

**MINUTES  
KITTY HAWK TOWN COUNCIL  
Special Meeting  
Tuesday, October 1, 2013  
Kitty Hawk Town Hall - 6:00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem Gary Perry
4. Presentation by Dare County Manager Bobby Outten
5. Public Input
6. Adjourn

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Clifton Perry, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Perry, Councilman Ervin Bateman, Councilwoman Emilie Klutz and Councilman Richard Reid

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Town Manager John Stockton, Town Clerk Lynn Morris, Attorney Starkey Sharp, Finance Officer Charlene Allen, Police Chief Joel Johnson, Public Works Director Willie Midgett

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Perry called this special meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. After a welcome and “thank you” was extended to all in attendance, the Mayor recognized that everyone’s interest in this public forum is appreciated as it gives council the opportunity to find out what Kitty Hawk citizens want with regard to beach nourishment. Public input was encouraged, with brief instruction made as to participation.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Councilwoman Klutz moved for approval of the agenda. Councilman Reid seconded, followed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

### **3. PRESENTATION BY MAYOR PRO TEM GARY PERRY**

With greeting the many in attendance, Mayor Pro Tem Perry light-heartedly accredited how advertisement of the meeting seems to have worked! Because the subject matter is a serious topic, the meeting is being video-taped and will be scheduled for broadcast on the local government channel (Channel 20). One disadvantage of the recorded meeting, however, is that TV viewers will be unable to see what is being displayed for the audience via PowerPoint. Initial programming for replay is scheduled for October 3 and October 6, 2013, each day at 1:00 p.m. and again at 7:00 p.m. The Town's online website has posted a link by which to view this PowerPoint presentation, as well as another link to view the entire meeting.

The PowerPoint presentation began with a picture from the 1962 Ash Wednesday Storm, a well-known depiction of the old Croatan Inn in Kill Devil Hills surrounded by ocean overwash, and MPT Perry testified Kitty Hawk often deals with such storm conditions. He recalled that back in the 1940's, his parents discussed how their friends had to constantly move their oceanfront houses, and eventually, some gave up and moved to the highest elevation in Southern Shores. MPT Perry indicated beach erosion has been eating away at Kitty Hawk since before his lifetime and retreat has been evolving even in the present time. Homes moved westward towards NC 12 can no longer be moved and stay on the oceanfront. Short of abandoning NC 12 and the row of homes west of NC 12 causes property owners and residents to have their backs against the sand dune.

The next slide shown was a 2013 picture of the Kitty Hawk oceanfront just north of Pelican's Perch. MPT Perry recalled a 1964 US Coast Guard drill he participated in when a drive was made on the beachfront all the way from Oregon Inlet to the North Carolina/Virginia State line, and although it took a long time, there was no worry about tides because the oceanfront was wide enough along the entire stretch. Such a trip is not possible today without worrying about the tide schedule.

Several pictures from the 1991 Halloween Nor'easter showed the Kitty Hawk Post Office, side streets and the bypass surrounded with ocean overwash. At that time, postal service was interrupted, businesses and roads were flooded, and protective dunes were destroyed. It was noted Kitty Hawk's postal facility serves Kitty Hawk, Southern Shores and Duck. The 1991 nor'easter interrupted transportation causing routine traffic flow in Dare County to be limited, and when such conditions exist, MPT Perry pointed out, emergency services cannot respond properly and working persons cannot arrive to their employers.

Storm pictures were shown of damage done by Hurricane Isabel. After Hurricane Isabel in 2003, FEMA built a dune line along the east side of NC 12, but the dune began to erode on the north end before completion of the south end. MPT Perry emphasized that at that point in the disaster relief, FEMA had already paid the bill for cleaning up, doing debris removal and covering associated storm costs, adding, "*Things start to change after super storms happen.*"

Another issue with the rebuilt dune dealt with two property owners refusing to sign easements for the dune to be replaced at their locations, causing two separate breaches. Obtaining easements for beach nourishment will be critical for the accomplishment of placing

sand to restore the beachfront. Bypassing lots, as was done with the dune restoration project, will not work when attempting to do beach nourishment – all property owners on the oceanfront will have to return easement documents quickly in order to get a proposed project initiated. The town does not have the needed easements for properties north of Kitty Hawk Road which would permit a beach nourishment project, and obtaining those easements will be a town project and not something undertaken by Dare County.

