

**River Bend Town Council
Work Session Minutes
August 10, 2023
Town Hall
7:00 p.m.**

Present Council Members: Mayor John Kirkland
Brian Leonard
Barbara Maurer
Buddy Sheffield
Jeff Weaver

Town Manager: Delane Jackson
Town Clerk: Kristie Nobles
Town Attorney: Ross Hardeman

Members of the Public Present: 32

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kirkland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at the River Bend Town Hall with a quorum present.

VOTE – Approval of Agenda

Councilman Weaver motioned to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Message from David Bone, Executive Director – Eastern Carolina Council of Government

The Manager introduced David Bone from the Eastern Carolina Council of Government (ECCOG). Mr. Bone gave a presentation of the available resources that the ECCOG offers and upcoming events. He also expressed gratitude to Patty Leonard who is the Town's appointed representative to the ECCOG.

Discussion – CAC's Plantation Median Recommendations

Councilwoman Maurer stated that the CAC has been working on the median project for over a year. She stated that there are some landscaping issues including dangerous, sick trees and shrubbery that need to be reviewed. She stated that Tom Glasglow has submitted his recommendation. At this time, Councilman Weaver stated that he did not want to remove the medians, but to correct the problem trees and shrubbery. Councilman Leonard agreed and stated that there is no money in the current years budget for this project.

VOTE – CAC's Median Recommendation

Councilman Sheffield motioned to instruct the Town Manager to investigate the cost of having an arborist exam trees on Plantation Drive and Anchor Way. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Mayor called for a 2 minute recess.

Discussion – Renew Water Shortage Response Plan

The Manager stated that the Town is required to have a Water Shortage Response Plan, which outlines what is done during a drought or any other condition that limits the Town's water availability. He stated that this plan has to be renewed every 5 years as required by NCDEQ.

VOTE – Renew Water Shortage Response Plan Resolution

Councilman Sheffield motioned to approve the Water Shortage Response Plan Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

VOTE – 2022 Craven County Tax Settlement

Councilman Leonard motioned to approve the 2022 tax settlement from Craven County as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Draft Advisory Board Ordinance Amendment

Councilman Leonard stated that when the Council revised the Advisory Board Ordinance, they did not address the role of the Council Liaison. He stated that most Council members start as Advisory Board members. He stated that there is not anything in the ordinance to prevent Council members from serving on the Advisory Boards. He stated he felt it was a conflict of interest with the Council appointing Advisory Board members and also serving on Advisory Boards.

VOTE – Draft Advisory Board Ordinance Appointments

Councilman Leonard motioned to approve the proposed language in the Advisory Board Ordinance as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Advisory Board Appointments

The Manager stated that there are vacancies on the Advisory Boards and there are three applications in the agenda package that Advisory Boards have recommended. Councilwoman Maurer stated that there are several applicants that have also applied for the Council vacancy. She stated she recommends postponing the Advisory Board appointments until the Council vacancy has been filled. The Council agreed to postpone any Advisory Board appointments until the Council vacancy has been filled.

Discussion – Red Caboose Library Contract

The Mayor introduced Ross Hardeman who is representing the Town Attorney during his absence. Mr. Hardeman stated that he and David Baxter have reviewed and approved the language in the contract for the Red Caboose Community Library and the Town of River Bend. Councilman Leonard asked if the Red Caboose Library was ready to execute the contract and Mrs. Gloria Kelly (vice chair for Red Caboose Library) stated there was one question. She inquired about the payment (item 2.2 of the contract) in the amount of \$5,000 over a 12-month period, with the fiscal year already two months in. The Attorney stated that the contract could be reworded to allow payments over 10 months' time and starting the following year, it would be a 12-month period. The Council agreed.

Discussion – Planning Board's Rezoning Recommendation for 403 Old Pollocksville Road

Councilman Sheffield stated that the Planning Board has received a rezoning request from Robert Davis, the property owner, to rezone a portion of the property from R-20A to R-15. He stated that the Planning Board recommends this request and has sent it to the Council. The Manager stated that a Public Hearing is needed and requires advertising.

VOTE – Public Hearing for 403 Old Pollocksville Road

Councilman Sheffield motioned to schedule a Public Hearing for rezoning of 403 Old Pollocksville Road at the regular Council meeting in September after the new council person has been seated. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Conditional Zoning Ordinance

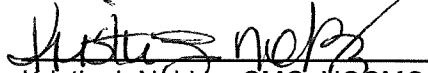
Councilman Weaver stated that Conditional Zoning was tabled at a previous meeting, but he thinks it needs to be readdressed. He stated that he felt this would be a good tool for the Town to have. The Manager stated that the latest drafted ordinance is included in the agenda package. After a discussion the Council agreed to vote on the language within the ordinance at the August 17, 2023, meeting.

REVIEW – Agenda for the August 17, 2023 Council Meeting

The Council reviewed the agenda for the August 17, 2023, Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS

There being no further business, Councilman Sheffield moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.



Kristie J. Nobles, CMC, NECMC
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF RIVER BEND RESOLUTION
APPROVING WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN**

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (l) requires that each unit of local government that provides public water service and each large community water system shall develop and implement water conservation measures to respond to drought or other water shortage conditions as set out in a Water Shortage Response Plan and submitted to the Department for review and approval; and

WHEREAS, as required by the statute and in the interests of sound local planning, a Water Shortage Response Plan for Town of River Bend has been developed and submitted to the Town Council for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the Water Shortage Response Plan is in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (l) and that it will provide appropriate guidance for the future management of water supplies for River Bend, as well as useful information to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the development of a state water supply plan as required by statute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Town of River Bend that the Water Shortage Response Plan entitled, River Bend Water Shortage Response Plan dated August 10, 2023, is hereby approved and shall be submitted to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council intends that this plan shall be revised to reflect changes in relevant data and projections at least once every five years or as otherwise requested by the Department, in accordance with the statute and sound planning practice.

Adopted this the 10th day of August 2023 at River Bend, North Carolina.




John R. Kirkland, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, CMC