

**Minutes**  
**Town of Atlantic Beach, North Carolina**  
**Advisory Committee on Wastewater and Stormwater**  
**Thursday, May 3, 2007**

The meeting of the Atlantic Beach Advisory Committee on Wastewater and Stormwater (ABACOWS) was held Thursday, May 3, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room.

**Members Present:** Billy Brewer, Donald Clements, John Lotspih, George Richardson, and James Willis, III

**Members Absent:** Thomas Lenweaver, Bruce McFerren, Alan Shelor

**Others Present:** Larry Moolenaar, Facilitator; Mayor Joyce Vinson; Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Dawkins; Council Members Jim Bailey and Mike Warren; Kelly Nash, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Moolenaar called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1. Acceptance of April 5, April 12 and April 19, 2007 Minutes:**

All committee members were in agreement to accept the set of minutes listed, as written.

**2. Public / Committee Comments**

Mr. Brewer wanted to comment on the committee's visits to Bald Head Isle, NC and Trent Woods, NC to observe their wastewater systems He stated that the trips were very educational.

No further comments were made at this time from either the public or the committee.

**2. ABACOWS Mission Review – Councilmember Jim Bailey**

Mr. Bailey complimented and thanked the committee, on behalf of himself, the citizens of Atlantic Beach and the entire Council, on its diligence and efforts thus far. He discussed a few key points regarding the mission statement of the committee.

a. "a path forward". He asked that the members look at all the data that has been obtained thus far.

b. ask that whatever the decision on a recommendation is from the committee, be formally presented to Council at the next scheduled Town Council Meeting set for May 21, 2007.

### **3. Discussion – Wastewater System Visits**

Mr. Willis wanted to make note that whatever type of system is implemented that, regarding the maintenance of that system, there needs to be a full-time operator for each specific job with no possibility of being pulled off his job to do something else.

Mr. Brewer discussed, for those members that were unable to participate in the visits, the operational procedures of the systems.

All committee members that participated in the visits agreed that the visits were a very positive experience and would recommend a wastewater vacuum system.

Mr. Brewer stated that is for a system for stormwater and wastewater.

Mr. Clements directed his question to Councilmember Bailey regarding pump out stations and stated that he would recommend that it be asked of the engineers to add a provision to provide pump out stations.

Councilmember Bailey stated yes, that could be done.

Mr. Moolenaar wanted to clarify that what was being suggested is that in the recommendation the committee makes to Town Council it be asked that a provision be included for a pump out station.

Mr. Richardson brought up the fact that the initial “hook-up” fee that is being proposed for Atlantic Beach is much more expensive than Bald Head Island and New Bern.

Councilmember Bailey reiterated that the \$3,500.00 “tap-in” fee for Atlantic Beach is, right now, just a number.

Mr. Brewer stated that whatever wastewater system the Town pursues, it should be a recommendation to use the finest grade materials for the saltwater environment of Atlantic Beach and he recommended the PVC coated pipes.

Mr. Lotspih took the floor at this time to make a presentation on various sewer location options. He stated that he talked with Lynn Gilstrap and Troy Dees with the Carteret Co. Health Dept. regarding areas that are most at risk whether it is from high water tables, extremely small lots, very old systems or anything else they felt would put septic systems at risk. Mr. Lotspih proceeded to handout a diagram to all committee members and talk about possible options.

**(Clerk’s Note: a copy of the handout is hereby attached and therefore made a part of these minutes.)**

Mr. Clements suggested that the wastewater “backbone system” be implemented to take care of the business district first.

Councilmember Warren interjected that the Planning Board has a moratorium on residential uses in the business districts. The Planning Board is looking at zoning to make a recommendation to Council as to where the business district will reside and also talking about the different uses of commercial use. He also stated that regarding the condominiums and density, special legislation is being worked on at the state level to make height restrictions a referendum of the people regardless of what type of Council is sitting on board.

Mr. Moolenaar at this time wanted to clarify that another consensus of the committee is that a limited backbone system is the most favorable and if this is the case, then the costs need to be revisited.

Mr. Moolenaar summarized where the committee is at this point in the meeting. He stated that the committee agreement is: 1.) Atlantic Beach needs a stormwater master plan; 2.) Atlantic Beach needs some sort of central wastewater system; 3.) talk with W. K. Dickson regarding the possibility of limited backbone system implementation, is it doable and what the impact costs would be.

Councilmember Bailey clarified with the committee exactly what the committee is asking of the engineers in regards to the implementation of a limited backbone system with approximately fifty percent (50%) expansion and the impact costs of such a system.

#### **4. Development of 5/10/07 Agenda**

1. Moved the next scheduled meeting to Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.
2. W. K. Dickson engineers present to answer questions
3. Answers to Mr. Randall’s questions
4. Continue with recommendation as to path forward

#### **5. Public/Committee Comments**

Mr. Jay Randall complimented Mr. Lotspih on his presentation and his identification of the problems. He asked a few questions of the committee as to 1.) what will the recommended payment options for this limited system be; 2.) can a survey with updated information on recommendation options be taken of all property owners.

With no further business before the Committee, Mr. Moolenaar adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Kelly Nash, Administrative Assistant