

The hurricane season runs from the first of June through November. When a hurricane develops in the South Atlantic or Caribbean, using the services of the National Weather Service, it is charted on a large map installed on the wall of the fire-rescue lounge in the Town Hall. It is continually updated the storm progresses. The map covers the area of the South Atlantic and coastal area of the United States as far as New Foundland. When the storm moves into the coastal areas of the United States, and based upon the best judgement of the forecasters, a Hurricane Watch will be instituted for the Bogue Banks area. This means you may proceed with your normal activities, but you should stay alert and advised of worsening conditions within 24 hours. The next alert will be a Hurricane Warning and you should then prepare your house for the storm and prepare to evacuate the area.

At the onset of both the Hurricane Watch and the Hurricane Warning the Emergency Operations Center at the Town Hall will be activated and the area coordinators will be notified. They in return will advise the citizens of their area of the situation.

Make your plans now, so that if and when a hurricane develops and threatens our coast, and especially this island, you will be able to take actions that will save your life. DO NOT elect to "ride out the storm"; the records are filled with the names of people who made that election and lost. Prepare to and DO evacuate. The nearest evacuation center for Bogue Banks is the National Guard Armory in Morehead City.

So that you will be better advised of the seriousness of a hurricane the Marine Resources Center again this year is planning another Hurricane Awareness Week. You are urged to attend.

TOWN BUDGET

IS APPROVED

With the presentation and the adoption of the budget for the Town of Pine Knoll Shores on Tuesday, June 10, it was also announced a five-cent increase in the tax rate for fiscal 1980-81. This will put the tax rate at 25 cents per \$100 of valuation. The budget for the year amounts to \$245,923 and anticipates revenues of a like amount. As Commissioner Dixson pointed out, this budget is in reality a planning document and is the best estimate of what it will cost to operate the town during the next fiscal year. It does not envision any capital procurement program, he said, but does continue an orderly replacement program. It does recognize the weight of inflation by granting 10 per cent cost of living increases for employees; also the employment of a fourth police officer so that active 24-hour security can be achieved.

Several of the citizens attending the meeting took the occasion to compliment the Board of Commissioners for the excellent preparation and presentation of the budget, and for their ability to keep the tax rate at a reasonable level in spite of pressures of inflation and soaring costs of doing business.