# PUBLIC HEARING SET

## Bond Refunding Plan Moves On

Brunswick County commissioners will conduct a public hearing Tuesday, Aug. 27, at 6:30 p.m. on plans to sell new bonds to pay off \$3.9 million in water bonds.

The county tentatively plans to sell the new bonds in September.

Commissioners met briefly at noon Thursday in special session to approve the bond order on first reading

only and to set the hearing date. With the proposed refunding, Counanticipates the county will realize a substantial savings with reduced interest costs.

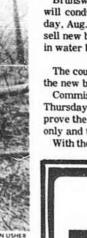
Proceeds of the bond proceeds would be invested in securities that mature so as to pay off the remaining \$3.9 million in Series A water bonds as they mature.

The hearing will be held in com-

ty Finance Director Wallace Harding Brunswick County Government

In terms of its ratio of debt to apraised value, Brunswick County is in good financial position to assume additional debt, according to standards of the Local Government Commission.

It has a net debt load of \$10,737,296 and an appraised value of \$2,081,781,263, said County Attorney missioners' chambers in the ad- David Clegg, who acted as clerk to ministrative building at the the board at the special session.



OCEAN ISLE BEACH sanitation supervisor Artie Duncan and crewman Patrick Monk joined firefighters from four departments in extinguishing a series of four

brush fires along Four Mile Road Saturday. The Forest Service said the fires appeared to have been set.

# Roadside Fires Apparently Set

A series of four brush fires ex-tinguished along Four Mile Road Saturday had apparently been set deliberately, according to Assistant County Ranger Mike Hardison of the N.C. Forest Service. Firefighters from Ocean Isle

Beach, Sunset Beach, Shallotte and Shallotte Point extinguished the fires, the largest of which was 11/2 acres of pine woodland. The others were quite small, Hardison said.

"We've reported them as incendiary," he said.

BY TERRY POPE

to fund one-third of the cost to con-

struct a bike-pedestrian path along

portions of Ocean Boulevard if the

state will step up its plans to help build the project.

At a special meeting last Wednes-

day morning, town council members

voted unanimously to approve a

resolution that asks N.C. Department

of Transportation (DOT) officials to

evaluate the proposed bike path to

determine what portions are most

urgently needed. It also states the

town's "willingness to share in the

cost of the project by providing one-

"I think it's absolutely almost

On May 22, the town submitted an

application to DOT officials to con-

struct the bicycle path using state

funds if they become available. Since

the letter was submitted, there have

been two accidents, "one of which in-

volved a bicyclist and one a

pedestrian, both of which could have

been prevented if a bicycle path had

been available," the resolution

mandatory," said council member

Gloria Barrett. "We're going to have

to do something."

third of the cost from local funds."

Holden Beach officials have agreed

apart along one shoulder of the road, which connects U.S. 17 with the Ocean Isle Beach causeway. Hardison said investigators had some evidence that someone may have gotten out of a car and set the fires.

Firefighters were called to the scene about 1 p.m. and then the forest

Hardison said the plow team took a while in arriving because it had to come from Maco at the north end of the county.

In case of an fresh outbreak, the They had been set about 100 yards crew plowed around the fire that

projects and local funding assistance

might make possible approval of a

project which otherwise might not be

possible because of insufficient state

In the resolution, commissioners

have reaffirmed the bike path as "urgently needed" and are re-questing that DOT officials "visit the

town of Holden Beach to evaluate the

proposed project with a view toward

determining, together with represen-

tatives of the town of Holden Beach,

those portions of the project most

Bob Buck, a five-foot paved walkway

and bike path adjoining one side of

the boulevard would cost an estimated \$140,000 for the entire

The cost would be an estimated

\$30,800 for constructing the path in

two areas that may need it the most,

the 6,000 feet between Heritage Har-

bor and Holden Beach Harbor and in

the vicinity of the new bridge, Buck

said. That would include the con-

gested area near the pier and

those two areas would run roughly

\$10,000, Buck said. Just paving the

The resolution also states that portion between Heritage Harbor on booths is available from Jean

The town's contribution to paving

According to Town Administrator

urgently needed."

length of the beach.

miniature golf course.

"state funds may not be available to and Holden Beach Harbor would cost

Holden Beach Willing To

Pay Third Of Bike Path

volunteers had contained and extinguished.

Fewer brush fires have been reported this summer in Brunswick County than last summer, Hardison said, but conditions are still good for fires to occur.

"It's still relatively dry. What rain we've gotten has gone directly into the ground. It will take a lot more rain to bring the water table back to

"But right now, we're in better shape now than we were last sum-

also consider paving a portion near

the west end campground, since

there is a lot of foot traffic in that

Obtaining right-of-way permits for the path may be the "single biggest problem" of the project, Buck added.

Mayor Kenner Amos said the

resolution would assure the town that

the board is "making an effort to

save some lives." A Greensboro girl

was killed after being struck by a car

along Ocean Boulevard in June.

Leland Group

Meets Tonight

Residents of the Leland area are

encouraged to attend a meeting of

the Leland Community Action Group

Thursday, Aug. 22, (tonight) at 7:30

p.m. at the Leland Volunteer Fire

Department, said spokesman Bar-

The group will continue its plann-

ing for the first Leland Old-Time

Festival, to be held Sept. 21 beginn-

Included in the festival will be arts

and crafts exhibitions. Information

Speight or Edna Roy at 371-9411 or



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