



THINGS CHANGE; EVERYWHERE
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

Long ago I accepted the philosophy that change is taking place every day. The most appropriate way to address the fact of change is to be informed on the best way to manage the change. I also believe that properly managed most elements of change result in a positive advance and creates a forward looking future for any organization. It seems that human nature is to quickly react

to proposed

change by the “we ain’t going to do that” approach. This isn’t restricted to individual humans but also to organizations. They also have an inertia that is resistant to change.

“This isn’t restricted to individual humans but also to organizations. They also have an inertia that is resistant to change.”

The Church, for many years, stood in opposition to the proposition that the earth was round and the institution looked on any advocate of such theory as a heretic. In the present we find it hard to relate to the Church taking of this position for such a long time.

When DeWitt Clinton put the first steam propelled train into service in 1831, many were certain that people would die from its excessive speed of 25 miles per hour that the train could travel. Fast forward; interstate speed limits are now 70 miles per hour and we are quite comfortable with that as a safe way to travel.

In an article by Blaine A. Brownell in the Institute of Southern History; by The Johns Hopkins University and Titled “A Symbol of Modernity: Attitudes Toward the Automobile in Southern Cities in the 1920’s”. A portion of the article is quoted here; An old resident of Memphis, Tennessee, Recalled The City As It Had appeared around 1910 “downtown Memphis offered plenty of sights, free: the

INSIDE THIS EDITION

MAYOR’S REPORT
PAGE 1

WRD/PW REPORT
PAGE 3

COMING EVENTS
PAGE 4

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE
PAGE 5

LEAF & LIMB SCHEDULE
PAGE 5

ETCETERA
PAGE 6-7

rushing crowds, the flow of street cars, wagons, buggies, hacks and now and then an automobile”. Ten years later a few new skyscrapers dotted the city’s skyline, but the streets were still crowded and busy and Memphis remained very much the same, with one exception: the automobile occasionally encountered in 1910 had become by 1920 one of the most pervasive features of urban life.”

In our year 2016 in Memphis the wagons, buggies and hacks would draw much more attention than did the automobile in 1910. Change in transportation happened quite quickly and the change in vehicle design continues to this day.

River Bend is not immune to change and a look at the change that has taken place here has for the most part been positive. It is human nature to cling to the established and familiar and reject the risk of change. This article is not intended to advance the position that all change is positive, but when one looks objectively at the changes that we can all identify our world is safer, more productive and a healthier place in which to live than the one our parents knew. Let us look at change as a positive event and be selective of the elements of change that we adopt and those that we will reject.

FORWARD TO March 2021

The above article was written for the “River Bender” in November 2016. The COVID -19 virus that attacked on a global scale was not even envisioned then but it did arrive and boy did it change nearly every aspect of what we all accepted as the normal aspects of life. Now we are almost a year into adjusting and to define what is the new normal. That new normal should certainly cause us to accept that we live in a global environment and what happens on the other side of the globe really does impact us who live half a world away. In 1954 Hollywood produced a movie titled Around the World in 80 Days. That movie was staged in the Victorian era and demonstrated that perhaps a trip around the world could be accomplished in 80 days. People and viruses can now travel around the world in less than 80 hours. That is part of the “new normal.”

The change impacts just about every aspect of our work, medical care, purchasing of day to day food and all the consumables we rely on for life and comfort. Health Care Providers have become the most critical of professions. The personal integrity of every professional and every trade person has become critical to the common good. This new time demands that we develop a new sense of trust to persons and races that we had in other times regarded as inferior whether neighbors and citizens or persons living in their native lands.

I am certain that there are many who reject the position that I advance in this

article but the honest judgment of the merit expressed here will only be validated at some year long after both myself and the persons who read the article have departed this life. I close by wishing that we collectively make good choices as to the new norms.



**WRD/PW
REPORT**

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

In January, the Public Works Department repaired two storm water catch basins. One side of the catch basin had collapsed and had to be repaired. We formed it up and poured a new sidewall. The other catch basin needed minor joint repair. Public Works also sprayed the Town's walking trail with herbicide to kill the unwanted vegetation growing up through the rock on the path. This not only keeps the path more defined, but also enhances the general appearance around the park. All the walking path exercise equipment, signs, and railings were pressure washed to remove algae growth. This also enhances the appearance of the park.

