



**Town of Bowling Green
Town Council Work Session**

A G E N D A

**Thursday, August 1, 2024
6:00 PM**

ROLL CALL AND QUORUM ESTABLISHED:

All members of Town Council were present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Mark Gaines

Vice-Mayor Valarie Coyle

Council Member John Chinault

Council Member Jean Davis

Council Member Randy Hageman

Council Member David Storke

Council Member Jeff Voit

Council Member Dan Webb

STAFF PRESENT:

India Adams-Jacobs, MPA, Town Manager

Jeff Gore, Town Attorney

Tina Staples, MGT, Finance Director/Treasurer

Shawn Fortune, Public Works & Utilities Supervisor

J.C. LaRiviere, J.D., Director of Community Development & Partnerships

BUSINESS:

1. Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Update

- Mark Inboden, CEO of Inboden Environmental Services (IES) provided a comprehensive update on the compliance process, emphasizing the importance of maintaining zero points and addressing the challenges related to solids management at the treatment plant. The presentation included details on the steps taken to rectify the situation, such as increasing hauling of residual solids and controlling rotor speeds. Additionally, he highlighted the enhanced communications with regulatory agencies and the absorption of Town of Bowling Green staff into the Inboden staff, as well as the collaborative efforts with the town and public works staff to manage their workload.
- Mark Inboden led a discussion on the plant's condition and the timeline of its deterioration, sharing that the issues may have been ongoing for months.
- India Adams-Jacobs, Town Manager, expressed gratitude for the swift action taken by Mark and his team to address the situation and acknowledged their expertise in dealing with regulatory agencies. Additionally, she highlighted the importance of the county's support during the emergency and the need to work closely with regulatory agencies in the future.



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- Mark Inboden provided an overview of the plant improvements, including the addition of timers to the rotors and the proposal for a controller to monitor dissolved oxygen (DO) levels. The DO controller, specifically the SC4500, is expected to optimize operations by controlling the DO levels and improving DO saturation during different times of the day, ultimately enhancing plant performance and compliance with TKN limits. Additionally, the discussion highlighted the potential benefits of a sampler for indiscriminate sampling and the necessity of the DO controller for operational efficiency.
- India Adams-Jacobs asked Mark Inboden to address the future needs for the town's sludge handling facilities, emphasizing the importance of betterment and alternatives to keep up with the town's growth. Mark discussed the potential acquisition of a used sludge press and the challenges related to sludge disposal, including increased costs and the impact of filamentous bacteria on the treatment plant process. Furthermore, he mentioned the potential collaboration with other localities for sludge handling solutions and the considerations for sending sludge to a different facility instead of hauling it to another county.
- Councilmember Storke asked Mark Inboden if he could indicate how long he thought these issues had been occurring. Mayor Gaines raised similar questions about the timeline and condition of the plant.
- Mark Inboden indicated that it would be hard to say specifically, based on when their company took over.
- Mark Inboden and Jamie Silveus expresses a preference for minimal chemical usage due to the potential dependency and negative effects on the treatment plant. They discussed concerns about permit violations related to the removal of apparatus from a room and discusses unresolved issues with drying beds and sand quality, which may impact the separation of filaments.
- India Adams-Jacobs expresses concern about potential future well problems due to the prevalence of gross alpha in the area and questions if this could lead to continuous need for new wells. She suggests that adding more wells and lowering the pump rate could help mitigate the issue, potentially reducing the levels of gross alpha. The discussion also touches on the need for a hydrogeologist or specialist to address these questions.

2. Closed Session

- Mayor Gaines leads the council in transitioning to a closed session to discuss a proposed consent order with the Virginia Department of Health. After a motion by Councilman Voit and second by Councilman Hageman, the council unanimously votes to move into closed



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session, and non-members are requested to leave the room. The Town Manager requested the Council allow specific individuals to stay for the closed session.

- Councilman Voit moved to reopen the meeting, seconded by Vice Mayor Coyle.
- Upon reopening the meeting, Mayor Gaines requested that the Council perform certification motions in roll call fashion, certifying that only matters exempt from FOIA and included in the motion for closed-session discussion were discussed. All members certified.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Voit, seconded by Councilmember Hagemen. The motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT

Water & Wastewater Update

Mark Inboden, Inboden Environmental Services, Inc.

Introduction to IES

- Located in Mt. Jackson, VA with five field offices throughout the State of Virginia
- Established in 1993 | Over 30 years of business
- A Multi-Disciplined Environmental and Utility Management Firm
- Clients We Serve
 - Municipalities, Government Agencies, Industrial Facilities, Private Businesses and Communities
- 85+ Team Members Throughout the State



Localities Served



- Town of Middleburg
- Town of Hamilton
- Town of Edinburg
- Town of Buchanan
- Town of Hillsboro
- Town of Berryville
- Clarke County Service Authority
- King George County Service
- Fauquier County Catlett–Calverton WWTP
- Town of Colonial Beach

Town of Bowling Green Challenges- January-June 2024 (Water)

- Gross Alpha exceedance- Q1
- 4th consecutive quarter of exceedance; triggers Notice of Violation
- Caroline County staff advised Town of green sand filter in February/March council meeting;
 - Proposed greensand filtration treatment will not remediate radionuclides
 - Treatment options primarily include ion exchange or reverse osmosis
- Notices to the public have been sent to utility customers in accordance with VDH's requirements