Next, pictures were displayed of overwash due to routine nor'easters in 2006 and 2009, with the dune restored after Hurricane Isabel being destroyed. At present, there is no sufficient room on which to replace the dune line, even if one could be funded.

Kitty Hawk deals with ocean overwash even during moderate storms. Without outfalls, stormwater sits and becomes toxic unless pumped. Removal of stormwater takes a long time and exposes emergency personnel to danger, as well as salt water causing premature aging to emergency equipment (trucks, pumps, etc., all things required to remove stormwater).

Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 flooded Kitty Hawk's US 158 bypass and NC 12 was under several feet of sand. Pictures were displayed of the same. Kitty Hawk Post Office's property was again flooded, with stormwater "*knocking at the door*" that could have flooded the building. Pumping took more than a week, and traffic was routed through an uphill neighborhood that was not equipped to handle normal four-lane vehicular flow. The storm episode became "a nightmare."

During Hurricane Sandy, the Kitty Hawk Fire Department responded to an emergency call, with firefighters wading through salt water to fight a house fire started by a short circuit. Areas between the highways have buried electrical equipment, which cause risk of electrical shock to emergency and cleanup personnel. Said storm was a situation where fire and public works trucks and equipment worth over \$1 million was swimming in salt water, causing taxpayers an enormous premature replacement and repair of capital equipment.

Both major roads through Kitty Hawk were flooded and closed down due to Hurricane Sandy. NC 12 became washed out and US 158 was flooded.

Hurricane Sandy was a storm 200 miles off shore which flooded Kitty Hawk from its northern boundary to the southern line. Flood removal and debris cleanup did not qualify for federal assistance. The State of NC paid 75% of the cleanup costs and the Town of Kitty Hawk covered the balance.

A picture was then shown from the March 2013 nor'easter which washed away the dune line restored after Hurricane Sandy. Another picture showed area flooding which occurred during that March 2013 storm, and MPT Perry pointed out the costs of stormwater removal and debris cleanup was fully funded by the Town of Kitty Hawk. No outside funding was available.

MPT Perry stated that though NC 12 remains, the next nor'easter will probably take the rest of it. Also, ocean overwash occurring again between the highways will be a sure event.

An important point reiterated by MPT Perry was the Town's bearing of the post-storm expenses from the March 2013 flooding, and he talked about how federal and state funding is becoming more difficult to obtain even though stormwater damage is becoming more frequent.

MPT Perry then offered facts relating to beach nourishment while trying to reveal several perceptions:

What is the purpose of rebuilding the beach?

- To reduce, mitigate or eliminate damage to public and personal property.
- To ensure public safety, emergency access and open transportation roads.
- To preserve the one-third of the Town which acts as a bread basket for the other two-thirds of the Town.
- To recognize how storm damage in Kitty Hawk does not stay in Kitty Hawk. It affects the whole county.

Perception:

- In this age of social media, when NC 12 or US 158 is flooded, it has the same effect on tourism as problems with Bonner Bridge or Hatteras Island NC 12. Saving oceanfront homes or having wide beaches in Kitty Hawk are incidental to a far greater need. Other towns may be saving a tax base, but Kitty Hawk is trying to save the town and, by extension, the welfare of the OBX.

If the beach nourishment project is done and sand is pumped onto the beach, MPT Perry continued, homeowners would more than likely see a stop to beach pushes as it would not make sense to continue to do so.

Discussions have been made about how much the oceanfront is worth and what amount of tax money is generated. MPT Perry indicated the information he would share comes from figures provided before the recent revaluation:

- Oceanfront – assessed property valuation of \$66 million brings in \$6,676 with a one-cent tax assessment.
- Between the highways – assessed property valuation of \$459 million brings in \$45,000.

