



TOWN COUNCIL

Work Session

Town Hall

June 2, 2009

6:00 p.m.

At approximately 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Mayor Dora Sullivan called to order the Work Session of Town Council. In addition to Mayor Sullivan, present were Councilmen Bannon, Bennett, Burdiss, Elliott and Veber. Councilman Evans was not in attendance. Also present were Interim Town Manager Heather Arcos, Town Consultant Bob Panek and Town Clerk Libby Hume. Five representatives from Webtide, Joe Corrado, Furlong Baldwin, Jim Christian, David Irvin and Jerry Esposito, were in attendance as well as seven (7) members of the public.

Mayor Sullivan welcomed the representatives from Webtide and announced that this meeting was called at the request of Webtide in order to have open discussions regarding a possible regional wastewater system.

Councilman Bennett began by stating that he is in favor of pursuing a regional wastewater system but added that he was not aware that the Town was still having discussions with Webtide and pointed out that two of the handouts that were emailed to Council last week were dated April 20th and April 21st. Mayor Sullivan explained that the previous discussions with Webtide were informal to keep the lines of communications open.

Mr. Joe Corrado stated that a regional wastewater system made sense for the towns of Northampton County and added that their proposed system would be less expensive, with more advanced technology and a greater capacity (500K GPD vs. 250K GPD) than the system currently being pursued by Cape Charles. Mr. Corrado added that he had spoken with several representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") and they are in favor of a regional system for this area and suggested that Webtide and the Town meet again for further dialogue regarding this issue. Mr. Corrado asked for an update on the status of the Town's wastewater system to which Bob Panek explained that the Town had achieved the 80% design stage and were meeting with Stearns and Wheler and the DEQ on June 3rd to discuss this further. The Town is expecting to meet 100% by the end of July with construction to begin in September. The construction should take approximately two years with a target completion date of September 2011. Mr. Corrado asked about the projected costs for the Town. Bob Panek stated that the total project cost estimate was \$16.5M but he could not provide specific costs with a potential bidder, MEB General Contractors, in the meeting.

Councilman Bannon stated that unless Northampton County mandates connections in Bayview, Kings Creek Landing, Fairview, Oyster and Culls, there was nothing to discuss and added that several months ago, a joint meeting was held with representatives from the County but they did not have a quorum so could not participate in the discussion. At a later meeting, the County representatives voted against moving forward with the Webtide proposal.

Mayor Sullivan asked about the costs for the land in Cheriton and whether those costs were factored into the figures presented by Mr. Corrado. Mr. Corrado stated that the land costs were not included in his figures and were negotiable regarding purchase or lease and the number of acres needed for the project. There was much debate regarding the location of the regional system, the size, labor costs and the ramifications if the other towns or areas do not connect.

In conclusion, Mr. Corrado recommended a joint meeting with Webtide, Cape Charles and the DEQ and stated that if the Council wants a new proposal, Webtide will be glad to provide one.

Motion made by Councilman Veber, seconded by Councilman Bannon and unanimously approved to adjourn the Town Council Work Session.

Mayor Sullivan

Town Clerk