



MANAGERS SCHEDULING OF TIME AND
WORKLOAD
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

The Town Manager of River Bend, and that position in any town in North Carolina, works on projects as directed by the majority of the members of the governing body. In North Carolina, the Town manager's legal responsibilities and position duties are spelled out in chapter [160A-148 of General Statutes](#). He does not work as directed by citizens of the town. Small towns such as ours typically have very limited support staff. Therefore, the manager is often

the person to research and factually respond to requests for information requested by citizens. Many of the questions that may be raised will be answered by the record contained in the minutes of the monthly meetings of the Town Council. Answers to many questions are also available in the postings obtained from the Town webpage. In River Bend, the Town Council and staff are transparent about how policy and administrative guidance is developed.

Some years back the North Carolina John Locke Society, reviewed all 500 + municipalities in the state and evaluated their "Transparency." The last of these rankings showed River Bend to be 1 of only 9 municipalities in North Carolina to receive a rating of "A". The Manager, working with the staff, is responsible for the preparation of the Town's budget which is approved by the Council.

In summary there are aspects of budgeting that all residents need to accept as fact, they are:

1. The budget preparation is a major effort by the Manager, staff and Council.
2. All involved in the budget process need to be concerned about the present needs of the Town but also need to develop a budget that will address future needs and the cost and construction time needed for those long-term needs.
3. The Manager takes direct supervision from the Town Council and not from individual residents of the Town.

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TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

Below is an article (updated) that I published in February, 2018. Six years have passed and as I recall, I received 1 request for information. During that 6-year period, residents have come and gone, so I will post the article and ask again.

Each month I find myself behind the keyboard pondering a topic for the next edition of the Town newsletter. My goal each month is to pass along helpful information to the River Bend residents and occasionally provide updates on issues. In 2018, I am going to try something different (and now again in 2024) I am going to ask that you, the River Bend residents, submit requests to me about topics that are of interest to you. Odds are if they are of interest to you, then others will also be interested. There is no guarantee that I will be able to answer your question or write about your topic, but I may, especially if multiple people ask the same/similar question. Email your questions to manager@riverbendnc.org but keep in mind that my space is limited. I cannot answer in-depth, complicated questions in this medium.

A few reminders as we begin 2024: Except for December, in 2024 the Town Council is scheduled to meet the second and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in Town Hall. The meetings are open to the public. The second Thursday meeting is called the “work session.” The third Thursday meeting is called the “regular session.” During the work session, the Council usually discusses details about items that will be on the agenda for the regular session. This work session gives the Council an opportunity to see what items are on the next week’s agenda and to preliminarily discuss those items with other Council members. If more information is needed, the Council directs me to get it ready for the regular meeting. Usually, the Council does not take official action during the work session. However, a work session is a legal meeting of the Council and they can take action, and sometimes do, at a work session. Usually, when they do take action, it is on a minor item or a time-sensitive item that needs their attention.

Typically, during the regular meeting, the Council takes official action on the items that were discussed at the work session. The Council also sets aside a time for the public to offer input during the public comment period. There are rules concerning our public comment period. They are posted on our web page, in the meeting room and on the agenda at the meeting. Public input is not an agenda item at the work session.

Except for what happens in a closed session, every action that your Council

officially takes is in public view. The items that are discussed in closed sessions are limited by North Carolina law. Typically, they are legal matters and personnel issues.



**WRD/PW
REPORT**

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

In recent operations, the Public Works department cleaned out one ditch with our backhoe to improve storm water flow. Also, we were able to clear sediment out of the culvert pipe with help from a contractor and a vacuum truck. This proactive measure is aimed at enhancing storm water flow in the area thereby mitigating potential flooding risks. Furthermore, the department undertook the task of trimming low-hanging limbs along roadways, a crucial effort in preventing vehicular collisions and ensuring public safety. These initiatives demonstrate the ongoing commitment to maintaining infrastructure integrity, and safety standards.

Meanwhile, the Water Resources Department has upheld exemplary standards in the operation of water and wastewater utilities. Notably, the replacement of several service line valves at the meter underscores the dedication to ensuring uninterrupted service delivery and efficient management of our utilities. We have always taken a proactive approach instead of a reactive one. This is definitely the best policy to have, and we will continue to follow a proactive approach. I would like to thank my team for the job they do day in and day out.

