



THIS HOUSE under construction at 117 Windjammer Lane is at the center of a dispute that prompted Holden Beach Commissioners Tuesday to set a 60-day

moratorium on new construction of homes on small, marshfront lots. The story is on page 1.



BRUNSWICK COUNTY Republicans re-elected John Dozier (left) as chairman Saturday, and elected Betty Warren as vice chairman. Also, Millie Murrow (right) was re-elected secretary. Not shown is Barbara Holden, the GOP's new treasurer.

County Republicans Elect Officers

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number of Republicans increase, a trend she said is occurring statewide. "Some media pundits tend to write off the Republicans in 1988," she said. "But I believe if we remain true to the Republican conservative philosophy we will win in 1988." Dorsey said in 1988 the Republicans will win elections by talking about issues that motivate voters. "The Democratic tax-and-spend philosophy is still alive and well in Washington," she added. "In 1980 and 1984 Americans voted overwhelmingly against a tax increase, and now the Democrats want to undo those results."

She said that under Gov. Martin's administration unemployment has dropped from seven percent to an all-

time low of five percent. "That's because Gov. Martin has established the best welfare system of all," she said, "a job."

Following her speech Seventh District GOP Chairman Bill Shell of New Hanover County announced he would seek re-election.

In other business the convention: •Adopted a resolution introduced by county Veteran Service Officer Jess Parker that petitions state and federal authorities to work towards establishing regional veterans' cemeteries in the state.

•Adopted a resolution submitted by Town Creek Township Chairman Shirley Babson that asks the county party to authorize its chairman to appoint a party "liaison to minorities." •Adopted a third resolution

presented by Oak Island Precinct asking Gov. Jim Martin and the N.C. Department of Transportation to release funds held in escrow for the construction of a bridge at Sunset Beach, so that those funds can be used to construct a second bridge linking Oak Island to the mainland.

•Re-elected county Chairman John Dozier and elected Betty Warren as vice chairman; Millie Murrow, secretary; and Barbara Holden, treasurer.

•Held a five-minute caucus during which townships elected chairmen as follows: Alfred Walker, Northwest; Shirley Babson, Town Creek; John Ramsey, Smithville; Percy Woodard, Lockwood Folly; Malcolm Grissett, Shallotte; and Don Evans, Waccamaw.

County To Go Ahead With First Special Water Assessment Area

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick County Commissioners Monday night agreed to proceed with the county's first special assessment water district, despite earlier opposition from some residents.

They also set April 6 as the date to consider applications from agencies interested in taking over services previously provided in the county by Sencland Community Action and met 1½ hours behind closed doors to discuss personnel and attorney-client matters, taking no action on either.

District Set

As recommended by the Utility Operations Board, boundaries will remain the same as first proposed for the district, which includes Holiday Pines, Holiday Ranches and Holiday Acres in an area north of N.C. 130 and the Holden Beach Causeway.

However, County Attorney David Clegg and UOB spokesman Bill English noted that delays in obtaining supplemental legal services were holding up the projects. At the pace the UOB would like to proceed, said Clegg, the legal work would be "just about a full-time job" and that the "acutely technical" work was just beginning. He has tried to find the board legal help, but said the person approached turned down the offer.

Commissioner Benny Ludlum told English he wanted the work on this first district, dubbed the "guinea pig" by the county, to be documented so that all future projects could be handled identically.

At a public hearing earlier this month, the majority of residents present said they did not want to connect to the water line or pay to have it installed. A petition was submitted before the hearing with more than 100 signatures of apparent residents of the area.

The district is the first of several slated to receive lateral water distribution lines. The lines will be installed at county expense using a portion of ad valorem tax revenues, then property owners will be assessed the full cost, each owners' shared based on front footage, with exemptions for corner lots. The county will seek a special bill that would allow it to exempt private common property set aside for "necessary public fixtures" such as storm drainage, water systems and the like.

In each assessment district, those who don't pay will be subject to liens on their property. However, they won't be required to hook on to the county water system.

Commissioners also approved other recommendations presented for the utility board by English, including the use of Class 200 PVC pipe for two-inch lines, and subject to clarification, Class 160 PVC pipe for sizes four- through 12-inch, reserving use of C-900 pipe only for larger lines.

They also approved boundary line adjustments for one district. In another, where the UOB and its consulting engineer recommended taking in a portion of Hideaway Estates (Odele Williamson subdivision) so as to loop the line back to N.C. 179/904, commissioners suggested it would be better, if possible, not to split the subdivision.

The commissioners took no action

regarding zoning, though a motion had been expected.

UOB members delayed action at their last meeting on the subject pending the commissioners' meeting after Commissioner Chris Chappell told them he expected a motion to be made.

Eyeing Programs

Two local community service agencies were at Monday's meeting seeking the commissioners' endorsement of their bids to assume services previously provided by Sencland Community Action in three counties, such as Head Start, weatherization and a block grant program.

However, commissioners will consider the proposals at their April 6 meeting. It is up to commissioners which agency will administer the block grant funds, while federal agencies determine allocation of the other funds.

Commissioners heard from Faye Gordon, president of a Head Start Parents Advisory Committee and McCluey Hewett, director of the New Hanover Community Services Association Inc.

The purpose of the parents' group, said Gordon, "is to try to get our Head Start program back together" in Brunswick, Pender and Columbus counties. The group is supporting award of the contracts to Four-County Community Services Inc. of Laurinburg, which at the request of Sencland's board of directors is helping volunteers survey the three counties for Head Start students to enroll in classes to begin this fall.