Water Resources had two lift station pumps that had to be pulled and unclogged. The pumps had become clogged with cloth like material around the impellers of both pumps. When this happens the pumps and impellers can no longer spin freely. This causes the pump to draw excessive amperage and to overload and trip the motor. Our staff quickly repaired these pumps. We also repaired a couple of aeration basin diffusers at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. As a reminder, our Wastewater Treatment Facility is an aerobic process. Microorganisms that treat our incoming wastewater need oxygen to live and reproduce. Without proper oxygen levels the process would not work.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 638-3540, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm. After hour's water and sewer, emergencies can be reported by dialing the Town Hall at 638-3870. You will be instructed to the 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 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 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

Work Session

March 11

5:00 p.m.

Town Hall

Council Meeting

March 18

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall

Planning Board Meeting

April 1

6:00 p.m.

River Bend Municipal
Building

Work Session

April 8

5:00 p.m.

Town Hall

Council Meeting

April 15

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall

Budget Workshop

April 27

4:00-7:00

Town Hall



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
Don Fagle
Brian Leonard
Barbara Maurer
Buddy Sheffield
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.

TOWN MANAGER
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK
Kristie Nobles

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Margaret Theis

POLICE CHIEF
Sean Joll

DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC WORKS
Brandon Mills

ASSISTANT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
Allison McCollum

GRAPHIC DESIGN &
TYPOGRAPHY
Jennifer Barrow

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

Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2020-2021

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 6, 2020
(July 1, 2020)
September 7, 2020
(September 2, 2020)
November 2, 2020
(October 28, 2020)
January 11, 2021
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 6, 2021)
March 8, 2021
(March 3, 2021)
May 10, 2021
(May 5, 2021)

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 13, 2020
(July 8, 2020)
September 14, 2020
(September 9, 2020)
November 9, 2020
(November 4, 2020)
January 18, 2021
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 13, 2021)
March 15, 2021
(March 10, 2021)
May 17, 2021
(May 12, 2021)

Pinecones, pine straw and
leaves must be bagged. For
additional important informa-
tion about River Bend's Leaf
& Limb collection program,
please see our Ordinance online
at www.riverbendnc.org. ■

Town Council 2021 Meeting Dates

Work Session.....January 14
Regular MeetingJanuary 21
Work SessionFebruary 11
Regular MeetingFebruary 18

Work SessionMarch 11
Regular MeetingMarch 18
Work SessionApril 8
Regular MeetingApril 15

Work SessionMay 13
Regular MeetingMay 20
Work SessionJune 10
Regular MeetingJune 17

Work SessionJuly 8
Regular MeetingJuly 15
Work SessionAugust 12
Regular MeetingAugust 19

Work SessionSeptember 9
Regular MeetingSeptember 16
Work SessionOctober 14
Regular MeetingOctober 21

Work SessionNovember 10
Regular MeetingNovember 18
Work SessionDecember 9
Regular MeetingDecember 16

Budget Meetings

Budget Session.....April 27
Budget Session.....May 4
Budget Session.....May 11
Budget Session.....May 13
Budget Session.....May 18
Budget Session.....May 20

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

All Regular Council Meetings will be held in the
River Bend Municipal Building beginning at 7:00
p.m.

All Council Budget Sessions will be held in the
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 4:00 p.m.

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

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 2021 registration decal. Decals for 2021 were available beginning December 2, 2020.

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 2021 are due by March 31, 2021. All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually. Registration is \$10 per pet, and may be placed in our payment drop box while Town Hall is closed to the public.

Owners must present proof of rabies vaccination at the time of registration. Please include documentation with your payment.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



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 Town Hall for a brochure or view details on 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

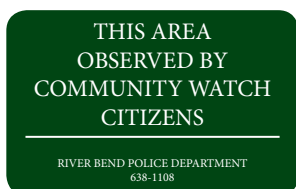
this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
**Blackboard
connect**



River Bend has a functional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). For more information about this group, or to volunteer, please contact the CERT liaison, Corporal Brandon Rhors and/or visit our web site at www.riverbendnc.org.



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.