

**River Bend Town Council
Work Session Minutes
April 9, 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
Finance Director: Mandy Gilbert
Town Clerk: Kristie Nobles
Police Chief: Sean Joll
Town Attorney: Trey Ferguson

Members of the Public Present: 3

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bledsoe called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the River Bend Town Hall with a quorum present.

VOTE – Addition to the Agenda

Councilwoman Benton motioned to amend the agenda by adding Budget Amendment #4 as item #6 & Water/Sewer Capital Improvement Plans as item #7. The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE – Approval of Agenda

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

Discussion – Upcoming Public Hearings for Zoning Amendment and Comprehensive Plan

The Town Manager stated that there are two public hearings scheduled for April 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Discussion – Board of Adjustment Meeting

The Town Manager stated that there is a Board of Adjustment meeting scheduled for April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall. He stated that the purpose of the meeting is to hold a public hearing for a special use permit from Harmoni Towers Development for the parcel identified by Craven County PIN 8-205-2000 to construct a cellular tower.

Discussion – Line Worker Appreciation Proclamation

The Mayor stated that the proclamation included in the agenda states that April 18 is Line Worker Appreciation Day and he wants to acknowledge this day.

Discussion – Town Ordinance, Chapter 7.01.03

Councilman Weaver stated that the Council was addressed recently regarding the use of electric bikes and scooters in the town and that the police department needs guidance from the Council on enforcement. Councilman Sheffield stated that he had researched electric bikes and did not realize there was such a difference in the different speeds and wattage of the bikes.

Councilwoman Benton asked the Police Chief what his thoughts on the topic were and he stated that there are state statutes that define the usage of the electric bikes on highways. Councilman Weaver stated that he would like to see examples of other town's ordinance on electric vehicles. Councilman Leonard asked the Town Manager for his opinion, and he stated that if the concerns of the Council are addressed within the general statute, then it would be easiest to simply follow the general statute. After a brief discussion among the Council, it was agreed that Councilman Weaver and the Police Chief would investigate other town's ordinance's and prepare language to present to the Council.

VOTE – Budget Amendment 25-B-04

The Town Manager presented Budget Amendment 25-B-04.

Councilwoman Leonard motioned to approve Budget Amendment 25-B-04 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

VOTE – FY26-27 Water/Sewer Capital Improvement Plans

The Town Manager presented FY26-27 Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Plans and Resolutions.

Councilwoman Sheffield motioned to approve FY26-27 Sewer Capital Improvement Plan and Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

Councilwoman Sheffield motioned to approve FY26-27 Water Capital Improvement Plan and Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

REVIEW – Agenda for the April 16, 2026, Council Meeting

The Council reviewed the agenda for the April 16, 2026, Council Meeting.

CLOSED SESSION


Councilwoman Noonan motioned to go into Closed Session under NCSG §143-318.11(a)(2)(3). The Council entered Closed Session at 5:37 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Councilwoman Noonan motioned to return to Open Session at 6:11 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS

There being no further business, *Councilman Weaver moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.



Kristie J. Nobles, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk



**TOWN OF RIVER BEND
 BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 25-B-04
 FISCAL YEAR 2025 - 2026**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of River Bend, North Carolina that the 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance as last amended on September 18, 2025, be amended as follows:

Summary

General Fund	2,707,895
General Capital Reserve Fund	154,144
Law Enforcement Separation Allowance Fund	540
Water Fund	712,800
Water Capital Reserve Fund	25,000
Sewer Fund	788,550
Sewer Capital Reserve Fund	26,000
Total	<u>4,414,929</u>

Section 1. General Fund

Anticipated Revenues

AD VALOREM Taxes 2025-2026	1,153,846
AD VALOREM Tax-Motor Vehicle	140,000
Vehicle Registration Fee	30,800
Animal Licenses	1,500
Sales Tax 1% Article 39	225,177
Sales Tax 1/2% Article 40	132,451
Sales Tax 1/2% Article 42	112,435
Sales Tax Article 44	16,436
Sales Tax Hold Harmless Distribution	125,643
Solid Waste Disposal Tax	2,200
Powell Bill Allocation	109,000
Beer and Wine Tax	13,490
Video Programming Sales Tax	45,303
Utilities Franchise Tax	135,931
Telecommunications Sales Tax	6,530
Court Refunds	500
Zoning Permits	5,000
Miscellaneous	9,000
Interest- Powell Bill Investments	5
Interest-General Fund Investments	45,859
Contributions	900
Wildwood Storage Rents	18,144
Rents & Concessions	18,000
Sales Tax	11,365
Sale of Capital Assets	12,000
Transfer From Capital Reserve Fund	130,500
Appropriated Fund Balance	205,880
Total	<u>2,707,895</u>

