

Planning Board To Consider Changing Sunny Point Zoning

BY ERIC CARLSON

Responding to comments made at a public hearing last week, the Brunswick County Planning Board will be asked to consider removing the "heavy manufacturing" zoning designation from land around the Sunny Point military ammunition terminal in favor of a new "military installation" zone.

About 50 people, most from the Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes areas, appeared at the Aug. 17 Planning Board meeting to voice concerns that the H-M zoning does not accurately represent current land use at Sunny Point and creates a misleading impression that the area is available for industrial development.

Sabrina Puckett of nearby Moore's Creek Village, who made the formal application for the change, asked that there be no zoning applied to Sunny Point because county land-use laws cannot not control what the federal government does on its property.

County Planning Director Wade Horne said Tuesday that after studying the proposal, he will recommend that the planning board deny Puckett's request because it would leave the county without any control over development of the more than 8,500 acres owned by Sunny Point if the base ever closes.

Instead of removing all zoning there, Horne said he will ask the board to consider creating a new "M-I" zone that would properly identify the area as a military installation. He will also ask the board to recommend that possible future uses of the Sunny Point property be studied by a committee being formed by the county commissioners to look into protection of environmentally sensitive areas.

"I'm not sure all those people knew what they were asking for by wanting to remove the zoning altogether," Horne said Tuesday. "If we leave it open with no zone and the base closes, you still have a deep-water shipping port there with loading facilities and railroad lines and access roads and gas lines already in place. You tell me that's going to stay residential without zoning."

While the formal application to the planning board called for the removal of zoning at Sunny Point, most of the comments made at last week's public hearing were directed toward correcting the impression that the entire area around Sunny Point is an industrial corridor. Nearby residents voiced concerns that undesirable development might be attracted to the area as a result.

"By zoning a federal reservation, the county has identified this part of the county as industrial," said Donna Shadid of Long Beach. "Historically the area from Boiling Spring Lakes to Southport is residential and depends greatly on retirees and tourism of its beaches."

Shadid said the area around N.C.



Planning Board Chairman John Thompson assures the group that the board would consider comments made at the public hearing in Bolivia last week.

133 was designated "an industrial corridor" about 15 years ago to allow the construction of an oil refinery that never came. She said county planners have continued to treat the area as ripe for industry largely due to the presence of Sunny Point.

Puckett told the planning board that it was seeing the future "through rose-colored glasses" by thinking that the ammunition terminal might close any time soon. Describing Sunny Point as "the only department of defense installation of its kind," she said a recent multi-million-dollar expansion of the facility suggests that there are no plans to shut it down.

"The importance of Sunny Point to national security is unquestionable," Puckett said. "I think it is here to stay. The current zoning map is a misrepresentation of our area to you, the board of commissioners, the general public, future home owners and compatible businesses."

Evelyn Buffkin said that by "falsely labeling" Sunny Point as a place for heavy manufacturing, planners are also inaccurately describing the possible usage of a 2,000-acre "permanent safety easement" around the base.

"The U.S. government won't even allow the construction of a storage building in this area," Buffkin said. "According to Sunny Point, this property is only available for farming, hunting and fishing. Permanently occupied buildings are not allowed and unofficial activities are limited."

Horne said that while he sympathizes with the feelings of those who live near Sunny Point, county planners need to consider the needs of Brunswick County as a whole in deciding how to zone the area. He said that regardless of the likelihood of Sunny Point closing down, the county should consider the best use

for that property and zone it accordingly.

"I know it's important to those who live next door," Horne said. "But those are not the only people we have to consider. We also need to think about the need for industrial growth and the need for jobs at the same time we are considering the protection of natural resources."

"It needs to be designated as something because that will have a substantial influence on infrastructure planning in that area," Horne said. "Leaving it blank would be even more misleading when you have a facility there that handles nerve gas and spent nuclear fuel rods."

The planning board was expected to hear Horne's proposals for zoning the Sunny Point area at a meeting Wednesday (Aug. 24) at 7 p.m.

Board Changes Meeting Date

The Holden Beach Planning and Zoning Board has changed its regular meeting night to the second Tuesday of each month.

The board had been meeting the third Tuesday of each month. It will continue meeting at 7 p.m. in town hall.



SABRINA PUCKETT of Boiling Spring Lakes, joined by a crowd of supporters, asks the Brunswick County Planning Board to change the "Heavy Manufacturing" zoning designation around the Sunny Point military ammunition depot.

Judges Jolly And Lewis Preside Over Heavy Three Day Docket

(Continued From Page 8-A)

Jerry Wayne Pickard, simple assault, voluntarily dismissed.

Russ Pond, injury to personal property, voluntarily dismissed at request of plaintiff.

Adonis Giles Rozier, speeding 64 in a 55 zone, \$40 and costs.

Michael Frank Savage, speeding 68 in a 55 zone, voluntarily dismissed, wrong person charged.

Mark Horton Seamon, speeding 77 in a 55 zone, Brunswick County Jail 30 days, suspended sentence two years, \$10 and costs, surrender license.

