

Board Recommends Two Annexations

Annexation of two tracts was to be recommended to the Shallotte Board of Aldermen at its Wednesday night meeting.

The properties are a tract across from Calvary Baptist Church on N.C. 179 owned until recently by Earline (Pet) Beilamy and a .31-acre tract between Sellers Drive and U.S. 17 owned by Al Willis.

As requested by Allen Carringer and Bruce Smith, owners of the Bellamy tract, the board recommended that the rear segment of the property be annexed and zoned in a residential category that might allow development of multifamily housing. The frontage property, already within the town limits, would be zoned commercial. Carringer and Smith have said they propose to build offices there. The offices and 47-unit residential complex has a projected value of \$800,000 to \$1 million, the developers told planning board members Monday night.

"We need the tax base," board member Sonny Stanaland noted before making the motion to annex the property.

Board members, on another motion by Stanaland, will also recommend that the Willis property be zoned commercial, as requested.

Availability of sewer service to both properties was not resolved. The

town cannot extend new sewer lines until the capacity of the wastewater treatment plant is upgraded by the addition of another lagoon and land application fields.

Tap-ons can be made in areas already within the town limits, such as the front of the Bellamy tract, but in the growing N.C. 179 area additional collection capacity also are needed.

The request can be handled, Mayor Beamon Hewett noted, if the applicants were to work with the town,

building a collection line to town specifications.

Carringer said he and his partner were willing to pay whatever tap-on fees are required, as well as installing a holding tank that would allow off-hour wastewater discharge. The two men also indicated a willingness to buy a package treatment plant and donate it to the town, but gave no specification regarding the collection line.

In other action, board members discussed the need to revamp park-

ing requirements for commercial establishments, taking into consideration the volume of business; to study front yard setback requirements; and to revise the planning ordinances to clarify apparently conflicting statements. They will discuss recommendations for the town board at their next meeting.

Along with Chairman Herbie Ward, members present included Conrad Pigott, Jack Harrison, Sonny Stanaland and Harry White.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

Just Off The Press

Marjorie Megivern of Wilmington, a former editor of The Brunswick Beacon, examines a copy of the first issue of "Musings," a new semi-monthly cultural arts publication of which she is editor and publisher. "Musings" which she has dubbed "a guide to the finer things in the Cape Fear area," will appear in locations throughout the area on the first and third Fridays of each month. The first issue was released last Friday.

Farm Bills Before Legislature

Two bills discussed by the N.C. House of Representatives last week would help farmers, indicates Rep. David Redwine.

One which he co-sponsored, H.B. 397, would allow tobacco growers to deduct their no-net-cost fees from state income taxes as a business expense. Those fees again this year are 25 cents per pound of tobacco marketed.

"I realize the tremendous problems our tobacco farmers are having now, and I hope this will be of some assistance to them," he added.

The bill has passed the house and goes to the Senate now for consideration.

Another bill would grant a tax break for farmland, allowing it to be appraised on its agricultural value and not on the higher use value if it were developed.

A bill before the House last week would prohibit appointment of a county commissioner to a community college trustee board. It would validate the appointments of commissioners named to the boards before March 1, 1985, but prohibit such appointments thereafter.

The sponsor of the bill, Murray Pool of Sampson County, contends that commissioners face a conflict of interest by serving as a trustee while appropriating county funds to the institution.

It was introduced in response to a bill filed by Rep. Edd Nye of Bladen County and initially passed by the House. Nye's bill would have affirmed the right of commissioners to serve as community college trustees, but it was recalled from the Senate and returned to the House Higher Education Committee, where it remains.

In education, the Joint Appropriations Expansion Budget Committee on Education voted to approve the Advisory Budget Commission's recommendation to spend 21.6 million in 1985-87. It would provide employees of each institution in the community college system—including Brunswick Technical College—a 6 percent raise in addition to the 5 percent increase proposed for state employees. The recommendation must go to the full Appropriations Committee for approval.

The Basic Education Plan has passed the Senate and is continuing to generate debate in the House Committee.

A compromise was reached last week which Redwine said would balance some concerns. It specifies a reduction of class size in grades seven through nine and adds some curriculum requirements, among other things. The Senate bill goes farther, essentially leaving decisions to the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

A bill described by its sponsor, Rep. Bruce Ethridge of Onslow Coun-

ty, as "not an anti-development bill", but a "quality development bill" in its focus on water quality is in a Senate committee. Redwine led opposition to the bill in the House, where it, claiming it was a "power grab" by the Coastal Resources Commission and would allow the CRC to duplicate a task already the responsibility of the EMC.

The bill would give the N.C. Office of Coastal Management the "statutory authority" to consider the present and anticipated use of adjacent waters—for sport and commercial fishing, swimming, water supply and shellfishing, for instance—before granting a permit under the Coastal Area Management Act.

Specifically, "significant degradation of any waters that would result in the substantial impairment of those uses for an extended period of time shall not be allowed."

The state Environmental Management Commission is beginning to consider those factors in its review of development and it is a requirement of the Federal Clean Water Act. But CAMA doesn't require the CRC to do it.

The EMC reviews and comments on development plans to make sure they do not harm water quality, and the CRC finally approves the plans. If the EMC has not commented negatively on the impact on adjacent waters, the CRC cannot use that as a grounds for denying a CAMA permit.

Earlier this spring one EMC member and a Duke University Marine Lab professor, Dr. Richard Barber, asserted the state had been violating its own water pollution laws and "permitting away" shellfishing areas.

Brunswick County has a higher percentage of shellfish beds closed because of contamination than any other coastal county.

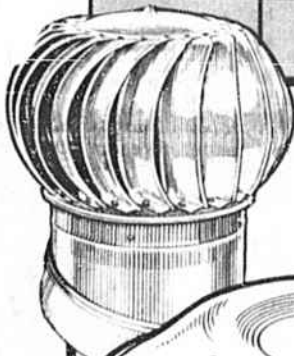
Redwine also voted against a bill that would have allowed the state to adopt tougher antipollution standards than the federal government imposes by repealing the 1981 Hardison amendments. These bar the state from exceeding federal water, air and hazardous waste regulations. The bill was opposed by business and some farm interests and was defeated.

Redwine invited inquiries concerning the N.C. Technological Development Authority, which provides financing of up to \$50,000 for research and development projects of small businesses. The Incubator Facilities Program of the authority also provides grants of up to \$200,000 to non-profit organizations for the establishment of community-based "business incubators."

Redwine can be reached in Raleigh at 733-5794, or by writing him at Room 2219, State Legislative Building, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

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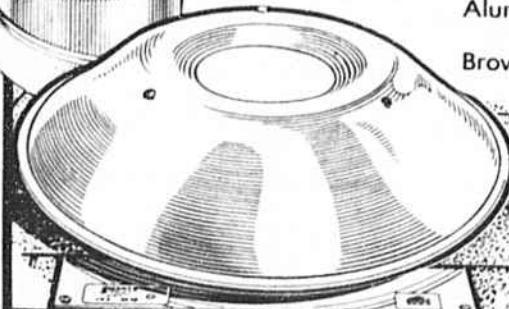


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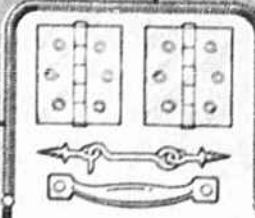
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