Section 1. General Fund (continued)

Authorized Expenditures

Governing Body	81,200
Administration	348,725
Finance	161,290
Tax Listing	19,500
Legal Services	34,000
Elections	0
Police	839,700
Public Buildings	75,125
Emergency Services	5,370
Animal Control	27,820
Street Maintenance	317,675
Public Works	290,325
Leaf & Limb and Solid Waste	76,725
Stormwater Management	88,300
Wetlands and Waterways	3,025
Planning & Zoning	72,415
Recreation & Special Events	14,200
Parks & Community Appearance	76,000
Contingency	25,156
Transfer To General Capital Reserve Fund	151,344
Transfer To L.E.S.A. Fund	0
Total	<u>2,707,895</u>

Section 2. General Capital Reserve Fund

Anticipated Revenues

Contributions from General Fund	151,344
Interest Revenue	2,800
Appropriated Fund Balance	0
Total	<u>154,144</u>

Authorized Expenditures

Transfer to General Fund	130,500
Future Procurement	23,644
Total	<u>154,144</u>

Section 3. Law Enforcement Separation Allowance Fund

Anticipated Revenues:

Contributions from General Fund	0
Interest Revenue	540
Total	<u>540</u>

Authorized Expenditures:

Separation Allowance	0
Future LEOSSA Payments	540
Total	<u>540</u>

Section 4. Water Fund

Anticipated Revenues

Utility Usage Charges, Classes 1 & 2	200,120
Utility Usage Charges, Classes 3 & 4	18,239
Utility Usage Charges, Class 5	12,854
Utility Usage Charges, Class 8	4,933
Utility Customer Base Charges	283,169
Hydrant Availability Fee	17,934
Taps & Connections Fees	1,250
Nonpayment Fees	10,500
Late payment Fees	7,790
Interest Revenue	15,060
Sales Tax	4,300
Sale of Capital Asset	0
Transfer from Capital Reserve Fund	25,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	111,651
Total	<u>712,800</u>

Authorized Expenditures

Administration & Finance [1]	530,625
Operations and Maintenance	161,675
Transfer To Fund Balance for Capital Outlay	0
Transfer To Water Capital Reserve Fund	20,500
Total	<u>712,800</u>

[1] Portion of department for bond debt service: 133,671

Section 5. Water Capital Reserve Fund

Anticipated Revenues

Contributions From Water Operations Fund	20,500
Interest Revenue	350
Appropriated Fund Balance	4,150
Total	<u>25,000</u>

Authorized Expenditures

Transfer to Water Operations Fund	25,000
Future Expansion & Debt Service	0
Total	<u>25,000</u>

Section 6. Sewer Fund

Anticipated Revenues:

Utility Usage Charges, Classes 1 & 2	255,040
Utility Usage Charges, Classes 3 & 4	39,981
Utility Usage Charges, Class 5	28,328
Utility Usage Charges, Class 8	10,146
Utility Customer Base Charges	298,921
Taps & Connection Fees	1,250
Late payment Fees	8,222
Interest Revenue	23,006
Sales Tax	4,050
Sale of Capital Asset	0
Transfer from Sewer Capital Reserve	25,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	94,606
Total	<u>788,550</u>

Authorized Expenditures:

Administration & Finance [2]	533,650
Operations and Maintenance	229,400
Transfer to Fund Balance for Capital Outlay	0
Transfer to Sewer Capital Reserve Fund	25,500
Total	<u>788,550</u>

[2] Portion of department for bond debt service: 115,429

Section 7. Sewer Capital Reserve

Anticipated Revenues:

Contributions From Sewer Operations Fund	25,500
Interest Revenue	500
Total	<u>26,000</u>

Authorized Expenditures:

Transfer to Sewer Operations Fund	25,000
Future Expansion & Debt Service	1,000
Total	<u>26,000</u>

Section 8. Levy of Taxes

There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of twenty-eight cents (\$0.28) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2025, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed as "Ad Valorem Taxes 2025-2026" in the General Fund Section 1 of this ordinance. This rate is based on a valuation of \$413,245,000 for purposes of taxation of real and personal property with an estimated rate of collection of 99.72%. The estimated collection rate is based on the fiscal year 2023-2024 collection rate of 99.72% 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 \$50,000,000 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 2025-2026, 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 2.8% 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.