Steven L. Sloan, improper equipment, \$20 and costs.

Hannah Lynn Stewart, failure to reduce speed, voluntarily dismissed.

Richard J. Sullivan, assault with a deadly weapon, N.C. Department of Corrections two years, appealed.

Dwayne Autry Sumrall, no drivers license, driving left of center, consolidated judgment, Brunswick County Jail six months, supervised probation two years, 24 hours of community service within 30 days, costs and \$25, not operate a motor vehicle until valid license to do so.

Charles T. Tippens, failure to yield/pollce/fire/emergency vehicle, speeding to elude arrest, consolidated judgment, N.C. Department of Corrections two years, suspended sentence two years, unsupervised probation two years, \$100 and costs, Brunswick County Jail 48 hours to begin 8 p.m. on 8-19; speeding 110 in a 55 zone, no drivers license, consolidated judgment, Brunswick County Jail six months to run consecutive with previous sentence, suspended sentence two years, \$110 and no costs, not operate a motor vehicle until valid license to do so, 90 days of non-operation, not violate any laws for two years.

Tracey Brooks Triggs, simple possession Schedule VI Controlled Substance, Brunswick County Jail 30 days, supervised probation two years, obtain GED within six months, become gainfully employed, not possess or consume any illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, submit to test, not associate with Lisa Garretson unless at a church function, submit to warrantless searches, not violate any laws for two years, 24 hours of community service within 30 days, fee waived, \$25 and

costs; possession drug paraphernalia, N.C. Department of Corrections one year to run consecutive with previous sentence.

Charles Thomas Trott, improper equipment, \$25 and costs.

Dennis Dean Walton, simple possession marijuana less than 1/2 oz., Brunswick County Jail 30 days, suspended sentence two years, \$100 and costs, not possession or consume any illegal drugs or controlled substance, submit to warrantless searches, not violate any laws for two years.

Christopher M. Wright, speeding 64 in a 55 zone, \$40 and costs.

Carl Alston, second degree trespassing, Brunswick County Jail 30 days, suspended sentence one year, not go back about property of plaintiffs unless they have specific permission to be there, not violate any laws for one year, \$25 and no costs.

Chris Alston, second degree trespassing, Brunswick County Jail 30 days, suspended sentence two years, not go back about property of plaintiffs unless they have specific permission to be there, not violate any laws for one year, \$25 and no costs.

Robert R. Brigman, violation of court order, voluntarily dismissed, complied.

Gayle S. Callihan, domestic criminal trespassing, voluntarily dismissed, no plaintiff.

Larry Dwayne Carney, two counts of misdemeanor probation violation, continue on unsupervised probation, pay \$270 today, not violate any laws for two years, supervision fees remitted.

Milton Clark Hewett Jr., assault on a female, N.C. Department of Corrections two years, suspended sentence two years, Brunswick County Jail 32 days credit, not assault, harass, threaten or intimidate plaintiff for two years, not violate any laws for two years.

Harold W. Hornaday, no drivers license, DWI, fictitious information to officer, consolidated judgment, Level 5, Brunswick County Jail 60 days, suspended sentence two years, supervised probation two years, costs, \$120 attorney fees, Brunswick County Jail 24 hours credit, assessment to Mecklenburg County, not violate any laws for two years, not operate motor vehicle until valid license to do so, become and remain gainfully employed.

Todd Wesley Hunter, DWI, Level 5, Brunswick County Jail 60 days, supervised probation two years, \$75 and costs, assessment, 24 hours of community service within 45 days, surrender license, not violate any laws for two years.

Douglas A. Jackson, DWI, Level 5, Brunswick County Jail 60 days, suspended sentence two years, \$75 and costs, surrender license, not operate motor vehicle until valid license to do so, 24 hours of community service within 60 days, not violate any laws for two years, no assessment ordered-going to treatment program on his own.

Terry Lynn McCornell, DWI, simple possession Schedule VI Controlled Substance, consolidated judgment, Level 5, Brunswick County Jail 60 days, suspended sentence two years, unsupervised probation two years, Brunswick County Jail 30 days, costs remitted, fine remitted, assessment, 24 hours of jail not violate any laws for two years.

James Joseph McNelis, no drivers license, hit/run-failure to stop/property damage, consolidated judgment, Brunswick County Jail six months, suspended sentence two years, \$40 restitution to Town of Yaupon Beach for speed limit sign, 24 hours of community service within 45 days—court recommends to be done with Yaupon Beach Police Department, costs.

Terry Miller, communicating threats, Brunswick County Jail six months, suspended sentence two years, not threaten, assault, harass or communicate with plaintiff for two years, not violate any laws for two years, \$10 and costs remitted.

Earl F. Ronson, assault on a female, communicating threats, both voluntarily dismissed, no plaintiff.

Alton Wayne Thomas, misdemeanor probation violation, continue on probation, regular supervised, pay \$300 today by 5 p.m., Brunswick County Jail 10 days to begin 6 p.m. today, \$180 attorney fees.

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