

# Calabash Interested In Sewer As Well As Water Feasibility

**BY TERRY POPE**  
Two feasibility studies, one on receiving county water and another on the installation of a sewer system, will be prepared for Calabash by the town's new engineering firm within the next six months.

Engineer Jerry Lewis of Shallotte told the town council Monday morning his company should have a feasibility study on the costs of installing water lines within two months. It will take a little longer, possibly six months, for his office to

prepare preliminary figures on a town sewer system, he added.

A standard contract with the engineering firm that would seek Farmers Home Administration loans for the projects is being reviewed by the town attorney, Robert Serra of the Southport firm of Murchison, Taylor and Sney. The town is expected to approve a contract with Lewis to begin the studies at the March 25 council meeting.

"We want you to have plenty of

time to make up your mind," Lewis said. "If you would like us to do the work, just have your attorney look over the contract and we'll get together and fill in the numbers."

Several times at Monday's meeting, Lewis stated his company did not want to rush into a contract without the town attorney's approval. Just last month, council members voted to pay \$500 to legally break a longstanding contract with Raleigh engineers Peirson and Whitman Inc. that included no clause for when the contract was to expire. Peirson and Whitman designed a town water system in 1975, but the plans were never accepted by the council.

County Engineer Daniel Shields estimated that installing water lines to the Calabash River and along the waterfront would cost the town around \$60,000. Lewis agreed with that rough estimation Monday, saying it would be in the neighborhood of \$60,000 to \$70,000.

"You can get water put in there pretty quick if you can get the money," Lewis added. "If you could

get that money, the design can be done rapidly. We do two or three subdivisions a month."

Lewis said the two feasibility studies will need to be prepared separately. There are three ways to help fund a sewer system, either with Farmers Home Administration loans, clean water bond funds or with environmental protection agency funds, Lewis said.

"But even with all this, the town is still going to have to have some money," Lewis said.

Once the water system plans are approved by the council, they must pass approval by the county and then by the N.C. Division of Health Services. Normally, a project is ready to go out to bids within six weeks, Lewis said.

Council members added Monday they were ready to begin planning for water, but not quite as ready to begin talking about sewer.

"We wanted to get both, but not at the same time," Ms. Stevens said. "We can't afford both at the same time," councilman Virgil Coleman said.

Lewis said a feasibility study on sewer will also look at the possibility of the town tapping onto the system at Carolina Shores, rather than building its own system.

Lewis advised the town to work with their attorney to determine ways the town can help finance the projects, whether by tax revenues, special assessments or fees.

"One of the things I would certainly recommend the town look at is if you go to put in water to other areas of the town, then purchase that system from the county," Lewis said, "and let your rate pay for it. I would like to include that in the feasibility study."

In other business Monday, the town council set June 10 as the day of the town's tax lien sales. Town Clerk Janet Thomas said residents owe a total of \$5,302.42 in back taxes.

The law on tax lien sales has changed this year, Ms. Thomas said. Instead of being advertised in local papers for four weeks in a row, it will only be advertised once.

Liens notices to residents have been mailed, she said, while the next notice mailed will be a notice of advertisement.

The board also agreed to set up a meeting with the U.S. Corps of Engineers to discuss dredging the Calabash River within the next two to three weeks.

## Calendar Of Events

### Thursday, March 14

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS** meet at the Sandpiper Seafood Restaurant, Leland, with guest speaker County Manager Billy Carter. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

**FORESTRY TAXATION WORKSHOP** for landowners thinking of selling timber, Brunswick County Agriculture Extension Office, 7 p.m.

**N.C. MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION** holds a public hearing, New Hanover County Courthouse, Room 302, 7:30 p.m.

**LONGWOOD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION** meets at Flowers' Store, 7:30 p.m.

**DEMOCRATIC** precinct makeup meetings to elect precinct leaders and delegates to the county convention will be held at the polling place unless otherwise posted, 8 p.m.

**GAME NIGHT** at the American Legion Post one mile south of Shallotte on U.S. 17, 8 p.m.

### Friday, March 15

**CHAPTER 36** of the Special Forces Association—Green Berets—meets at VFW Post 10409 building at Boiling Spring Lakes, 8 p.m.

### Saturday, March 16

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY SCHOOLS** musicathon fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the public assembly building, government complex in Bolivia. Fair continues Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**ANNUAL SPRING FAIR** at the Boiling Spring Lakes Fire Department, 1 p.m.-4 p.m., both Saturday and Sunday, baked goods and yard sale.