*"Folks, without help, Kitty Hawk will never do this,"* MPT Perry stated, adding, *"We couldn't tax you enough to do anything."* In closing, the Mayor Pro Tem thanked everyone for listening and offered he has tried to leave everyone with something to think on. He encouraged public input, saying council will listen and will act accordingly to what the public wants. At the conclusion of his comments, a loud applause was given.

#### **4. PRESENTATION BY DARE COUNTY MANAGER BOBBY OUTTEN**

At this time, Dare County Manager Bobby Outten took the floor for offering comments relating to how Dare County and Kitty Hawk might be able to work together financially to address beach nourishment. Manager Outten said the beach nourishment proposal has come together through several months of discussions between local town managers and mayors with county management. The proposed plan is not the final plan and nothing has been adopted.

The proposed plan is a framework method by which the local townships can be helped in addressing the issue of beach nourishment.

Similar to what was discussed by MPT Perry, Manager Outten said there are overall goals for a beach nourishment project in Kitty Hawk. A PowerPoint presentation outlined these points [a link to the same is posted on the Town's website]:

- The protection of infrastructure – to protect NC 12 and US 158. Pictures were shown of flooding that has occurred on these roadways.

The protection of US 158 is primary, as it is a major artery for all facets of Dare County's economy. This concern does not just deal with Kitty Hawk and local traffic but how US 158 is a major evacuation corridor whether for storm events or emergency situations. US 158 is also the major supply corridor for any post-storm needs and recovery, as well as, the primary re-entry corridor for Dare County.

Post recovery can take up to months, not just days, and it is always the goal for recovery to have life and business returned to as close to normal as possible and as soon as possible. Manager Outten recalled a time during Hurricane Isabel when US 158 was closed in Kitty Hawk, describing how motorists from Manteo, for example, had to go through Elizabeth City to get to the Southern Shores area.

- The protection of properties and businesses between the highways – these areas deal with problems of flooding during hurricanes, nor'easters and other storm events.
- To provide continuity of beaches throughout the towns in the county in order to maintain the tourism industry – there is merit to protecting the beaches and keeping them viable to the rest of what the county has to offer.

As to funding, Manager Outten talked about Dare County's goals in the funding proposal, being:

- To achieve the overall goals with regard to the protection of infrastructure, properties and beaches. There is a beach nourishment program paid for out of Occupancy tax dollars, and the fund accumulates money which is used for one purpose only – to restore beaches.
- To leverage county dollars to provide as much sand on beaches as possible. The county is trying to leverage dollars to not only help Kitty Hawk but to help all townships place sand on its beaches and do what beach nourishment is designed to do.
- To maintain funds sufficient to cover one year debt service on all projects (\$8.8 million). This funding would cover expenses to keep beach nourishment projects moving forward should there be a storm event and projects need to be recovered.
- To accumulate fund balance during the life of projects to assist towns in maintenance after five years (\$22 million). At the end of five years, the county would be in the position to be able to maintain projects achieved by beach nourishment, and this would include the Town of Nags Head.
- To have towns contribute some amount to the projects. Some towns will have to contribute more than others, based upon tax base, although a new formula would have to be developed and used which accounts for Nags Head.
- To have a fair method of distribution of county funds. A fair method has to be determined which will distribute county dollars, and input is being sought from townships.

- To have funds available to assist in nourishment in Rodanthe and/or Buxton. These are southern arteries, and Dare County is obligated to keep these areas open as well as the northern areas.

*"It's difficult,"* Manager Outten continued, *"and there are some difficulties in what we're trying to do."* One of those difficulties is timing, that adjacent townships to Kitty Hawk do not have the same schedule as to project initiation proposals and with scheduling financing. Projects also have unequal scope, as to length and feet required, and again, this affects dollars needed for allocation. With that same thought, projects have unequal tax bases in that a penny in each township generates vastly different numbers, and, therefore, towns have vastly different resources available to do what is necessary to nourish beaches.

