



Happy  
Thanksgiving



**THE INTEGRITY OF NC  
ELECTIONS**  
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

I know that the Town Manager has written several articles making the plea that citizens who desire facts about issues of concern related to Town ordinances and infrastructure projects should refer to the Town's Web Page rather than read and accept what they can read on one of the social postings. I know that the Manager has written these articles because I have read them.

My effort at critical reading is a listing of online documents that the State Board of Elections has on its web page that provide detail directing the 100 County Election Boards in the conduct of elections in their jurisdictions. At their web site under the title "Tips for Monitoring or Observing the Election at Polling Sites" The article details a number of subjects that provide direction for individuals that may wish to observe the conduct of the election process.

The article under the section titled "Outside Monitors" states---- Anyone has the right to watch or monitor the election outside the voting place. This activity must

remain outside the buffer zone, which typically extends 50 feet from the entrance of the voting place and is clearly marked. Outside observers may not disrupt voting, intimidate voters, or otherwise impede access to the polls. On-site elections officials have the duty to ensure a safe and orderly voting where voters are not obstructed. These officials are authorized to remove anyone who is disruptive. (N.C.G.S. @163-48)

---

**"My effort at critical reading is a listing of online documents that the State Board of Elections has on its web page that provide detail directing the 100 County Election Boards in the conduct of elections in their jurisdictions. ."**

---

#### INSIDE THIS EDITION

MAYOR'S REPORT  
PAGE 1

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT  
PAGE 2

WRD/PW REPORT  
PAGE 4

COMING EVENTS  
PAGE 5

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE  
PAGE 6

LEAF & LIMB SCHEDULE  
PAGE 6

ETCETERA  
PAGE 7-8

---

The authority continues with sections titled: 1. Allowed; 2. Prohibited. There follows a section titled “Observing the Election Inside” These observers are appointed by the Political Parties. When one reads this document with its enumerated authority and prohibitions one should assume that the entire election process is well regulated and the results should be without objection. Of course it follows that the observers need to possess the trait of (integrity) as relates to their responsibility.

My hope is that rather than posting on or reading words on the “social media” that citizens should first read the State Board of Elections’ website.



#### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

In February 2021, the Town received a \$602,500 grant from the State of North Carolina to replace all of the existing water meters in the town's system. When the bids for the project were opened the low bid exceeded the grant funding by \$130,310. The total project cost is \$732,810. The funding agency approved a zero interest loan to fund the balance of the costs. The town was responsible for a \$14,656 closing fee.

Water system

operating costs are paid by water system customers. There are about 1,500 water customers in River Bend. Were it not for the grant, this project would have cost each customer an additional \$488. Because of the grant, that cost has been reduced to \$86 for each customer. That cost will be factored into the monthly fee. There will be no one-time fee.

---

**“In February 2021, the Town received a \$602,500 grant from the State of North Carolina to replace all of the existing water meters in the town's system.”**

---

Since the funding approval, the town has been working through the engineering, design and bidding process. That part of the project has been completed. Core & Main was awarded the project. The fieldwork was scheduled to begin on October 31, 2022 and should be completed by February 2023. During the project, contractors will be visiting each water meter. Don't be alarmed if you see someone working at your meter. Their vehicles will be identified with a sign that says VEPO Metering and it will have the town seal on it.

---

The project will consist of replacing every water meter in town (approx. 1,500), installing new radio repeaters and antennas on the two water tanks and providing a new base station, receiver and computer software. Our current meters are automated radio meters but they are old. The new meters will also be automated radio meters but they will incorporate the latest technology and features. The completion of this project will benefit the town and its water customers for decades to come.

This project will not be your typical construction project with heavy equipment, digging and road closures. Most of the work will be done by hand and will take place inside of the meter box in each customer's yard. The existing meter will be removed from the meter box and a new meter will be installed. For a typical meter, it should take less than 45 minutes to complete the change-out. However, during the change-out, the water service for that particular customer will be interrupted. The water service will not be shut off on a street-wide or neighborhood-wide level. The activity at your house will have no impact on your neighbors and vice versa.