Four-County Director O.L. Moore Jr. said the agency is interested in operating the program only temporarily until the local agency can reorganize.

Said Gordon, "It is felt by us we need to be in an incubator . . . I have nothing against the other applicants, but I do think we have to be in strong hands if we are to survive."

Hewett, who served as assistant principal of the former Union High School in Shallotte, told commissioners the services could be operated more effectively if provided by an agency within the same planning region.

Other Business

In other business commissioners: •Authorized the Board of Equalization and Review to begin meeting on April 6 to review 100 appeals of property tax valuations, with hearings to be completed by May 4. Subject to their willingness to serve, commissioners reappointed existing E & R board members to one-year terms. They are W.T. Bowens, Zack Smith, Eileen Kellagher, Dean Hewett, Elbert Aycock, A.L. Massingale and William Dunn.

•Appropriated approximately \$7,900 from the capital projects budget to use Building and Grounds employees to renovate existing jail space to accommodate eight more bunks, increasing capacity from 38 inmates to 44. "This is crucial," said County Manager Billy Carter. "We're getting into dangerous territory because we're going over (capacity)." The county has future plans to renovate the jail.

•Approved a supplemental retirement income (401k) plan that local

government and law enforcement employees have an option to participate in.

•Agreed to the county planning department seeking a \$25,000 CAMA grant to help pay for new county base maps that will meet the immediate needs of several departments. If a grant is awarded and accepted by the county, matching funds would be required in next year's budget.

•Approved change orders totaling \$8,320 for Hall Contracting Corp., \$77,605 for Watson Electrical Construction Co. (along with a deduct of \$1,209) and \$1,085 for Brown Steel Contractors Inc. for work on the water system.

•Approved a bid of \$64,974 from Triple T for a Navistar International roll-off truck for the landfill department.

•Following a series of three brief public hearings, agreed to seek Community Development Block Grants of \$400,000 for Lifescape Industries, which has scaled down its proposal to manufacture patio furniture from PVC pipe at the Leland Industrial Park, and \$210,000 for Liberty Yacht of Leland, which proposes to expand its custom-design of sailboats to include production lines for two sizes of boats.

•Heard a request from Peggy Jaynes to reconsider allowing the Brunswick County Health Department to provide screening for Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The commissioners denied such a request from the health department more than a year ago. Brunswick is one of only four counties in the state not providing the service, she said.

•Following the receipt of letters supporting a 911 emergency calling system from a sixth-grade class at South Brunswick Middle School, asked that Emergency Management Coordinator Cecil Logan submit a written status report on the county's feasibility study, which is due at budget time.

•Appointed United Carolina Bank executive Baxter Stirling of Southport to the Resources Development Commission.

•Heard questions from Malcolm King regarding the cost of the water system. While objecting to the cost, King also said he'd heard a rumor that all residents would have to pay a \$12-per-foot assessment whether the lines crossed their land or not, a rumor that was just that. Commissioner Chris Chappell told King, "You know how it is in Brunswick County: If you haven't heard a rumor by 9 o'clock, start one."

Town Reluctantly Approves Flood Prevention Ordinance

BY ETTA SMITH

When Holden Beach Commissioners adopted revised flood damage prevention regulations Tuesday morning, they did so reluctantly.

They did it only after being told by Town Administrator Bob Buck they had to adopt the ordinance—as revised—to continue the town's participation in the Federal Flood Insurance Program.

The board had asked Buck to find out if the language in some sections of the regulations could be revised before its adoption. Buck said he talked to FEMA representatives in Washington who told him the town couldn't change the wording.

Commissioners were opposed to the sections which state that all heating and air conditioning units, and electric meters, had to be placed from 13 to 17 feet above mean sea level.

"Passing it and enforcing it are two different things," said Commissioner Hal Stanley.

Commissioner William Williamson said that as a homeowner he would rather pay to repair a flood-damaged unit than to have one raised to the height of his bedroom window.

"I asked them (FEMA) why we couldn't just have the insurance company stipulate that they would waive the cost of these units if they weren't raised, but FEMA said you can't waive the law," said Buck.

Burning Extended

At Tuesday's special meeting, commissioners also extended the time residents will be allowed to burn debris on the beach for 30 more days.

providing they get town permission before burning.

Buck told the board that he and Building Inspector Dwight Carroll had driven along the beach recently and listed 38 specific locations where debris from the Jan. 1 high tides are unsightly and could be dangerous.

He added that one building destroyed during the storm has been condemned, and that property owners in several areas have been asked to remove concrete debris from the beach.

In other business commissioners:

•Authorized Mayor John Tandy to negotiate an easement on property that belongs to Holden Beach Enterprises. The easement is needed for drainage of stormwater that stands along the 200 block of Ocean Boulevard West.

•Approved a recommendation from the Planning Board to place a 60-day moratorium on construction on marshfront lots with less than 5,000 square-feet of dry land (See related story in this issue.)

Carter Resigns County Post

(Continued From Page 1-A)

waste disposal, now under study by the board's solid waste committee and completion of the computerized records system that will provide one-stop information on county property.

On two occasions during a previous term of office motions by Commissioner Benny Ludlum of Supply to fire Carter failed. In February 1983, for example, commissioners stalled one firing attempt with a 5-1 vote of confidence for Carter. Ludlum had

wanted the manager fired for allegedly "misleading" citizens and "withholding facts" about the county's Phase I and IA water contract with Pfizer Chemicals Inc.

Ludlum and then-Commissioner Pearly Vereen had voted against a two-year employment contract granted Carter immediately following the November 1982 election. Before then, the manager had served at the pleasure of the board.

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