As to solutions, Manager Outten offered the timing issue will deal with each township having to allocate permit and design costs to get all projects on the same schedule. This will allow townships to accelerate schedules in order to get those projects on the same time schedule, thus offsetting a township having to raise taxes to generate revenue and allow enough tax years to accumulate needed funding prior to beginning with engineering, for example. If all townships could be on the same time schedule, the result could be a 17% savings on total costs of all town projects (which could be a savings of millions of dollars). This would involve costs for design, permitting, bid and construction, as well as the engineer's estimate.

With regard to a solution dealing with the unequal project scope, the County Manager posed to begin with basing all cost projections for each town on 75 cubic yards - what was done for the Town of Nags Head. This would compare *"apples to apples,"* being able to determine what is allocated to each town, and then, if a town wants to do more, they can do so at their own cost. If a town wants to do less, that could be done as well, but at this point in the preliminary talking stages, each town is seeking about the same amount of coverage.

The issue of unequal tax bases used a solution of running multiple models in effort to achieve fair allocation of county funds. The low relative value of the Kitty Hawk tax base versus the other towns made models that dealt with a certain number of dollars per square foot or a certain number of dollars per cubic yard - however, such would not work, making Kitty Hawk unaffordable if pro rata distributions were used based upon length or cubic feet. Kitty Hawk would be unable to generate enough money if the tax rate was raised to the maximum allowed by statute.

To address said dilemma, the Nags Head project was re-examined, particularly as to the municipal service district which pays a higher tax rate than other areas within the town. The total dollars spent between the two districts, divided by the total number of tax parcels, in theory, averages 7.82 cents of property tax in that town. Solution models determined what Dare County's beach nourishment fund could contribute for upfront cash and annual debt service using 7.82 cents per parcel for all towns. Towns would also need to use Nags Head's financing model and issue special obligation bonds to borrow their part of the money, and Dare County would finance its projects by using property as collateral. The dollars needed for Rodanthe and Buxton *"would not come up front."* Manager Outten said the cash in the beach nourishment fund would be used for the town projects, explaining the county would pay for its projects

by borrowing the money so the cash would not have to be used upfront and the county has the capability of borrowing where the towns may not. The debt service would be paid out of the beach nourishment fund.

Manager Outten reiterated the project being discussed is only a proposed plan; however, there is a time crunch because engineers need to be given adequate time to do their work and to design schedules, setting a target construction date of 2016. All town boards have seen the plan but none have approved it, and it is based upon cost and interest assumptions provided by engineers using projected market conditions.

Cost estimates are: Towns – Individually - \$50,854,000 / Combined - \$42,670,000, and Dare County - \$25,000,000. Town total cost estimates are: Duck - \$14,443,816; Kitty Hawk - \$16,515,159; and Kill Devil Hills - \$10,962,691. Costs for Rodanthe and Buxton are estimated at \$25,000,000.

Manager Outten then presented Kitty Hawk’s total cost distribution, with interest at 3.5%:

|                                    |              |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Town debt service contribution     | \$ 3,938,650 |              |
| Total Dare County BNF contribution |              |              |
| Upfront Contribution               | \$10,300,000 |              |
| Debt Service                       | \$ 3,037,866 |              |
| Total                              | \$13,337,866 |              |
| Total Cost with Debt Service       |              | \$17,276,516 |

A chart was displayed showing Kitty Hawk’s debt service on \$6,215,159 @ 3.5% over a five-year period, from 2016 through 2021.

In conclusion, Manager Outten noted all the towns in Dare County with substantial oceanfront erosion problems will be nourished. Some or all of the funds, depending on future conditions and erosion rates, will be made available down the road. Cost to the individual taxpayer in all towns with nourished beaches will be the same. Reference was made to what the Town of Nags Head has done with regard to beach nourishment, that it has been a good test basis, as there have been two hurricanes since nourishment began and there have been no issues with water on streets or oceanfront homes damaged.

