

RIVER BEND NEWS

FROM TOWN HALL www.riverbendnc.org



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

BY TOWN MANAGER
DELANE JACKSON

The Town Council has passed the budget for the new fiscal year, which began on July 1st. The total budget for the Town for Fiscal Year 2026-27 is \$4,835,225. The Council discussed the proposed budget over the course of 4 budget workshops during April and May. The average public attendance at those 4 workshops was 2.25 people. A public hearing on the proposed budget, as is required by law, was conducted on June 11. During that public hearing, 6 people spoke. As always, all of the budget workshop documents were available on the town's webpage prior to the workshops. They are still posted if you would like to look at them. For a quick overview, I recommend the Budget Summary. Several years of budget documents are available on our web page, as well as a handy 5-year budget comparison.

With the new budget, the town's tax rate will increase from 28¢ to 30¢. For the average homeowner, that will increase your tax bill by \$49.51 per year. The rates for water and sewer service will remain unchanged. In fact, they have not changed since 2023. The average home in River Bend is valued at \$247,519 and the average utility customer uses 3,042 gallons of water/sewer per month. Therefore, the average homeowner will pay \$743 in town tax and \$960 in utility fees in FY26-27, which works out to \$4.66 per day. For \$4.66 per day, the average homeowner will receive potable water, wastewater treatment, 24/7 police protection, stormwater management, animal control, planning, zoning, code enforcement, parks, recreational events, street lights, street maintenance, leaf & limb removal, and a host of other services. Last year, the daily cost was \$4.53 per day. It will cost the average homeowner and utility customer 13¢ more per day for taxes and water/sewer compared to last year. Our goal is to continue to deliver high quality services at a reasonable price to all who make River Bend their home. Many people spend more than \$4.66 per day on coffee alone. See some information about that comparison in the Budget Summary document on the web page.

Also, hurricane season is officially here. If you have not seen it, please visit our webpage and review the "2026 Hurricane Season Advisory". It can be accessed at the top of the webpage.

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WRD/PW REPORT

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

REPORTING AFTER HOURS WATER-SEWER EMERGENCIES

- ◆ Call the Town Hall number at 252-638-3870.
- ◆ Press Option 9 for water and sewer emergencies to get in touch with our on-call operator.
- ◆ If your call is not answered leave your name, number, address, and a brief message about the nature of the emergency.
- ◆ If you do not receive a call back within 15 minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108 (option 1). They will get in touch with the on-call operator.
- ◆ If the police department does not answer, leave a message.

During the month, the Public Works Department completed a variety of maintenance and infrastructure improvements throughout town. Stormwater maintenance included repairs to several catch basins that had developed cracks in the concrete. These areas were mortared to prevent soil infiltration which will cause sinkholes and possibly clog up the stormwater pipes. We also improved public safety by trimming tree limbs at multiple intersections to increase visibility for motorists. In addition, several faded street signs were replaced to improve road identification and enhance traffic safety.

Water Resources cleared a couple sewer laterals that had become clogged utilizing our jetting equipment. Their prompt response prevented any sanitary sewer overflows. As a reminder, only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed into our sewer system. Items such as wipes, paper towels, feminine products, and other debris can cause costly blockages and backups. For more information, please pick up our brochure at Town Hall or visit our website for the FOG brochure on fats, oils, and grease and how to properly dispose of them. Our crew repaired a couple of water service lines that were leaking. This quick action helps reduce water loss and maintain dependable service to our customers. I would like to recognize my team for a job well done.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 252-638-3540, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm. After-hours water and sewer emergencies can be reported by calling the Town Hall number (252-638-3870), press option 9 for water and sewer emergencies to get in touch with our on-call operator. If your call is not answered leave your name, number, address, and a brief message about the nature of the emergency. If you do not receive a call back within 15 minutes, please call the Police Department at 252-638-1108 ext. 1, and they will get in contact with the on-call operator. If the police department does not answer, leave a message.

