

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING, DECEMBER 13: The big scoop, no longer news to residents by the time of this printing, was the passing of the zoning ordinance for PKS. Minor changes in the ordinance proposed by the Planning Board were incorporated into the final approved ordinance. Earlier, on December 7, a hearing was held; attendance was large at the Atlantis - many voices were heard, many viewpoints aired.

By the time December 13, regular meeting day, rolled around, the Commissioners had held two all-morning into noon meetings to go over the entire ordinance. The vital concern of most residents was HIGH-RISE. About 90% of the population had signed a petition against high-rises even before the hearing. On that subject, the ordinance reads: "No building or other structure of any kind shall exceed either five stories or fifty feet in height, exclusive of elevator shafts, air conditioning and other necessary mechanical equipment, the height of which shall not exceed ten feet."

In addition, the Commissioners put in a density clause, limiting all structures to no more than ten dwelling units per acre, and this includes motels, hotels, and condominiums. Besides this, no commercial building may cover more than 25% of total land area nor use more than 40% of total land area for off-street parking space or other purposes, and shall leave 35% of total land area in its natural state.

In other business, the Board deferred again action on the Beach Vehicle law, voted on a pay scale for the building inspector, adopted the by-laws of the Neuse River Council which it recently joined, chose an employee fringe benefit plan, heard an explanation of the Carteret Water and Sewer Authority by Mr. Bob Keleman, who told of the services offered by the Authority, something of the expenses involved, and urged the Board to join. Decision on this will be made at a later meeting.

Police Chief Howard Overman reported on the activities of his department. Up to November 30 they have received 119 calls. He reminded residents to let the police know when they are to be out of town more than 24 hours, in order that PKS can continue with its low record of breaking and entering.

NEXT COMMISSIONERS MEETING: Mayor Jim Redfield announces that two important issues will be opened for discussion at the regular Board of Commissioners meeting on January 10.

1. Whether or not boat slips should be permitted on (a) the Sound, or (b) the canal, within the town limits.
2. Whether or not all vehicles should be prohibited on the Atlantic Ocean beach strand within the town limits.

He urges anyone with an opinion on either, or both, of these issues to express it at this meeting.

Another chapter in the continuing story of the Mimosa beach steps: Fred Mehin has added several more splendid steps as well as a railing at the bottom of the famous staircase to the strand. This ought, once and for all, make the descent to our beach a safe and comfortable one. Were there awards for such services, Fred's would be golden. Thank you, Fred.

Are there moments when you crave a bit of old fashioned culture? Should you find yourself with a tank of gas, perchance, drive up to Greenville just an hour and a half or so - and, after looking over the really lovely campus of ECU, search out the Greenville Art Center which is in an old home up there. The Director of the center is a charming lady named Edith Walker who is very hospitable, and knowledgeable. You can join the art center, either as an individual or as a family, and assure yourself of being on their mailing list.

Also in Greenville, theatre is alive and well; the East Carolina Playhouse of East Carolina University is in the midst of a highly professional season. Their next production is "Indians", billed as a "very funny, deeply moving, sort of kinky view of a shameful time in American history", playing Feb. 5-9 at the Studio Theatre. "Mass" by Leonard Bernstein will be presented Mar. 27-30 in McGinnis Auditorium, and "Dracula", a thriller by Hamilton Deane and John Balderson concludes the season May 8-11. Tickets and information may be obtained at ECU Playhouse, Box 2712, ECU, Greenville, N.C., 27834. For "Mass", seats are \$2.50 each; for the other two shows, \$2.00. Your reporter saw their version of "Hair" in December and was most impressed. Give theatre in Greenville a whirl.