Noting Dare County is presenting the proposed plan, Manager Outten said this presentation to Kitty Hawk is the first of the discussions for public feedback. It is the hope of the project to make beach nourishment work for all the towns and to use the designated funding as best as possible to place sand on the beaches.

After Mayor Perry thanked Manager Outten for his comments, MPT Perry stated Outten’s presentation was “*spot on,*” adding, “*what you have presented to this town is something this person never dreamed was even possible, so you’ve just made the impossible possible, and now I want to hear from those folks!*” Councilman Bateman echoed the sentiment, desiring to listen to the public that was in attendance.

## 5. PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor Perry recommended holding questions until after public comments have been made. Further instruction for speaking was given, requesting that statements be limited to three minutes. The Mayor also indicated that after public input a show of hands would be requested in response to a general consensus to be taken for direction.

Town Clerk Morris stated she would call the names of those persons who had signed in registering attendance at the meeting, explaining some desired to speak and others did not.

**Donny King – 4700 N. Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk.** King identified he owns Ocean Boulevard Restaurant, which occupies the original Virginia Dare Hardware building, in place since 1948. He also has organized a group named Better Beaches OBX who works with everyone to help sort out issues addressing shoreline erosion and future needs. What he has determined so far is that beach nourishment is a vital step to a stable future for the entire Town of Kitty Hawk. Hurricane Sandy showed what such a storm does to Kitty Hawk but it also proved how areas with a wider beach and a more stable dune line can better handle the impact. King encouraged the nourishment efforts to work towards that end, fully aware of the upfront costs involved in protecting infrastructure and enhancing the local economy – that the costs are becoming more clear and sustainable, as the presentations have indicated.

King continued: *“The cost of doing nothing is a frightening unknown. The positive step that has been taken is the implementation of the new pump station being installed at Hawks Street. That’s a good and inexpensive way of providing access after a storm and allowing access of infrastructure to dry out. However, the real problem with flooding is still looming anytime the wind blows more than 40 mph here in Kitty Hawk. Until we have more beach to break up the waves and more established dunes to hold back the surge, our community will suffer not only in large hurricanes but mid-sized storms and nor’easters as well.*

*“Many in our community and now, hopefully, all in this room are acutely aware of this ever increasing risk. On the brighter side, if we work together to create a more sustainable future, we can expect many benefits including better infrastructure and increased commerce. There are at least 600 houses on each side of the bypass with their eyes on the decisions that we make in this regard. Many of them will want to renovate and improve their properties with the new sense of security. This means good money for our local contractors and/or rental agencies and lots of it often provided by other people from other areas who love Kitty Hawk.*

*“Also, we can expect a renewed confidence in business in our area, attracting new organizations and filling our empty store fronts. We live off money made from visitors, and being more attractive to out-of-town guests who bring new money into the community is a lasting commitment which should not be overlooked. It’s time for us to get excited again and build ourselves up again for a better economic and more stable way of life for the next decade.*

*“I had mentioned Sandy because of the direct impact on our beachfront community, and we saw some other storms like Isabel, but let’s not forget about Irene which greatly damaged our sound-side community where many of us live. When we had repairs and, in some cases, vacated the places where we live, we still had a place to work and earn from and from which to gather supplies.*

*"We will continue to work on solutions for the west side of US 158 with resources we collect every day from the whole community. In situations like this, it truly takes a village and an entire village to succeed. I'm hoping you'll make the decision to move forward with this project and secure a more prosperous future for Kitty Hawk."*

At the conclusion of King's comments, a loud and continuous applause was given.

**Merritt Hooper – PO Box 1532, Kitty Hawk.** With thanking the Town Council for taking on such a large issue, Merritt Hooper stated beach nourishment is not new and that it has been going on for the past 15 to 20 years, maybe even longer.