**PORK BARBECUE** dinners will be sold by the New Britton Baptist Church of Ash, 11 a.m. at the church, \$3.50 per plate.

**FRIED CHICKEN** dinners will be sold by the Town Creek Volunteer Rescue Squad, 11 a.m. at the squad building, \$3 per plate.

**GAME NIGHT** at the Calabash Volunteer Fire Department, 8 p.m.

### Monday, March 18

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** meets in regular session in the commissioners' chambers, Brunswick County Government Center, 6:30 p.m.

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION** meets for an NCAE reception with parents and teachers invited, 6:30 p.m. at South Brunswick Middle School, followed by meeting of the school board.

### Tuesday, March 19

**HOLDEN BEACH COMMUNITY WATCH** meet to elect officers and discuss current problems, 10 a.m., town hall.

**DR. AND MRS. M.H. HOUK** will be honored at an Arbor Day program sponsored by Long Bay Garden Club, at the library in Shallotte. Several trees will be planted and a plaque will be presented to members of the Houk family in appreciation of Mrs. Houk's donating the land on which the library is located. The public is invited, a coffee will be held afterward, 10:30 a.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING** on the land use plan by the Holden Beach Planning and Zoning Board, 5 p.m. A draft of the plan is available for inspection at the town hall.

### Wednesday, March 20

**BRUNSWICK TOASTMASTERS, CLUB 5095** meets at the Ship's Chandler Restaurant, Southport, 7 a.m.-8 a.m. Guests welcome.

**DEADLINE** to submit information for a local church directory being compiled by Camp United Methodist Church for distribution to tourists. Contact Mrs. Sam Keziah.

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY YOUNG CHILDRENS** Association workshop on "Working With Numbers," by Dr. Grace Burton, UNC-Wilmington math department, 2-4 p.m. at Bolivia Teacher's Center.

**BRUNSWICK TECHNICAL COLLEGE** trustees meet in regular session at the administrative building in Supply, 7 p.m.



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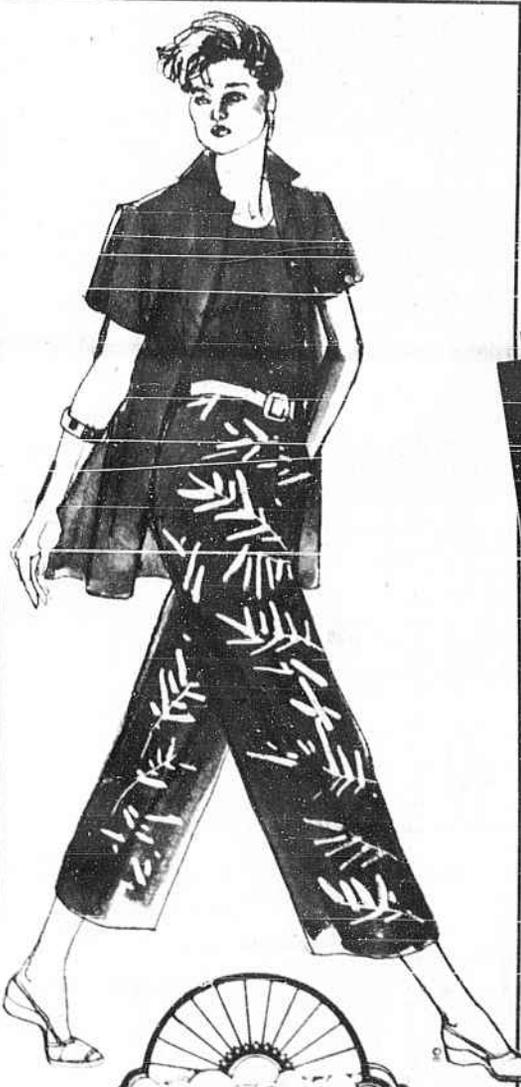
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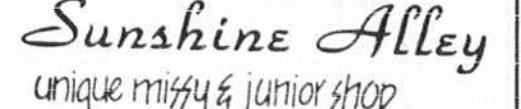
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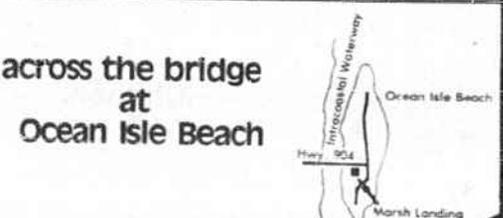
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