



COMMISSIONER JIM POOLE (left), who called for the hearing, chats afterwards with zoning opponents James Bellamy and Harry Rickenbacker.

Zoning Issue Draws Crowd

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ing' much of the county. "It would be especially harmful to rural areas." Williams said zoning might be good for some sections, but added, "I don't think we need it countywide." Druid Roberson, Ocean Isle Beach building inspector and a resident of Hurricane Haven near Holden Beach, said individual ordinances

are available to address specific problems, and that the county is already under a type of zoning under the Coastal Area Management Act land use plan.

Instead of zoning, Harry Rickenbacker of Ocean Isle and Marie Westcott of Town Creek also favored ordinances to address specific problems.

Those for zoning were in the

minority. "Zoning doesn't restrict your liberties," said Eileen Kellagher of Long Beach. "It protects you."

Sunset Beach Planning Board member Richard Good outlined five advantages covered in a letter from that board. He added, "I feel the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages. I believe... that most people will support you."



OCEAN ISLE BEACH DEVELOPER Odell Williamson explains his position on zoning to Eileen Kellagher. Both spoke at the hearing.

Area Could Begin Drying Out

Flooding created problems in isolated areas around the South Brunswick Islands last weekend as 4.25 inches of rain fell between Thursday morning and noon Sunday, but some relief may be in store.

The majority of the rain fell Friday, Saturday and early Sunday, Shalotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady said Tuesday.

However, he added, the forecast for the next few days calls for temperatures a little above normal and near-normal precipitation, about a half-inch. "Hopefully, we'll begin to

dry out a little this week," he said. Temperatures should average in the low 40s at night with daytime highs in the mid-60s.

For the period Feb. 24 through March 2, he recorded a maximum high of 68 degrees on both the 1st and 2nd. The minimum low of 30 degrees occurred on the morning of Feb. 24.

An average daily high of 58 degrees and an average morning low of 41 degrees combined for an average daily temperature of 50 degrees, very close to normal.

We Apologize

Due to the conflict in schedule of our entertainers, **Haley's Hawaiian Night** has been rescheduled for **March 20th**.

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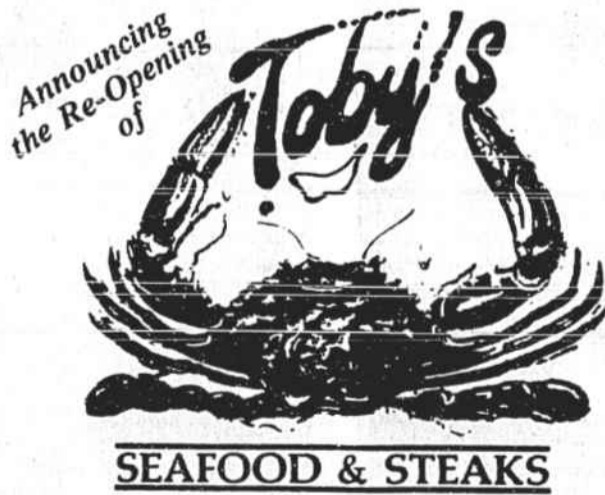
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Way Clears For Nursing Home After Two-Year Legal Battle

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Division of Facility Services to award a certificate of need to Autumn Corp. At that time, the division said it had determined that Autumn Corp.'s proposal would better serve the health care needs of Brunswick County residents.

A company must have a certificate from the state before construction of a health care facility can begin.

Beverly had fought that decision in a contested case hearing held July 8-11 and 14-15, 1986. On Feb. 9, 1987, hearing officer Sharon Thompson issued a recommended decision to uphold the agency's earlier decision awarding the certificate to Autumn.

Division Director I.O. Wilkerson had 30 days in which to make a final agency decision, said Rick Hinnant of the N.C. Attorney General's staff. However, before that decision was

announced, Beverly had asked for dismissal of its appeal.

