outlined in the Water System Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant and Executive Summary.

Adopted this 28th day of April, 2026.



TOWN OF RIVER BEND

By:


Mark Bledsoe, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT

WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend has need for and intends to construct, plan for, or conduct a study in a project described as Wastewater Collection System Pump Stations and Forcemain Improvements, and

WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend intends to request State loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVER BEND:

That Town of River Bend, the **Applicant**, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the **Applicant** will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That the **Applicant** will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

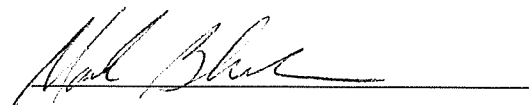
That the governing body of the **Applicant** agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the Town of River Bend to make a scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the Town of River Bend any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That Delane Jackson, Town Manager, the **Authorized Representative** and successor so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the **Applicant** with the State of North Carolina for a loan and/or grant to aid in the study of or construction of the project described above.

That the **Authorized Representative**, and successors so titled, are hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the **Applicant** has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and funding conditions applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this on the April 28th, 2026 at River Bend, North Carolina.



Mark Bledsoe, Mayor

FORM FOR CERTIFICATION BY THE RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Town Clerk of the Town of River Bend does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Town Council duly held on the 28th day of April 2026; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of April 2026.



(Signature of Recording Officer)

Kristie J. Nobles, MMC, NCCMC

(Title of Recording Officer)



Note: An Attestation by the Clerk/Recording Officer may be used in lieu of the Form for Certification by the Recording Officer.