

Holden Board Approves Contract

BY DOUG RUTTER

Holden Beach officials want to make sure the volunteer group responsible for the attractive landscaping in the bridge area and outside the town hall and police station keeps up the good work.

Commissioners approved a contract Monday night with the newly-formed Holden Beach Beautification Club that will allow the organization to use town funds for landscape improvement services on the island.

Under the contract, the club agrees to landscape town-owned properties such as the town hall complex, public areas and street rights-of-way as guided by an annual budget approved by the town board.

Holden Beach must fund the club's projects, with the understanding that any project costing more than \$1,000 be approved by the

board of commissioners in advance. The board has approved \$5,320 for the club this fiscal year.

Mayor Wally Ausley said the club, which replaced the beautification committee and is no longer a part of town government, has yet to review or sign the contract. Janie Steorts is the group's president.

Zoning Code Amended

In other business Monday night, commissioners approved a change in the zoning code that will allow heating and air-conditioning stands to project into the front- or rear-yard setback areas.

In some areas, federal flood regulations require that heating and air-conditioning units be elevated and level with the first living floor of the building.

"Stands may be no larger than is needed to accommodate and service the equipment and subject to the

building inspector's approval," the new regulation states.

Re-Zoning Requested

Commissioners agreed Monday to ask the town's planning and zoning board to study a re-zoning request submitted by Alan Holden and John Q. Holden.

The landowners want several pieces of residential property located near town hall re-zoned for commercial use.

Included in the request are four lots and another half-acre tract on the unopened part of Rothschild Street north of the recycling center. The Holdens also want an ocean-front lot west of Coastal Development's office re-zoned.

Commissioners will have to hold a public hearing before the zoning

can be changed. A date has not been set.

Water Update

Town Manager Gus Ulrich said Monday that Brunswick County officials are working to reduce the high level of tri-halomethanes in Holden Beach's drinking water.

He said the problem is originating at the county water plant and is affecting Caswell Beach and Long Beach as well as Holden Beach.

Tri-halomethanes (THMs) are a byproduct of the chlorination process, which is needed to purify the water. Some studies have shown a link between THMs and cancer.

"The problems we're having probably can't be solved until the county solves its problem," Ulrich said.

Veteran Affairs Mobile Clinic To Visit Shallotte National Guard Armory

The Department of Veterans Affairs Mobile Clinic is coming to the Shallotte National Guard Armory Dec. 2.

Veterans who have been traveling to the Fayetteville VA Medical Center for treatment and medication may now have their appointments scheduled at the clinic.

The clinic will be open from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. so that some "walk-ins" might be seen.

For the past year, the clinic has been operating in eastern North Carolina providing follow-up care, health screening, preventive medicine and patient education services. Its schedule has been modified to include a one-day stop at the Shallotte Armory every other month.

Scheduled days for 1994 include Feb. 10, April 7, June 2, July 28 and Sept. 22.

For more information, contact the County Veterans Services Office, 253-4307.

Engineering On N.C. 179 Projects Slated For Funds

Money for preliminary engineering of improvements to N.C. 179 are on the agenda when the N.C. Board of Transportation meets Friday in Raleigh.

The board will be asked to allocate \$100,000 for engineering on N.C. 179 from Old Georgetown Road (S.R. 1163) to U.S. 17 Business at Shallotte, and another \$50,000 for N.C. 179 from the state line to Clariday Road (S.R. 1164) north of Calabash, a distance of 2.4 miles. Another \$50,000 has been allocated previously.

Both projects made their first appearance this year in the Transportation Improvement Program, with construction scheduled to begin during the 1995 federal fiscal year. Plans call for widening N.C. 179 to three lanes from the South Carolina State Line to Clariday Road, installing curb and gutter, at an estimated cost of \$650,000 for the 8.8-mile project.

Concurrently, N.C. 179 from Old Georgetown Road to U.S. 17 Business in Shallotte would be improved, and widened to three lanes from Ocean Isle Beach Road (S.R. 1184) to N.C. 904 at Seaside, and inside the Shallotte town limits. The estimated cost of this 14.2-mile project is \$9.75 million.

The board will also be asked to:

- allocate \$25,000 to construct 500 feet of access road in Leland Industrial Park to serve QRP, Inc. The company, which expects to initially employ 100 people, will manufacture "quick release pins."

- abandon 1.3 acres of survey right-of-way easement obtained in 1957 from H.L. and Stella Clemmons and convey same to Haddock Enterprises Inc., according to an agreement reached when construction on U.S. 17 caused problems with driveway connections and access to the business.

- allocate another \$100,000 for preliminary engineering of U.S. 17 from N.C. 211 at Supply to the South Carolina state line, in addition to the \$1.75 million previously approved.

- Add to the state road system for maintenance two streets in Holiday Acres, Ann Street and Charles Street, and College Road, which

Two Men Seriously Injured

Two local men remained hospitalized Tuesday following a single-vehicle accident Friday night in which they were thrown from a car that overturned on N.C. 87.

Driver Thomas Edward Swain, 28, of Bolivia, and his passenger, Christopher Allen Turner, 24, of Southport, were admitted to New Hanover Regional Medical Center Friday night. Tuesday afternoon Swain was in serious condition and Turner in fair condition, said center spokeswoman Audra Mumford.

The accident occurred at approximately 10:10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 29, two-tenths of a mile west of Boiling Spring Lakes on N.C. 87, according to the N.C. Highway Patrol office in Wilmington.

Trooper J.H. Kerr, the investigating officer, reported that Swain was traveling west on N.C. 87 at an apparent high rate of speed when his passenger car ran off the right side of the roadway and out of control. Swain and Turner, neither of whom was wearing a seat belt, were thrown from the vehicle, which overturned.

Kerr's report indicates that alcohol apparently was involved, said Trooper T. L. Pearce of the patrol office.

The investigation is continuing and charges are pending.

Damages to Ford were estimated at \$7,000.

serves Brunswick Community College.

Odell Williamson of Ocean Isle Beach represents this area on the State Board of Transportation.

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