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 dialing the Town Hall at 252-638-3870. You will be instructed to dial “9” and follow the directions to contact the on-call duty operator. You will then be asked to enter your phone number at the sound of the tone. After entering your phone number, the automated system will inform you that your page has been sent. Please, be patient and our utility systems operator will return your call. If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 252-638-1108, and they will get in contact with the on-call utility systems operator.

**REPORTING
AFTER HOURS
WATER-SEWER
EMERGENCIES**

- ◆ Dial Town Hall at 638-3870.
- ◆ Dial “9” and follow the directions to contact the on-call duty operator.
- ◆ Enter your phone number at the sound of the tone.
- ◆ The automated system will inform you that your page has been sent.
- ◆ Our utility operator will return your call.
- ◆ If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108. They will get in touch with the on-call utility system operator.

COMING EVENTS

Canceled
EWAB Meeting
March 4
7:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

Parks & Rec Advisory
Board Meeting
March 6
6:15 p.m.
Municipal Building

Planning Board Meeting
March 7
6:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

RBCOG Special Meeting
March 11
1:30 p.m.
Municipal Building

Council Work Session
March 14
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Book/Tech Mobile @ River
Bend Municipal Building
March 15
2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

CAC Meeting
March 20
4:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

Regular Council Meeting
March 21
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

CAC
Arbor Day Celebration
March 23
10:00 a.m.- Noon
Town Hall

Easter Egg Hunt Sponsored by
Parks & Rec
March 24
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Municipal Building Area

Town Hall will be Closed on
Friday, March 29th
in observance of Good Friday



RIVER BEND NEWS

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

MAYOR
John Kirkland

TOWN COUNCIL
Lisa Benton
Brian Leonard
Barbara Maurer
Buddy Sheffield
Jeff Weaver

TOWN MANAGER
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK
Kristie Nobles

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Mandy Gilbert

POLICE CHIEF
Sean Joll

DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC WORKS
Brandon Mills

ASSISTANT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
Allison McCollum

GRAPHIC DESIGN &
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Contact Us:
45 Shoreline Drive
River Bend, NC 28562
252.638-3870
www.riverbendnc.org

Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2023-2024

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 10, 2023
(July 5, 2023)
September 11, 2023
(September 6, 2023)
November 13, 2023
(November 8, 2023)
December 11, 2023
(December 6, 2023)
January 15, 2024
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 10, 2024)
March 11, 2024
(March 8, 2024)
May 13, 2024
(May 8, 2024)

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 17, 2023
(July 12, 2023)
September 18, 2023
(September 13, 2023)
November 20, 2023
(November 15, 2023)
December 18, 2023
(December 13, 2023)
January 22, 2024
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 17, 2024)
March 18, 2024
(March 13, 2024)
May 20, 2024
(May 15, 2024)

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

**Green type indicates a completed leaf & limb collection*

Town Council 2024 Meeting Dates

Work Session January 11
Regular Meeting January 18
Work Session February 8
Regular Meeting February 15
Work Session March 14
Regular Meeting March 21
Work Session April 11
Regular Meeting April 18
Work Session May 9
Regular Meeting May 16
Work Session June 13
Regular Meeting June 20
Work Session July 11
Regular Meeting July 18
Work Session August 8
Regular Meeting August 15
Work Session September 12
Regular Meeting September 19
Work Session October 10
Regular Meeting October 17
Work Session November 14
Regular Meeting November 21
Work Session December 5
Regular Meeting December 12

All Council Work Sessions will be held in the
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Council Meetings will be held in the
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Budget Meetings

Budget Meeting April 30
Budget Meeting May 2
Budget Meeting May 7
Budget Meeting May 9
Budget Meeting (If Needed) May 13
Budget Meeting May 16
Public Hearing (Tentative) June 13



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 2024 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. Click [HERE](#) for more information



Registration is Required for all Dogs and Cats

River Bend Animal Registrations for 2024 are due by March 31, 2024. 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. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

2024 tags are available now at Town Hall.



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.



River Bend has a skateboard park to meet the needs of some of our more athletic residents.

A signed parental approval [form](#) is required and helmet use is strictly enforced. For more information about the skateboard park, visit our web site or call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.