Once your new meter has been installed, a door hanger will be left at your home. It will have instructions for you to follow. After installation, you will need to open a faucet in your home and flush your line. Using an outside spigot is the ideal method to flush a line but it is perfectly fine to use an inside faucet. Flushing for 1 minute should be adequate to flush your line.



### **WRD/PW REPORT**

BY BRANDON MILLS  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works has continued trimming/clearing brush around town from around roadway signs. This is something we do on a routine basis. We want to make sure all signs are visible and legible. Several signs have had to be cleaned or replaced. If you see town employees out along the roadway working please slow down when driving around them. During our inspection of our storm water piping system before Hurricane Ian, we found two drainage dis-

charge pipes that were clogged with pine straw. We were able to clear these lines with our sewer jetting equipment to make sure they were clear and able to drain properly.

Water Resources has been cleaning the Town's wastewater collection system piping. Ten percent of our system piping has to be cleaned annually. We generally clean over fifteen percent. This cleaning is done with our sewer jet and a degreasing solution. The purpose of cleaning these lines is to limit odor problems, as well as inspecting our piping for potential problems. We have also smoked out several areas of the collections system, and will continue to do so as time allows. The purpose of smoking the collection system piping is to look for inflow (storm water) / infiltration (ground water) problems throughout the system, which could cause hydraulic overloading of the system. We found several broken cleanouts where storm water was entering our collection system. Our staff repaired these broken cleanouts.

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

Parks & Rec Advisory  
Board Meeting  
November 2  
7:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Library Board Meeting  
November 3  
2:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

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

Annual Shredding  
Event  
November 5  
9:00 AM- 12:00 Noon  
Basketball Court

RBCOG Meeting  
November 7  
1:30  
Municipal Building

EWAB Meeting  
November 7  
7:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Wire Light Globes  
Activity Sponsored by  
Parks & Rec  
November 9  
10 AM  
Municipal Building

Council Work Session  
November 10  
5:00 p.m.  
Town Hall

Veteran's Day Celebration  
Sponsored by Parks & Rec  
November 11  
3:00 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Town Hall

Wire Light Globes  
Activity Sponsored by  
Parks & Rec  
November 12  
10 AM  
Municipal Building

Craven County Tax Re-  
valuation Presentation  
November 14  
6:00 p.m.  
Town Hall

Red Caboose Library  
Author Book Signing  
and Fundraiser  
November 15  
7:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

CAC Meeting  
November 16  
4:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Council Meeting  
November 17  
7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall

Bingo Sponsored by  
Parks & Rec  
November 22  
1:00 p.m.-4 p.m.  
Municipal Building

CERT Meeting  
November 23  
7:00 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.

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  
Mandy Gilbert

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](http://www.riverbendnc.org)

## Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2022-2023

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

### Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 5, 2022  
(June 29, 2022)  
September 6, 2022  
(August 31, 2022)  
October 31, 2022  
(October 26, 2022)  
January 9, 2023  
(includes Christmas trees)  
(January 4, 2023)  
March 6, 2023  
(March 1, 2023)  
May 8, 2023  
(May 3, 2023)

### Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 11, 2022  
(July 6, 2022)  
September 12, 2022  
(September 7, 2022)  
November 7, 2022  
(November 2, 2022)  
January 16, 2023  
(includes Christmas trees)  
(January 11, 2023)  
March 13, 2023  
(March 8, 2023)  
May 15, 2023  
(May 10, 2023)

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](http://www.riverbendnc.org). ●

## Town Council 2022 Meeting Dates

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

## Budget Meetings

All Budget Meetings have been com-  
pleted. To review budget material, please  
visit our website: [www.riverbendnc.org/  
finance/fy2022-2023-town-budget](http://www.riverbendnc.org/finance/fy2022-2023-town-budget)

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  
7:00 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 2022 were due by March 31, 2022. 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.



### **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](http://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](http://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, Officer Andrew Borner and/or visit our web site at [www.riverbendnc.org](http://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.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.