



**Minutes**  
**Town of Atlantic Beach, North Carolina**  
**Town Council – Work Session**  
**Thursday, September 12, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.**



A regularly scheduled work session of the Atlantic Beach Town Council was held Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Meeting Room, 125 West Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, North Carolina.

**Members Present:** Mayor A. B. Cooper, III; Mayor Pro Tem Richard Porter; Councilmembers: Harry Archer, Rich Johnson, Danny Navey and Austin Waters

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** David Walker, Town Manager; Katrina Tyer, Town Clerk; Sabrina Simpson, Admin Services Director; Michelle Shreve, Planning Director; Morgan Gilbert, Parks and Rec Director; Jeff Harvey, Police Chief; Mike Simpson, Fire Chief; Marc Schulze, Public Works Director; Leghe Gerald, Water Supervisor

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Councilmember Archer made a motion *to approve* the agenda as prepared. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Porter. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**Results of County Beach Commission Bids on Bogue Banks Sand Project**

Mayor Cooper stated the County Beach Commission had scheduled a bid opening on September 10 for the upcoming beach nourishment project, but only received two bids so they scheduled a second one for September 20. Assuming the next bid opening is successful, we will begin contract negotiations.

**Meeting New State Toxicity Limits on Water Utility (NPDES Permit)**

The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) for the operation of the water plant is a five year permit, expiring April 2020. This permit allows us to drain the backwash from the water softener process to a storm drain leading to the canal behind First Citizens Bank. As currently operated, we cannot meet the required toxicity parameters. The State is going to enforce these parameters with the permit renewal, and we may have to either limit, or eliminate the water softening processes as they will not allow us to continue to discharge into the storm drain. We have been using the services of Martin Lebo, a consultant associate with AquaAeTer, Inc. in New Bern, to guide us through complying with the new permit limits suggested by the state. He is a major consultant for Weyerhaeuser's treatment processes into the Neuse River. When the plant was redesigned and built in 1991, the softening process was included, but since then the home water softening industry has vastly grown and become marketable. There is not a state requirement to soften water, but Beaufort and Morehead City still soften. Pine Knoll Shores, Indian Beach, and Salter Path do not. Emerald Isle softens a percentage of their water. We are still evaluating the options available to us to comply with the new state requirements before recommending eliminating the water softening process, which cost us over \$50,000 per year. Staff proposed the following options for Council's consideration:

- *Option 1* - Perform Dilution Modeling to achieve a chronic WET limit – requires relocation of discharge from the stormwater system directly to Bogue Sound in an area where rapid mixing would occur.
- *Option 2* - Modify effluent to comply with current acute WET limit – requires implementation of treatment before discharge to the stormwater system that would modify the effluent so that it was not toxic to mysid shrimp at 90% effluent.
- *Option 3* - Eliminate water treatment and/or effluent discharge – requiring softening of the potable water be eliminated.

It was the consensus of Council for staff to continue pursuing cost effective options to soften water.

**Presentation of USDA Financing Options for Public Safety Complex from Live Oak Bank, Wilmington**

Matt Peeler, Kent Evans and Lee Williams reviewed Live Oak Bank's USDA Guaranteed Loan Program.

**Proposed Policies for Town Park for Special Events**

After previous discussions with Council, Morgan contacted other towns regarding alcohol sales at public parks and found that the majority of the beach towns allow beer and wine, but not liquor after permission either from staff or Council. Our ordinance currently reads, "An exemption to allow consumption of malt beverages may be granted by the Mayor for special events after consultation with the town manager. The town manager shall provide written notice to town council, clerk and department heads." Morgan is asking Council to allow beer sales during Town events at the Town Park that have been approved by the Town Manager and Mayor. All of the events should only occur between Labor Day and Memorial Day, with no alcohol served during the summer season.

It was the consensus of Council to approve Crystal Coast Brewery selling beer for the Barktoberfest event at the town park.

**Capital Projects Update**

- a) **Storm Drainage Projects (Robin Avenue, Charlotte, Bogue, West End Pump Station)**
- b) **Bids for generator at Well 2A**

David Walker reviewed the proposed drainage projects. We are ready to start the westend lift station outlet. We will be sending out a Request for Proposals for an auxiliary generator at Well 2A.

**Strategic Plan Initiative**

Mayor Cooper announced that he is going to be working with Mayor Pro Tem Porter and Councilmember Johnson on a Strategic Plan as discussed at the last retreat.


**ADJOURN**

There being no further action taken or business before Council the meeting stood adjourned. The time was 11:23 am.

These minutes were approved at the October 28, 2019 meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council.

ATTEST:

(seal)

  
Katina Tyer - Town Clerk



TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH

  
A. B. Cooper, III - Mayor