Town of Bowling Green Challenges- January-June 2024 (Wastewater)

- Unauthorized Discharges (spills)
 - Two unauthorized discharges occurred during County operations between February-April 2024
 - Town received a Warning Letter from DEQ for these two permit exceedances of TKN and e. Coli.
 - Cause of these exceedances are related to poor sludge management of the WWTP.
 - Letters of Explanations were sent to DEQ noting the need for Town Council to make a decision regarding an MOU and the justification for the unauthorized discharges during this time
 - Results of discharges- 1.5 points total for the WWTP as of June 1, 2024

Town of Bowling Green Challenges-January-June 2024 (Wastewater)

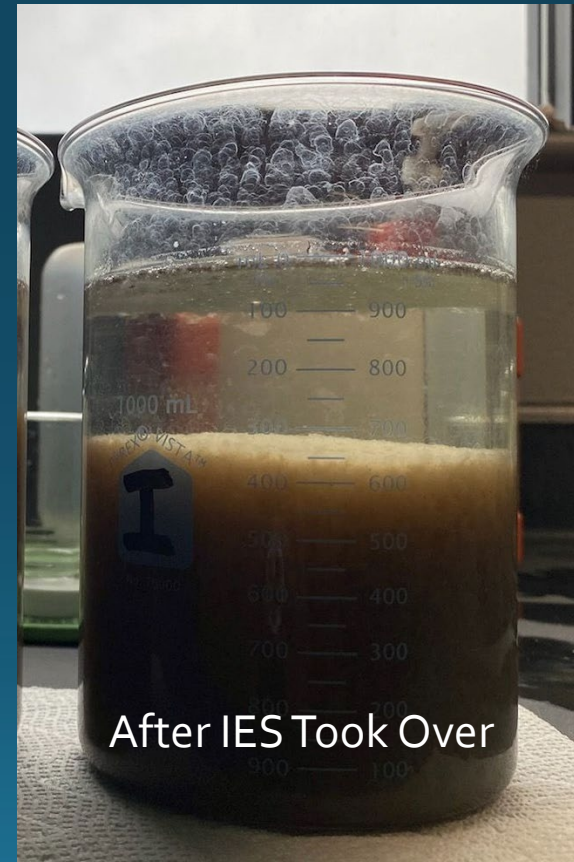
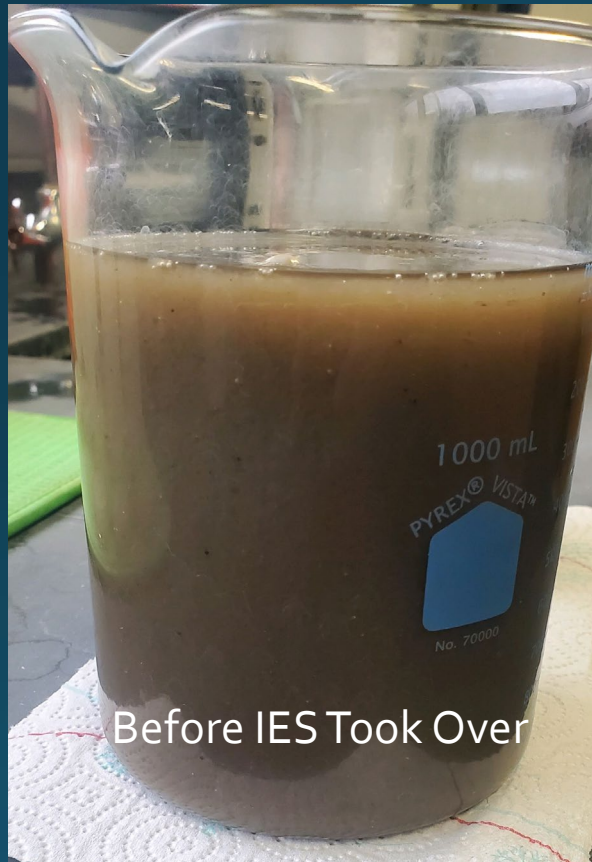
Inadequate Solids Management

- Sludge wasting regiments were not adequate enough
- Caused poor treatment conditions and proliferation of filamentous bacteria
- The mismanagement of solids caused poor settling in clarifiers due to poor settling sludge.
- Sludge handling facilities were not being managed appropriately with digestors at full levels and drying beds not draining properly.

What we've done...June 1st - August 1st

- IES took over as operator effective June 1, 2024
- Increased hauling of sludge; overall solids management has improved
- Controlling WWTP rotors via timers to provide better treatment.
- No unauthorized discharges or permit exceedances.
- Enhanced communication with regulatory/compliance agencies- Dept of Environmental Quality and Virginia Department of Health
- Absorbed Town of Bowling Green WWTP staff
- Increased process control testing
- Training of staff on lab procedures and sample collection points.
- Working in collaboration with Town Manager regarding grant and permit applications
- Works collaboratively with Town public works staff
- Working collaboratively with Town Manager and Town Attorney as needed as a subject matter expert

Improvements to Treatment – Solids Settability Test



Questions