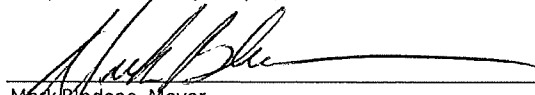
Section 12. Utilization of the Budget Ordinance

This ordinance shall be the basis of the financial plan for the Town of River Bend municipal government during the 2025-2026 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 9th day of April, 2026.



Mark Bledsoe, Mayor

Attest:



Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC, NCGMC

RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF RIVER BEND, NORTH CAROLINA
Adopting the Updated Town of River Bend's
10-Year Wastewater System Capital Improvements Plan

RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT

WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend, within its Sewer Fund, operates and maintains a public Wastewater System under Public ID No's. NC0030406 (treatment) and WQCS00216 (collection), issued by the State of North Carolina, and


WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Town of River Bend has developed a 10-Year Wastewater System Capital Improvements Plan, within its Sewer Fund, to identify needed capital improvements and their costs,

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


That, the Town of River Bend Town Council hereby adopts the 10-Year Wastewater System Capital Improvements Plan, beginning in Fiscal Year 26-27, as a guidance document for pursuing capital improvement funding in the Sewer Fund to keep the wastewater system in good operating order, and

That town staff, under the direction of the Mayor and Town Council, shall regularly review and update the 10-Year Wastewater System Capital Improvements Plan to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and local regulations.

ADOPTED, this the 9th day of April, 2026 at River Bend, North Carolina.



Mark Bledsoe, Mayor



Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC, NCCMC



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN Sewer Fund	Prior Year	Upcoming Year	Future Years							
			2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2032-2037	
Appropriation: Annual	20,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	36,000	216,000
Appropriation: Grant Funds, Loans	10,000,000	3,900,000								
Appropriation: Vehicles (50/50 with water)	5,500	5,500	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,500	6,500	7,000	7,000	52,500
	\$ 10,025,500	\$ 3,935,500	\$ 36,000	\$ 41,500	\$ 41,500	\$ 41,500	\$ 43,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 268,500
	Previous Year Ending Balance \$ 26,163									
Capital Projects										
<i>Administration:</i>										
Vehicle Replacement (split Water/Sewer)						24,500	20,500			22,000
Backhoe (split with water and general)										60,000
<i>Collection:</i>										
Rehabilitate Lift Station #1		735,000								
Rehabilitate Lift Station #2			771,000							
Rehabilitate Lift Station #3				810,000						
Rehabilitate Lift Station #6								884,000		35,000
Lining Sewer Manholes	25,000	17,000					19,000			40,000
Backup Generator										50,000
Second Sewer Force Main Under Canal							700,000			
<i>Treatment:</i>										
WWTP Enhancements Phase I										
WWTP Enhancements Phase II	10,000,000									
Backup Generator										60,000
Sewer Jetter						55,000				
						889,500	739,500	884,000		267,000
						771,000	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
							\$ 2,475,163	\$ 1,627,163	\$ 929,163	\$ 88,163
										\$ 89,663
Any reserves shown in ending balance line are accounted for in fund balance										
Adopted by Council 4/9/26										

FY Appropriations:
 Previous Year Ending Balance \$ 26,163

Prior Project yr.

Per schedule
 21-22

FY Expenditures:

Ending Balance

RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF RIVER BEND, NORTH CAROLINA
Adopting the Updated Town of River Bend's
10-Year Water System Capital Improvements Plan

RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT

WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend operates and maintains a public Water System under Public Water Supply ID No. 04-25-113 issued by the State of North Carolina, and

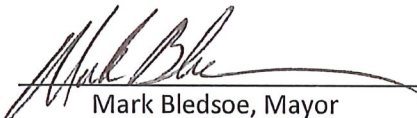
WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Town of River Bend has developed a 10-Year Water System Capital Improvements Plan to identify needed capital improvements and their costs,

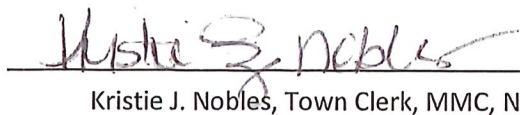
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVER BEND

That, the Town of River Bend Town Council hereby adopts the 10-Year Water System Capital Improvements Plan, beginning in Fiscal Year 26-27, as a guidance document for pursuing capital improvement funds to keep the water system in good operating order, and

That town staff, under the direction of the Mayor and Town Council, shall regularly review and update the 10-Year Water System Capital Improvements Plan to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and local regulations.

ADOPTED, this the 9th day of April, 2026 at River Bend, North Carolina.


Mark Bledsoe, Mayor


Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC, NCCMC



