

At their January 9 meeting, members of the PKS Planning Board took a look at preliminary plans and layout for a shopping center Henderson Developer William Barnett hopes to build on the northwest corner of the Salter Path Road-Pine Knoll Boulevard intersection. The board members were cool in their reaction to the initial concept which pictured low flat buildings much like those seen in shopping centers from coast to coast. Apparently they had hoped for something different.

SHOPPING CENTER
DESIGN IS GIVEN
COOL RECEPTION

The board took no action on the plans but arrangements were made for a joint meeting with the Community Appearance Committee to which Barnett would be invited to discuss the plans. The session will be held January 23 at 9 a.m. in the Town Hall.

Barnett did not attend the January 9 session but did discuss the preliminary layout with Mayor Ken Haller and other town officials beforehand. He told them he hoped to begin work on the center in the spring and hopefully would open for business in the fall with Rose's, Byrd's Supermarket and Eckerd's Drugs among the initial occupants.

The Planning Board also gave its approval to Robert Youngblood's plans for a subdivision at the east end of Cypress Drive. The subdivision would include 10 lots around a cul de sac. Youngblood agreed not to build on three of the lots until a drainage problem is solved.

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At their January meeting the town commissioners were told that the town of Pine Knoll Shores' finances are in fine shape.

"You've done a mighty good job of managing your resources," Paul Hamlin told the board in reporting on the annual audit done by the Morehead City firm of Neighbors, Neal, Hamlin & Barbirer. Hamlin said the audit showed the town's total assets as of June 30 were \$1,380,413 as compared with \$1,290,204 the year before, and its liabilities, including a \$320,500 bonded debt, totaled \$358,363 compared with \$347,426 the previous year.

BOARD IS TOLD
PKS FINANCES
IN GOOD SHAPE

Hamlin noted that the town's revenues, including \$200,806 from the property tax, totaled \$385,385 while expenditures amounted to only \$280,462. The balance in the town's general fund rose during the year from \$241,756 to \$324,029. an increase of \$82,273.

On motion of Commissioner Ken Hanan, the board approved a resolution authorizing an Atlanta firm to drill wells at nine locations in Pine Knoll Shores, four on Pine Knoll Boulevard and five along Willow Road, as part of a study by the Environmental Protection Agency of the effect septic tanks have on the quality of ground water. Hanan said similar wells would be installed at Atlantic Beach and on two other North Carolina barrier islands. Hanan said monitoring equipment would be installed on the wells which would be located on the town right-of-way. He said the firm, Applied Biology Inc., would be responsible for filling and capping the wells at the end of the study which will last about one year.

"The EPA is concerned over the contamination of the ground water supply resulting from the increasing number of septic tanks," Hanan explained. "I think it is an important study that has to be done. Whether it will mean we'll have to install sewer systems in 5 or 10 years I do not know."

Hanan also told the board that the federal government has undertaken a study of the national flood insurance program and that he had requested Bob Armstrong and Art Browne to evaluate the study, but "from what I can see, most of it is favorable."

At the request of Commissioner Jack Thompson, the board set a public hearing for 1:30 p.m. February 14 on revisions to the town's fire protection ordinance.

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