In a cover letter dated Feb. 23, Steve Dolan, an attorney for Beverly Enterprises, advised that the company felt it had received a fair hearing by Thompson of its grievances. And, he added, "the immediate and pressing need for nursing home beds in Brunswick County outweighs the delay inherent in any further proceedings."

Beverly could have appealed an agency decision favoring Autumn to the N.C. Court of Appeals, Hinnant said.

Beverly and Autumn were among six companies vying for the right to build an additional 100 long-term care nursing home beds in the county.

Beverly Enterprises had proposed building a 100-bed facility on a tract

beside Brunswick Hospital in Supply.

In January 1985, the board of Cardinal Health Systems Agency, a regional health planning body, upheld a committee decision to recommend that Beverly receive the certificate of need. However, the agency's staff had recommended in favor of Autumn Corp., as did the N.C. Division of Facility Services later.

Autumn Corp. owns 14 nursing homes in three states, including six in North Carolina.

While Autumn originally anticipated building the Shalotte nursing home for \$1,973,000, Suddreth said Tuesday that inflation associated with the two-year delay and "substantial" legal fees had added to the cost of the project. He didn't have a new figure available.

County Obligated, Says Bellamy

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to him, the county is obligated to financially support the conservation district board.

Commissioners also met behind closed doors for approximately 2 1/2 hours to discuss attorney-client matters and land acquisition, taking no action.

Other Business

In other business, commissioners: Amended the budget to transfer \$28,100 to the county tax department budget. Tax Administrator Boyd Williamson said overruns resulted from the 1986 revaluation, as well as from additional mailings and computer programming required by his office.

At Commissioner Chris Chappell's suggestion, asked County Manager William Carter to study the county's computer programming and operations costs and report to the board as soon as possible. Concerned

that those costs are increasing, Chappell wants suggestions on how to reduce expenses. "This is unbelievable again here tonight," he said.

Awarded the contract for a two-wheel tractor for the Operation Services Department to Elliott Implement Co. Inc. of Whiteville at a cost of \$17,902 for a Massey-Ferguson 375, plus \$228 for a self-contained bushhog. The total figure was \$55 over the low bid of \$18,076 submitted by Sessions of Whiteville, with exceptions in tire sizes.

Amended the budget to accept insurance refunds of \$5,120 for lightning damage to a Hewlett-Packard computer and \$4,300 to replace a sheriff's patrol vehicle totaled in an accident.

Scheduled interviews with candidates for the vacant county engineer's position for Thursday, March 12, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Planned to attend a public hearing on the first proposed county water assessment district on Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. in the public assembly building.

Heard from Allen Woodruff of Long Beach, who wanted to know what the county planned to do with its \$2.5 million "windfall" that resulted following the 1986 revaluation. "I hope you don't look around for somewhere to spend it," he said. "But I hope you will give taxpayers a four- or five-cent break in next year's tax rate." When he pressed for an answer Monday night, Chairman Grace Beasley said commissioners would take up the item during budget deliberations.

Approved a revised flood prevention damage ordinance that reflects changes required for continued eligibility in the Federal Flood Insurance Program.

Democrats Meet Next Thursday

Brunswick County Democrats will hold precinct meetings Thursday, March 12, at 8 p.m. at their local polling places.

The makeup date for any precinct not having a quorum will be March 19, said County Chairman Rex Gore.

"This will be our first local meeting since our great victories in November," Gore said. "I know the enthusiasm of that work will carry

over into the coming year." To encourage attendance, he has scheduled the meetings after the ACC tournament.

At the March meetings, local party members will select precinct officers for the next two years and delegates to the April 4 county convention. Precincts will also have the chance to adopt resolutions on issues that concern them.

Cardiac Club Meets Tuesday

The Cardiac Club will hold its second meeting Tuesday, March 10, at 1 p.m. in the conference room of the Brunswick Hospital in Supply.

During the meeting speakers and club members discuss various aspects of heart disease and how to best cope with them.

The club is a support group for peo-

ple who have experienced heart attacks, those whose families have a history of heart disease and their family members.

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