COMING EVENTS

Preschool Story Hour
Every Friday
10:00 a.m.
115 Wildwood Dr.
Red Caboose Community
Library

The Market at River Bend
Farmers Market
Every Friday Beginning
July 31
115 Wildwood Dr/Town
Commons

RBCOG Meeting
August 3
1:30 p.m.
Municipal Building

EWAB Meeting
Aug 3
7:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
August 5
6:30 p.m.
Municipal Building

Planning Board Meeting
August 6
6:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

Digital Skills
Information Session
August 12 & 19
10 a.m.-Noon
Municipal Building

Council Work Session
August 13
5:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Community Watch
Special Meeting
August 19
4:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

Regular Council Meeting
August 20
5:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
September 2
6:30 p.m.
Municipal Building

Planning Board Meeting
September 3
6:00 p.m.
Municipal Building



RIVER BEND NEWS FROM TOWN HALL

is published monthly by the
River Bend Town Council for
the residents of the Town of
River Bend.

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252.638-3870

Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for FY2026-2027

Residents may begin
placing their yard debris
street side on the dates
indicated in parentheses

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 13, 2026
(July 8, 2026)
September 7, 2026
(September 2, 2026)
November 9, 2026
(November 4, 2026)
December 7, 2026
(December 2, 2026)
January 11, 2027
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 6, 2027)
March 8, 2027
(March 3, 2027)
May 10, 2027
(May 5, 2027)

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 20, 2026
(July 15, 2026)
September 14, 2026
(September 9, 2026)
November 16, 2026
(November 11, 2026)
December 14, 2026
(December 9, 2026)
January 18, 2027
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 13, 2027)
March 15, 2027
(March 10, 2027)
May 17, 2027
(May 12, 2027)

Pinecones, pine straw and leaves must
NOT be bagged. For additional impor-
tant information about River Bend's
Leaf & Limb collection program, please
see our updated Ordinance online at
www.riverbendnc.org ■

Town Council 2026 Meeting Dates

Work Session January 8
Regular Meeting January 15
Work Session February 12
Regular Meeting February 19
Work Session March 12
Regular Meeting March 19
Work Session April 9
Regular Meeting April 16
Work Session May 14
Regular Meeting May 21
Work Session June 11
Regular Meeting June 18
~~Work Session July 9~~
Regular Meeting July 16
Work Session August 13
Regular Meeting August 20
Work Session September 10
Regular Meeting September 17
Work Session October 8
Regular Meeting October 15
Work Session November 12
Regular Meeting November 19
Work Session December 3***
Regular Meeting December 10***

***Changed due to holiday

All Council Work Sessions will be held in the
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Regular Council Meetings will be held in the
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 5:00 p.m.

etc.



Golf Cart Registration

Town ordinances allow for residents to drive their properly equipped golf carts on River Bend streets provided that they are inspected by and registered with our Police Department. If you plan to drive your golf cart on the roadways, you must display the current year registration decal. Decals for 2025 are available now. Inspection and registration are required annually. The registration fee for each golf cart is \$10. For additional information and to make your inspection reservation, please call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.



Registration is Required for all Dogs and Cats

River Bend Animal Registrations for 2025 are due by March 31, 2025. All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually.

Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 AM-4 PM.

Owners must present proof of rabies vaccination at the time of registration. Please visit our website for more information.

Registration is \$10.00 per pet.



Pet I. D. Photos Now Available

The Town of River Bend is now offering residents the opportunity to link a digital photo of their registered pets to our Animal Registration database. When you register your pet this year, you may submit a photo by e-mail, or staff can scan a photo for you if you prefer. This photo database will help reunite lost pets with their owners more quickly in the event a pet becomes lost.

The service is voluntary and free of charge.

DOG PARK AT RIVER BEND



River Bend dogs have their own exercise area where they can play with other canines. Situated between the Town Park and Ritter Field, the dog park gives dogs a chance to run while their owners socialize. The park is open from sunrise to sunset for dogs with proof of current vaccinations. Separate exercise areas accommodate large and small dogs. For complete list of rules applicable to dog park use, please visit our web site at www.riverbendnc.org. Dog park rules are also posted at the entrance to the park.



Sign up for our
Emergency Notification System
and receive timely notifications by phone, e-mail, text messages and more.

SIGN UP NOW
at www.riverbendnc.org

this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
**Blackboard
connect**



If you have a medical condition for which you require any type of special medical care during a disaster or if your medical condition requires assistance to evacuate during a disaster, you may wish to apply to Craven County for their Special Needs Registry. The River Bend Police Department can provide you with the appropriate form and provide some basic information about the County's program.



River Bend has a very active Community Watch program supported by our Police Department. If you are interested in volunteering, call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.