

Belfair Sewer Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – Thursday, May 15, 2014

http://www.co.mason.wa.us/ac/belfair_sewer/

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Regular meeting called to order on May 15, 2014, at 6:05 pm by Chair Jack Johnson, with a quorum present.

Members: Jack Johnson, Judy Scott, Rob Drexler, Bob Harris, Greg Waggett, Lee Swoboda

County staff: John Cunningham, Tom Moore

Guests: Jeff Carey, Jerri Harris

Motion: Bob moved to accept the minutes as emailed. Judy seconded. Motion passed.

Motion: Bob moved to accept the agenda. Greg seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion item: Jack proposed a notional cost profile (Attachment A) as a starting point for creating the Committee's recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The format provides a running tally of estimated costs and revenues. The Committee's goal is provide enough cost savings and revenue enhancements to pay sewer capital, operating and maintenance costs to avoid or minimize near-term rate increases.

Motion: Lee moved that the Committee adopt Jack's proposed cost profile [Attachment A] as the committee's format for presenting the cost impact of the committee's recommendations. Greg seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion item: The County can impose a special benefit assessment for sewers only on those properties that have access to sewer service (See RCW 85.38.150). Jack pointed out that any committee recommendation for a special benefit assessment must also address construction of sanitary sewer infrastructure to all buildable properties within the UGA: currently unserved phase 1 properties plus phase 2, 3 and 4 properties. He provided more details of the proposal he has made numerous times that this buildout can be accomplished at a low capital cost using a low-pressure and, in some cases gravity-feed, collection system.

Jack estimates that about 35,000 feet of pipe are required to complete the Intercepting and lateral sewerage (See WAC 458-20-251), most of which would be in current County right-of-way so the only cost would be pipe and installation, most of which would be trenching. He estimated the installed cost at about \$40 per foot for a total of \$2.6m, including pump stations where necessary. This would provide a stub out to every buildable property in the UGA.

Most of the technical design would be provided by E/One [1] as a no-cost perquisite of their sales service. The engineering design would be about \$100k.

Discussion item: Tom provided a list of items the Committee has previously discussed (Attachment B) as a proposed outline for the Committee's recommendation to the BOCC. The sense of the Committee is that all of the items in the outline have been discussed by the Committee and that the Committee has been in general agreement the items are valid recommendation. Rob suggested that it would be helpful if the Secretary formulated a working draft of recommendations based on Attachment B outline.

Motion: Judy moved to adopt Tom's list [Attachment B] as working outline for developing the Committee's recommendations to the BOCC. Greg seconded. The motion passed.

Action item: Prepare a working draft of recommendations for each of the items on Attachment B.

Action: Lee

Motion: Greg moved that the Committee adopt construction of a low-pressure collection system and a special benefit assessment (attachment B items 3 and 4) as recommendations to the BOCC. Rob seconded. The motion passed with one nay and one abstention.

Public comment: Jeff reiterated his recommendation the County include demographic modeling in its revenue projections when analyzing options.

Public comment: John commented on the white paper Jack provided of the information provided to the North Mason Community Voice on January 27, 2014. He reminded the Committee that some of the options in the paper are not feasible. Jack acknowledged that and said he provided the white paper primarily as background for the cost figures he used in Attachment A.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled on 29 May, 6:00 pm at the Port of Allyn meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Scott, secretary

Attachment A - Working Draft of Expenses and Revenues
Attachment B - Working Outline of Recommendations