

Commissioner White said that the police activity of house checks was far and away the biggest in December. The Fire Department had no calls but there might have been. The Firemen's Auxiliary president, Vern Wallace, has been handling the purchase of chimney fire extinguishers. Many orders were filled in time for Christmas. At one house it was going to be a Christmas stocking stuffer when suddenly an unmistakable roar was heard in the chimney. Quickly the extinguisher was activated and inserted. The fire was out before the fire department could be called! These are worthwhile purchases. The price has been \$7.00 each because enough people have ordered them to bring the price down. Put your order in now by calling Vern at 247-4338 if you have not already done so. She will be closing the books by January 31st.

New officers of the Fire Department were approved by the commissioners. They are: Captain, Bob Gallo; Lieutenants, David Hasulak and Bob Slack; Maintenance, Andy Turney; and Equipment, Ed Peters.

Mayor Hanan announced that \$1800 was collected in the town for relief to fishermen's families at Christmas.

The next workshop for organization of the zoning ordinance will be on January 28th at 10:00 a.m.

There will be a public meeting on Gov. Martin's Coastal Initiative Plan to "protect water quality and fisheries habitats, preserve natural coastal features, and encourage waterfront development in coastal communities" at Carteret Technical College on January 19 at 7:00 p.m. You are encouraged to attend.

Residents are reminded that it is time to purchase the 1988 PKS license tags for vehicles kept within the Town. They are available now at the Town Hall. You have until February 15th to meet this requirement. After that watch out! Don't get fined!

PLANNING BOARD MEETS

At the meeting on December 21st Chairman Schlimper presented to the board a new site concept for the shopping center area. It seems that someone would consider purchase and development of the site if the zoning ordinance could be changed to allow single family dwellings in a C-3 zone. The plan includes a bank, a restaurant, office buildings, perhaps a library, post office -- even an ABC store, on 25% of the space and 17 single family lots on the rest.

The Board considered the concept too undefined to make any approval at the present time. Whereas they like the idea of zoning more residential and less commercial, this particular proposal has many unanswered questions to consider.

They would rather have a portion rezoned R-2 than change the requirements for C-3.

In other actions the Board sent along the recommendations to the commissioners reported above and for which hearings will be held next month.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

At their December meeting Commission members reported on a total of 10 house plans and miscellaneous inspections.

They took under consideration the removal of unwanted trees under certain circumstances, and appearance of the right-of-ways and the waterfronts. Assignments for the coming month completed the agenda.