



JULY FOURTH AND OUR REMEMBERING
CELEBRATION
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

This celebration certainly provides a summer opportunity to enjoy family gatherings and visits to parks and other areas for the day or extended vacations.

We should also take this opportunity to discuss the sacrifices that the nations founding fathers made to create the United States of America. It is well to have this discussion with our children, so they grow to adulthood with this recall of a special day and also for the appreciation and sacrifice of the founders of the nation.

In 1776, the city of Philadelphia was hot and there was no air-conditioned assembly hall for the persons assembled to draft the Declaration of Independence. There were no jet aircraft to make the trip from Georgia or other distant states. The alternative was to travel by coastwise sailing vessel, horse drawn coach, or by horseback. The modern support conveniences of electric lighting were a hundred plus years in the future. All of those who signed the Declaration were threatened by the British King and most lost significant property.

We citizens today all owe a debt to those signers.

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**TOWN MANAGER'S
REPORT**

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

The Town Council has passed the budget for the new fiscal year that began on July 1st. The total operating budget for the Town for Fiscal Year 2024-25 is \$3,922,987. The Council discussed the proposed budget over the course of four budget workshops during April and May. A public hearing on the proposed budget, as is required by law, was conducted on June 13. As always, all of the budget workshop documents were available on the town's webpage, and they are still posted if you would like to look at them. In fact, several years of [budget documents](#) are available on our web page. New this year, is a [5-year comparison](#) of budgets.

The tax rate will remain the same as last year at 24¢. The rates for water and sewer service are also unchanged. The average home in River Bend is valued at \$244,962 and the average utility customer uses 3,344 gallons of water/sewer per month. Therefore, the average resident will pay \$588 in town taxes and \$960 in utility fees in FY24-25, which is \$4.24 per day. For \$4.24 per day, the average resident will receive potable water, efficient wastewater treatment, 24/7 police protection, stormwater management, animal control, planning, zoning, code enforcement, parks, recreational events, street lights, street maintenance, leaf & limb removal, and a host of other services. Last year the daily cost was also \$4.24 per day. While the price of many things increases, these costs remain the same for the average resident in River Bend. Our goal is to continue to deliver high quality services at a reasonable price to all who make River Bend their home. Many people spend more than \$4.24 per day on coffee.

Hurricane season is here. If you have not seen it, please visit our webpage and review the "Hurricane Season Has Arrived" [bulletin](#).



WRD / PW REPORT

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works recently sprayed the front entrance pond with aquatic herbicide to remove unwanted vegetation, a task performed several times a year to maintain its appearance. Andrew Brooks of our Public Works department also obtained several pesticide licenses. We now have another member of our team that is licensed, and I would like to thank him for a job well done on passing his state exams. In addition,

numerous street signs and posts were replaced due to deterioration. Routine maintenance on vehicles and equipment, including oil and filter changes was also completed by our Public Works staff.

Water Resources completed our annual water system flushing, which is essential for removing settled minerals from water lines. During this flushing we also do yearly maintenance on all our fire hydrants, and flow test them for the fire department. Additionally, two lift stations pumps malfunctioned and had to be pulled from their associated wet wells. We promptly replaced these pumps with backups to avoid any sanitary sewer overflows. Parts have been ordered for these pumps and we will repair them as soon as possible.

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

RBCOG Meeting
July 11:30 p.m.
Municipal Building

EWAB Meeting
July 1
7:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

CANCELED
Planning Board Meeting
July 4
6:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

July 4th
Parade & Picnic
Parade begins @
10:30 a.m.
Lunch to follow

Town Hall Closed Friday,
July 5th

Hurricane Preparedness
Class
July 8
6-8 p.m.
Municipal Building

Special Meeting of the
Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
July 10
6:15 p.m.
Municipal Building

CANCELED
Council Work Session
July 11
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

CAC Meeting
July 17
4:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Regular Council Meeting
June 20
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Book/Tech Mobile
June 21
2p.m.-4p.m.
Tech Class 4p.m.-5 p.m.
Municipal Building

Game Day Sponsored by
Parks & Recreation
July 20
1:00 p.m.-4:00 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.

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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 15, 2024
(July 10, 2024)
September 9, 2024
(September 4, 2024)
November 11, 2024
(November 6, 2024)
December 11, 2024
(December 4, 2024)
January 13, 2025
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 8, 2025)
March 10, 2025
(March 5, 2025)
May 12, 2025
(May 7, 2025)

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 22, 2024
(July 17, 2024)
September 16, 2024
(September 11, 2024)
November 18, 2024
(November 13, 2024)
December 16, 2024
(December 11, 2024)
January 20, 2025
(includes Christmas trees)
(January 15, 2025)
March 17, 2025
(March 12, 2025)
May 19, 2025
(May 14, 2025)

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.



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 were 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.

Registration is \$10.00 per pet.



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.