Hooper continued with saying, *"what it boils down to right now is over the past ten years or so we have had three major nagging issues with it, whether or not it would work. First, Nags Head has already proved the project will work. Second, whether we need it. I think Mr. Perry's presentation tonight has proved it is needed. And, third, how to pay for it - and that is the big issue, like it or not."*

*"At this point in time, I would really like to urge the Town Council to take the time to figure out the way to best fund this project. It's not a question of 'if' – it's a question of 'how and when.' What Bobby has put forth tonight is a very positive plan that, I believe, can be tweaked for the Town of Kitty Hawk to benefit the whole town. Thank you very much, and I appreciate you proceeding on this matter."*

Those in attendance applauded Hooper's statements.

**Debra Sinkage – 4716 N. Croatan Highway, Kitty Hawk.** When the Clerk called Debra Sinkage's name, she indicated everyone has already said what she would have spoken about.

**Bill Foreman – PO Box 168, Kitty Hawk.** Identifying he owns and operates the Sea Cove Motel at MP3, Bill Foreman noted he wants to go on record, along with his employees and year-round guests of the motel, as definitely being in favor of beach nourishment. His comments go on, *"it seems something that Kitty Hawk just has to do eventually and the sooner the better. Nags Head's already done theirs and it works, and if Kill Devil Hills and Southern Shores both nourish their beaches, we've also got to do ours. Thank you."*

With applause, those present showed support to Foreman's brief statement.

The Town Clerk proceeded down the sign-up lists of names, with persons declining the opportunity to speak although they echoed support for the comments being made. Speakers' comments approaching the podium will be entered into these minutes.

**Greg Loy – 91 Osprey Lane, Kitty Hawk.** With thanking the Council for this meeting and the opportunity to speak, Greg Loy said he wanted to say, *"there's one point that was neglected here that's very important – that is, if we do have that storm, Mayor Pro Tem, and we do have a nourished beach that's engineered with a plan for re-nourishment, then we are eligible for FEMA assistance, and that's very important. As we say it comes more frequent."*

*"And, some people might say that I'm here to support my brother because he lives across the street from the Atlantic Ocean, and I am, but I'm also a property owner of Kitty Hawk and"*

*I've been watching this for a long time and I want to say that it is Kitty Hawk's golden opportunity and I really hope they take advantage of it. So, thank you, sir."*

A strong show of support was made by the audience.

**Danny Purcell – 5217 Barlow Lane, Kitty Hawk.** As a resident on Barlow Lane, Danny Purcell said he experienced flooding during the last big storm – 2.5' feet outside his shop and 1.5' inside. At the time of the Halloween Storm, Purcell was a resident between the highways, and for three weeks, there was 2.5' of water in his front yard and under the house. Purcell then thanked MPT Perry and Manager Outten for their presentations, adding a question regarding the 7.82 cents tax rate as to whether it is against a per \$100 value, and Manager Outten indicated "yes" with a nod.

Purcell continued, *"I think the proof is in the pudding. The evidence is in. What happened down in Nags Head ... I do some deliveries down there ... when I saw that project this summer, my mouth dropped open and I couldn't believe how beautiful it was down there, and we have that opportunity here in Kitty Hawk. So, I'm very much in favor of beach nourishment."*

A loud applause came after Purcell's statements.

**Brad Loy – 5124 N. Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk.** Kitty Hawk has been Brad Loy's home since 1975, the year he bought his property. Loy indicated, *"if beach nourishment was free, we would all welcome it with open arms. I hear rumblings of retreat. If we retreat, what would we leave behind? Septic tanks washing in the surf, broken-off house pilings, condemned homes, a lower tax base, sewer water mixed with ocean water, town roads with clay bases saturated to a point where it allows the asphalt to break up, or driving through residential subdivisions and stop-and-go two miles an hour to get south because the bypass is flooded."*

*"All of our real estate values, no matter where you live in Kitty Hawk, would be depressed as Kitty Hawk crumbles. Let's get our heads out of the sand and pump sand. Beach renewal works!"*

At this point in Loy's statements, a grand applause was given. Loy continued, *"Let's not retreat. Let's stand our ground. My wife and I are willing to pay a higher tax to make it happen. Thank you, kindly."* Further applause was heard.

