

# Holden Beach Searches For New Police Officer

BY TERRY POPE

After meeting for an hour in executive session Monday morning, Holden Beach Commissioners agreed to begin advertising immediately for a new patrol officer to replace Don Stovall, who is leaving on or before July 8 to become chief of police in Shallotte.

The town will advertise with newspapers in the Shallotte, Wilmington, Charlotte, Raleigh and Greensboro areas for the police position, said Public Safety Commissioner Gloria Barrett.

"At some point, we need to talk about whether or not we want to promote another officer," Ms. Barrett said Monday morning.

Commissioner Hal Stanley then suggested the board enter into executive session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Lyn Holden did not attend the special meeting called by Mayor Kenner Amos last Friday.

Don Stovall, Holden Beach's assistant police chief, was appointed by the Shallotte Board of Aldermen last Wednesday night as the town's new police chief. Stovall said he plans to fill the Shallotte position by July 8, but may be able to join the department prior to July 4.

The board did not take action on promoting another officer to sergeant Monday.

### Inspection Fees

Also Monday, the board approved a list of inspection fees that will be mandated by the state beginning July 1.

At a special meeting of the town council Monday, June 17, the board appointed county inspector Van D. Weeks to serve as the town's electrical inspector. Dwight Carroll, the town's building inspector, is not trained to make electrical, mechanical or plumbing inspections.

Weeks has agreed to provide other towns with the inspections, charging the normal fee plus return mileage. The town will remain in charge of scheduling the inspections.

"We should remind Dwight that this is just a temporary thing because of his lack of expertise," Stanley said. "If you can't swim, you don't jump into deep water."

A county Building Inspection Advisory Committee was appointed to discuss the upcoming inspection changes mandated by the state to begin July 1. Commissioner Jim Griffin stated at the June 17 meeting that

it was best to have qualified inspectors on hand until Carroll "completed his schooling and was properly certified by the state in these fields," state the minutes from the town meeting.

### Public Hearings

There were no comments heard at several public hearings also held at the June 17 meeting, the minutes state.

One hearing involved the amendment of the zoning ordinance for island commercial districts to allow

"single, duplex and multi-family dwelling units" as permitted uses.

The planning and zoning board recommended the ordinance change upon the commissioners' request. Residents became concerned after it was learned the ordinance did not allow for the reconstruction of homes within the commercial district.

Another hearing was held on the rezoning of property at 107 Ocean Boulevard West from residential (R-1) to commercial (C-1) as requested by its owner. The board took

no action on the two changes, but agreed to follow its policy of delaying action until the next regular meeting, July 1.

The board also reached a consensus to draft a letter to County Finance Director Wallace Harding "expressing the town's opposition to any user fees which might be charged to municipalities since such services were already being paid for through taxes paid by town property owners," the minutes state.

Calabash officials drafted a

similar letter last month complaining of the user fees and sent copies to all municipalities within the county.

"It was further agreed that the time may have come when an association of the municipalities in the county should be formed through which a more effective voice might be raised upon matters concerning both the municipalities and the county," the minutes of the June 17 meeting state.

In other business June 17, the board appointed Michael Cox, a resi-

dent attorney, as first alternate member to the town's planning and zoning board, and Jim Buffalo was appointed second alternate member to the board. Both one-year terms are effective July 1.

The board agreed Monday to reimburse Commissioner Stanley for flowers sent last week to the funeral of a 28-year-old construction worker who was helping to build the Holden Beach high-rise replacement bridge. The worker died from sickle-cell anemia, Stanley said.

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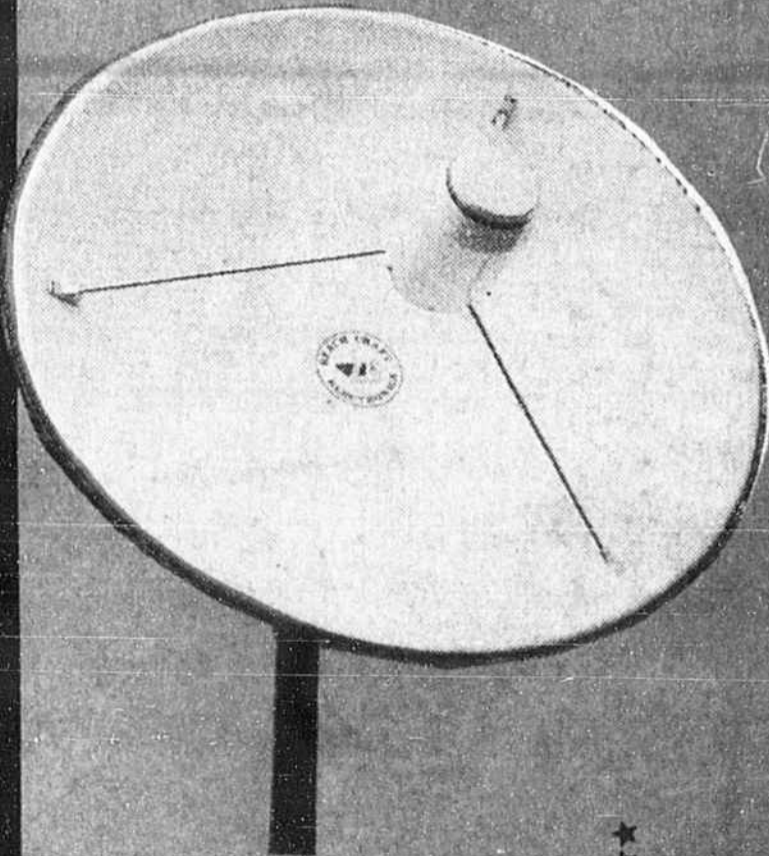
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