

# Bugs Found In Greenhouse Building Fees

BY TERRY POPE

A Civietown couple who watched their unassembled greenhouse jump in value from \$5,000 to more than \$50,000 pointed out to Brunswick County Commissioners Monday night that the county's building permit ordinance contains "bugs."

Herman and Cindy Evans of Civietown addressed the board Monday asking that the building inspection fee schedule be amended to include permit fees for building greenhouses within the county.

"No where does it address a specific greenhouse," said Commission Chairman Chris Chappell after the board studied the ordinance that took effect in July. He made a motion that building permit fees for greenhouses be established at \$3 per square foot effective Aug. 20.

"This is just one of the many bugs that's going to come up with this building program," Chappell said.

The Evans purchased an unassembled greenhouse in Florida and have plans to construct it on their property off of Civietown Road. But when they asked for a price on a building permit, a figure of \$107.50 was quoted, Ms. Evans said.

That figure was based on the value of \$20 per square foot for a "covered heated warehouse structure," the only category that would apply to greenhouses under the original fee schedule. That would have placed the value of the 2,800 square foot

greenhouse close to \$50,000, Ms. Evans said.

She said the couple purchased the unassembled greenhouse in Florida for \$4,200 and will cost around \$5,088 when complete. Evans said he was hoping to start building the greenhouse Tuesday.

Under the ordinance, building permits are awarded based on \$33 per square foot for homes and \$20 per square foot for "covered heated warehouse structures." A fee based on \$10 per square foot is charged for uncovered heated warehouse structures.

### Sludge Applications

Commissioners also heard from Lyle Jarrett, senior agronomist of Bio Gro Systems Inc. of Kannapolis, Md., who told commissioners that two county farmers have begun practicing sludge application on their crops.

Water treatment sludge from Wilmington will be used to spread on the farmers' fields to help provide nutrients to the soil. The biological practice will be monitored by the company and the state to insure environmental safety, Jarrett said.

Jarrett was asked to attend the commissioners' meeting after it was learned the company had already contracted with the county farmers to use their land. Jarrett said he apologized for the breakdown in communications with the county.

"We felt like that between you, the

county and the state," Chappell said, "that we were the last one to know what was going on. It looks like a plus though, which is the main thing."

### Other Business

In other business Monday, the board:

- Agreed to advertise a public notice calling for a bond referendum for Brunswick Technical College building program. An election date of Nov. 19 has been set and requirements call for the publication of notice of intent to hold a referendum in order to obtain public comment.

- Voted to appropriate up to \$2,125 to finance a tabloid on Brunswick County government that will be distributed by the Wilmington Morning Star in Wilmington.

- On a motion by Herman Love, denied a request from Spec Print of Towson, Md., for publication of tax office information, including maps,

property owners' names and addresses, in coordination with the county tax office.

- Approved a request from Tax Collector Nancy Moore to dispose of 1979-1984 tax scrolls and 1964-1975 payment ledger cards that are no longer needed and are duplicates if the items fall under the State Disposal Act.

- Extended the deadline for payment of taxes from 10 days to 30 days from the date tax notices are received before fees will be incurred. Also approved a resolution organizing a Board of Equalization and Review stemming from the tax revaluation.

- Approved a list of tax refunds for July that includes close to \$1,000 for refunds to Grover Gore for billing errors that Tax Supervisor Boyd Williamson said occurred due to changed acreage and reconciled boundaries of land.

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## Social Services Board Meets

Members of the Brunswick County Board of Social Services met privately in special session for nearly two hours Friday afternoon to discuss legal matters.

No action was taken, said Chairman Frankie Rabon.

The board holds its regular monthly meeting Monday, Aug. 26, at 5:30 p.m. at the social services office.

Members have said they want to fill the vacant director's position as quickly as possible.



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