

WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A G E N D A

TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE, VIRGINIA

October 18, 2012, 9:00 A.M. – Council Chambers - Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

AGENDA ADDITIONS OR ADOPTION

1. Evaluate/Set Committee Goals for the 2013 work plan
2. Updates for Discussion
 - a. Newsletter
 - b. Planning Commission work session
 - c. Finalize Business Owner Survey
 - d. Next Steps
 - Schedule field trip to Cape Charles WWTP
3. Committee Member Comments

ADJOURN



MEMORANDUM

Town of Chincoteague Inc.

Date: October 16, 2012
To: Wastewater Advisory Committee
From: Bill Neville, Town Planner
Through: Robert Ritter, Town Manager
Subject: Evaluation of Committee Work Plan for 2013

Following the Town Council meeting on October 1st and the Planning Commission workshop on October 9th, Town staff discussed with Chairman Papadopoulos several comments on the proposed draft newsletter and expectations regarding the work of the Committee. An evaluation of the attached Committee goals for 2013 is recommended.

Evaluation of the work plan should focus on three main questions that still must be answered before a final report can be prepared for presentation to the Town Council:

1. **OUTREACH** - it is necessary to justify the need for a public wastewater system on Chincoteague Island to the community at large and support this conclusion with compelling reasons and information
2. **FUNDING** – estimating the cost of alternatives and describing how they will be paid for is essential to allow full consideration
3. **TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS** – the means of treatment or disposal, and the design of infrastructure includes an extensive range of possible engineered solutions that must be compared and evaluated to determine which are most feasible

Good communication with the public has always been identified as a priority for the WAC. We have received suggestions that the first newsletter should include more information for people to understand why the Committee has been formed and the full range of alternatives being considered. The potential phase one map illustrated one possible solution without explaining other options. More work on the first newsletter is needed.

The Planning Commission will continue to work on the 4th main question having to do with land use controls that may be needed to implement a wastewater management plan. Revisions to the attached work plan/goals and objectives should be time specific.



MEMORANDUM

Town of Chincoteague Inc.

Date: October 24, 2011
To: Wastewater Advisory Committee
From: Robert Ritter, Town Manager
Subject: Goals and Objectives

Mission Statement

The committee will maintain a 1 year work plan

- to review wastewater needs for the community;
- to review the preliminary engineering report dated March 2011, along with other studies or alternatives, and to present recommendations for action to the Town Council;
- to review and make recommendations on alternatives for a Wastewater Collection System and Force Main Alignment ;
- to review and make recommendations on alternatives for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal;
- to provide ideas and suggestions to the Town Council on areas to be provided with wastewater sewer service;
- to provide suggestions for acquisition of new properties for possible treatment plant or pump station site;
- to serve as a liaison to the Public and Town Council.

1 Year Work Plan – 2011 to 2012

The following goals and objectives should be regularly updated and prioritized by the Committee:

1. Justification; Why do we need a central wastewater system
2. Outreach to the Community and Stakeholders, inform the public, and to get them involved
3. Locations for treatment and disposal
4. Phasing options
5. Financing options
6. Financial assistance programs
7. Wastewater service rate formulation

1) Justification (thoughts)

- a) The possible contamination of the ground water and the surrounding water ways around the Island with pathogens (e.g., viruses, bacteria, cryptosporidiosis), nutrients (e.g. nitrates, phosphorus), pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and household cleaning products
- b) The possible contamination of surface waters by fecal coliform bacteria associated with septic system infiltration.
- c) Always the possibility of Contamination of important shellfish beds and swimming beaches by pathogens is a concern in some coastal regions.
- d) Excessive nitrogen discharges to sensitive coastal waters and phosphorus pollution of inland surface waters may increase algal growth and lowers dissolved oxygen levels
- e) On-site systems that are sited in densities that exceed the treatment capacity of poor soils and systems that are poorly designed, installed, operated or maintained can cause problems.
- f) Residential home densities may exceed the ability of regional soils and water resources to treat and assimilate pollutants
- g) Most septic system failures are related to inappropriate design and poor maintenance. Some soil-based systems (with a leach or drain field) have been installed at sites with inadequate or inappropriate soils, excessive slopes or high ground water tables. These conditions can cause hydraulic failures and water resource contamination. Failure to perform routine maintenance, such as pumping the septic tank at least every 3 to 5 years, can cause solids in the tank to migrate into the drain field and clog the system.

2) Outreach

- a) Establish a plan to inform the public of the reasons for a centralized wastewater system
- b) Establish a news letter just on all collected information
- c) Public meetings
- d) Have the folks that want to get involved help spread the correct information

3) Location for treatment and disposal (current and past optional areas)

- a) Possible treatment and disposal at or near the Atlantic Town Center Site
- b) Possible Treatment on the Island with the following disposal methods
 - I Possibly Deep well injection
 - II Possibly Ocean out fall
 - III Possibly Fowling Gut discharge
 - IV Possibly with NASA

4) Phasing Options (contingent upon grants and loans)

- a) Maddox and Main Street
- b) Taylor through Cropper streets
- c) Willow, Eastside, and Ridge Roads to Bunting
- d) Southern portion
- e) Northern portion

DO WE NEED A CONSULTANT TO HELP GET US PAST THIS POINT?