**Randolph Barlow – 4819 Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk.** Recognizing his wife, Rosa Lee, had a prepared presentation but did not want to speak, Mr. Barlow addressed those who are in favor of beach nourishment 100%, saying, *"I've bought Merritt Hooper bulldozers, trucks ... I hate to think what I've paid Merritt Hooper for beach pushes,"* to which the audience responded with light-hearted laughter. *"Merritt Hooper stood up here for his community, cut his own throat. I have paid Merritt Hooper a lot of money. Merritt Hooper has done me a good job, but that man has spoke up here for his community and not for himself. Think about it. Thank you."*

Afterwards, a loud applause occurred.

**Tina Tice – 5010 The Woods Road, Kitty Hawk.** A resident of The Woods Road and the owner of Wright Management, Tina Tice said she lives in Kitty Hawk with her family. Many of her business's clients have told stories of spending an excess of \$8,000 in the past twelve months to remove sand from under their homes and to mitigate damages of their property that were not covered by homeowners or flood insurances. These property owners have expressed they have no problem with paying more in taxes to protect their property. Tice offer she fully supports the proposed project and hopes the Town Council and everyone will, too.

Upon Tice's statements, a loud applause was heard.

**Bill Holt – 3949 Tarkle Ridge Road, Kitty Hawk.** A question was asked by Bill Holt to MPT Perry about the area north of The Black Pelican, to which MPT Perry indicated, *"I said we don't have easements north of Kitty Hawk Road."* Holt appreciated the clarification.

**Robert Hicks – 4520 Lindbergh Avenue, Kitty Hawk.** A resident of Lindbergh Avenue, Robert Hicks noted his property has had standing water often the last few years, and actually, up to the last 25 years. What he recalls the most is that about 12 years ago he attended a similar town council meeting and a councilman, Bill Fruit, was *"violently"* against beach nourishment. Fruit had cited such effort was made by Virginia Beach and that it had not worked.

Hicks continued, *"If you call anybody in Virginia Beach, especially Sandbridge, which is the northern part of the Outer Banks, by the way, if you could drive all the way up, they'll tell you it's been the biggest economic development in the last 25 years in Virginia Beach ... that sand ... and more building for tax money. It's really been a boom for them. Just call and check. So, I say, 'to heck with Mr. Fruit.'"*

After Hicks' comments, light-hearted laughter and a strong applause was given.

**Fred Michie – 3812 Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk.** Indicating he was not planning on speaking, Fred Michie offered that Manager Outten may have done a minor disservice by not including the loss in capital gains assets if the beach nourishment project is not done.

At this time, Clerk Morris noted all listed names had been called, and Mayor Perry extended the open floor to anyone who would like to speak, even though they had not signed up to do so.

**Ray Midgett.** With saying he married a Kitty Hawk girl over 50 years ago, Mr. Midgett said Kitty Hawk has been like home to him, even more than his hometown of Manteo, noting he does own property in Kitty Hawk. Referencing Manager Outten's presentation, Midgett stated he has attended dozens and dozens of beach nourishment meetings over the last ten years, and without fail, *"each meeting had a 90% to 10% ratio of people in favor of beach nourishment."* However, when Nags Head first took its vote, the taxpayers voted taxation down, 79% to 21% - they did not want to pay for it, and they did pay for it because the town imposed it on them. The Nags Head project averaged anywhere from 50 cubic yards on the north end to 175 cubic yards on the south end.

