

**River Bend Town Council  
Work Session Minutes  
September 12, 2024  
Town Hall  
7:00 p.m.**

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

Town Manager: Delane Jackson  
Town Clerk: Kristie Nobles  
Town Attorney: Trey Ferguson  
Police Chief: Sean Joll

Members of the Public Present: 16

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Kirkland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at the River Bend Town Hall with a quorum present.

**VOTE – Agenda - Addition / Deletion**

*Councilwoman Maurer motioned to remove item #6, Pickleball Court, from the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.*

**VOTE – Approval of Agenda**

*Councilwoman Maurer motioned to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.*

**VOTE— Water Treatment Grant Resolution**

The Manager stated that the proposed Water Treatment Grant Resolution is required by the State of North Carolina to apply for a grant for the Water Treatment Plant Project. He stated that this application will be a new application to request additional funding for the Water Treatment Plant. He stated he is waiting for some figures from the engineer to determine how much funding the town request.

He stated that the Town is also reapplying for a grant for two new water wells. He stated that the Town did not receive some points on the previous application because the Wellhead Protection Plan was not adopted within the past five years. He stated that Brandon Mills contacted the North Carolina Rural Water Association to get assistance with updating the Wellhead Protection Plan reapproved. He expects it to be reapproved within 60 days, which would allow the Town to obtain those additional points for the application.

*Councilman Leonard motioned to approve the Water Treatment Grant Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (see attached)*

### **Discussion –2024 Roadway Evaluation Survey**

The Manager stated that he had received the 2024 Roadway Evaluation Survey and felt it would be beneficial to post it to the town's website as a long-range street paving plan with a disclaimer that the plan is subject to change. Councilwoman Maurer asked the Manager if he needed a motion tonight and the Manager stated that he would like a consensus from the Council if they would like to use the survey as described and if they do, he can have the disclaimer ready for the next council meeting. Councilman Leonard stated that he would like for the disclaimer to be clear that this is a planning document that is subject to change. The Council agreed.

### **Discussion—Advisory Board Ordinance for Offsite Events**

The Manager stated that the Council requested that the Advisory Board Ordinance be amended to include language that allowed the advisory board to hold offsite events. The Manager stated that he had confirmed with the Town's insurance agency and the current policy would cover offsite events that are official town functions. Councilman Leonard stated that he would like to have language that states if the town does not have the capability to hold the event at the town's facility, the board could hold offsite events. The Manager stated that he has reservations, for example, who will make the determination of whether or not the town's facilities are adequate. Councilman Weaver stated that it may not be that the facility is adequate, but rather that the advisory board wants to partner with another business. It was determined that the Manager would revise the proposed ordinance amendment for the Council to review at the next meeting.

### **Discussion—Advisory Board Ordinance, Liaison Role**

Councilman Weaver stated that he wanted to reiterate the liaison role to the advisory boards. He read § 3.05.083 Board Oversight in the town's ordinance, "If a Board member or member of the public feels that there is an issue with the operations of the Board, they may speak to the liaison about their concern, in an effort to seek a remedy or clarification." He stated that he felt this pertained to the Council also, and if they had an issue with an advisory board that they would discuss it with the liaison. Councilman Leonard asked if the ordinance needed to be amended to include the Council. The Manager stated that the Council is a member of the public. The Council agreed.

### **Discussion—Social Media Policy**

The Manager stated that there have been some questions regarding the town's stance on an official town social media page. He stated that the Council has discussed this and decided not to have a town's social media page. He presented the attached resolution regarding the town's official position. The Council agreed with the wording and a vote will be held at the next Council meeting.

### **REVIEW – Agenda for the September 19, 2024, Council Meeting**

The Council reviewed the agenda for the September 19, 2024, Council Meeting.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

*Councilman Sheffield moved to go into a Closed Session under NCSG §143-318.11(a)(6) to consult with our attorney. The Council entered Closed Session at 7:29 p.m.*

### **OPEN SESSION**

*Councilman Sheffield moved to return to Open Session at 7:44 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.*


### **VOTE – Town Manager Merit Pay**

*Councilman Sheffield motioned to award the Town Manager merit pay in the amount of \$3,000. The motion carried unanimously.*

Councilman Sheffield stated that the Town Manager does an outstanding job under difficult situations for the Town. He stated that the Town Manager is responsible for the Town being awarded several large grants recently. Councilman Leonard stated that he felt the same as Councilman Sheffield. Councilwoman Maurer stated that she appreciates all that he does for the Town. Councilwoman Benton stated that he has gotten 20 million dollars in grants for the Town. The Mayor stated that he agreed with all of the comments.

**ADJOURNMENT/RECESS**

There being no further business, *Councilman Sheffield moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

  
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Kristie J. Nobles, MMC, NCCMC  
Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT**

WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend has need for and intends to construct, plan for, or conduct a study in a project described as Water Treatment Improvements, and

WHEREAS, The Town of River Bend intends to request State loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVER BEND:**

That Town of River Bend, the **Applicant**, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the **Applicant** will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That the **Applicant** will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the **Applicant** agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the Town of River Bend to make a scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the Town of River Bend any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That Delane Jackson, Town Manager, the **Authorized Representative** and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the **Applicant** with the State of North Carolina for a loan and/or grant to aid in the study of or construction of the project described above.


That the **Authorized Representative**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the **Applicant** has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and funding conditions applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024 at River Bend, North Carolina.

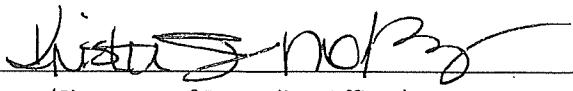
  
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John R. Kirkland, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Kristie J. Nobles, Town Clerk, MMC

**FORM FOR CERTIFICATION BY THE RECORDING OFFICER**

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Town Clerk of the Town of River Bend does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Town Council duly held on the 12th day of September, 2024; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Recording Officer)

Town Clerk.  
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(Title of Recording Officer)