Midgett offered, *"Kitty Hawk's beaches need nourishment more or equally as bad as Nags Head's south beach. What I'm saying is, he's proposing 75 cubic yards for Nags Head and an equally as bad beach about 150 to 175 cubic yards, twice as much. So, keep that in mind."*

*“That’s it. The oceanfront property, if you put 7.5 cents on them, which I know you’re going to put more, then it will bring in about \$50,000 for the entire oceanfront. That’s how much property tax 7.5 cents will bring in. I know you folks are wanting to pay and I admire you for it, and I don’t know what will end up on the people in the village – it’ll be a heck of a whole lot more than 7 cents sitting on the ocean, I suspect. Thank you.”*

After a brief applause, another invitation to speak was given by Mayor Perry.

**Kathy Nesbitt.** Speaking as the owner of a rental property in Sea Dunes, which is the 82-townhome community between the highways at MP 4.5, Kathy Nesbitt said the property floods *“every single time it rains. We have flooded with Isabel. We have flooded with Ida. We flooded with Sandy. Irene didn’t get us, and unfortunately, got our friends on the sound. We adamantly are supporting beach nourishment. We need it for our properties. We need it for our rental community. We are primarily, out of the 82 homes, 10% are full-time residents. Everybody else, we are in home-driven communities. So, thank you! We want to support this, and I’ve got the backing of probably 45 of the owners, maybe more.”*

After Nesbitt, further opportunity was given for public input.

**Warren Judge.** When Warren Judge indicated he desired to speak, the Mayor light-heartedly said, *“Warren, you’re too long winded!”* and the audience joined in laughter. Mayor Perry then introduced Judge as the Dare County Chairman of Commissioners, joking he would be the one who would give Kitty Hawk its money.

After the audience welcomed Judge to the podium, Judge began with saying, *“Mayor, I couldn’t come in your town and not speak, sir! I do appreciate the opportunity that you have afforded our residents to come before you and talk. Mayor Pro Tem Perry, outstanding presentation. I feel great that those of us who have been working on this for 25 years couldn’t have said it any better, so I appreciate that. I don’t want to get his head too big but Bobby did a great job.”*

*“The important thing to say here today is that I have, as a member of the Dare County Board of Commissioners in the last two years, I’ve lived with over 100 days of having to sustain a population of 5,000 people and all the things that come with that infrastructure by a 2.5-hour ferry ride, 30 cars at the most, one way. Not to be a black cloud predicting gloom and doom here, but, as we tried to navigate the flood waters last year, it is just so evident the points that Mayor Pro Tem Perry made and Bobby Outten made about the infrastructure, it is what has driven this project and Dare County’s interest in helping Kitty Hawk to the full extent of that fund that we can.”*

*“So, it is great to hear the response from the folks that have taken their valuable time out of their schedule tonight to come and be willing to stand up and be counted. It’s good to hear that. I don’t envy you for the decision that you need to make because, at some point in time, you have to put a price tag on it, but the Dare County Board of Commissioners stands ready to help each town to the full extent that we can. Thank you!”*

As the Mayor thanked Warren Judge for his comments, a loud applause was given.

A last call was made for anyone wishing to give public input, and no others came forward.

Mayor Perry then polled the audience as to who is in favor of beach nourishment, particularly after hearing the presentations given this meeting, and also inquired about who is against the proposal. After a show of hands for each position, nearly all of the estimated 140 people present indicated support of beach nourishment.

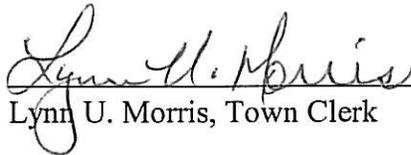
Mayor Perry thanked everyone for attending and for offering their input, adding, "*We appreciate you coming because we don't know what you want unless you tell us. So, it's been a pleasure to have you here tonight.*" In conclusion, the Mayor stated, "*I hope we can make the right decisions to do what's best for Kitty Hawk.*" In response, a loud and long burst of applause was given by those in attendance.

**6. ADJOURN**

Upon call by the Mayor for a motion, **Councilman Bateman moved to adjourn, with a second by Councilwoman Klutz. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.** Time was approximately 7:08 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the *November 4, 2013* council meeting.

  
Clifton G. Perry, Mayor

  
Lynn U. Morris, Town Clerk