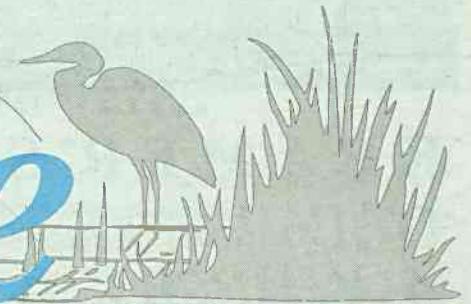


# The Shoreline



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A Shoreline Community, Pine Knoll Shores, N.C.

Town Hall 247-4353

## Town is Taking Direct Control Of Water System

By Yvette Bannen

The Pine Knoll Shores Board of Commissioners held a special meeting March 27 to discuss taking over management of the town's water company with a target date of May 15.

Town Manager Brian Kramer outlined the reasons why he thought the town should manage its own asset that it has owned since 2005. Currently Carolina Water Services, also known as Utilities, Inc., is managing the water company for the town at a cost of \$128,000 per year. For that fee the meters are read, billing is performed and the system is maintained. Purchases of chemicals, lab tests, repairs, etc. are done and the cost is deducted from the check the town receives monthly.

The town manager outlined the start-up costs for the town to manage the water company itself. First, a freestanding warehouse is needed to store chemicals and supplies. This would be a pre-fab building costing \$60,000. A truck (\$30,000) is necessary, as well as a trailer with a generator (\$3,000), computer and software (\$3,000), office equipment (\$1,800) and various tools and test kits for a total of \$107,000. The money for these expenses would come out of the water enterprise fund and would not affect the town's finances.

Sonny Cunningham, who currently works for Utilities, Inc., would become a town employee and would operate the system. He has the state certifications and licenses necessary for this responsibility. Public Services Director Ernie Rudolph is undergoing training so that he too

(Water System) Continued on Page 3



Members of Friends of the Bogue Banks Library prepare to take a well earned rest after packing up at the end of the spring edition of their semi-annual book sale which held forth April 26 at Shepard of the Sea Lutheran Church in Atlantic Beach. See story on page 7

## Postcard Format For Water Bills

New billing and payment procedures will be the change most visible to water users in Pine Knoll Shores as the town moves during the next few weeks to assume direct control and administration of the water system that serves the community.

As recounted in an accompanying story, the town purchased the water system from Carolina Water in 2005. Since then Carolina Water has continued to operate the system under a management agreement with PKS. The Pine Knoll Shores Board of Commissioners has voted to assume direct operational control of the water system as of May 15.

Currently, Carolina Water mails out bills to PKS water users at the end of the month with a payment coupon directing that payments

be made to a Carolina Water address in Charlotte. The bill for April service that you just received or are about to receive is the last that will be processed in this way.

Carolina Water will mail out the bills for May service at the end of this month, but payment must be sent directly to the Town of Pine Knoll Shores at 100 Municipal Circle, Pine Knoll Shores, 28512. You may also pay the bill in person at town hall, saving postage and

(Postcard) Continued on Page 3

William & Barbara White  
PO Box 1644  
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512

Standard  
Pre-Sort  
Permit #35  
ach, NC 28512

## Special Fund Put In Place to Keep Tabs on Sand Tax

The director of the Fiscal Management Section of the State and Local Government Finance Division, N.C. Department of State Treasurer, had words of commendation and encouragement in summarizing a recent review of the finances of the Town of Pine Knoll Shores in which a representative of her office played a leading role.

In a letter to Mayor Joan Lamson, Director Sharon G. Edmundson noted that a prime focus of the review was establishment of a Special Revenue Fund within the accounting and budgetary functions of the community in which to account for monies related to the beach renourishment tax.

Since collection of the "sand" tax began in 2003, monies associated with the tax, including a portion of the sales and use taxes received each year from the state, had passed through the community's General Fund before being transferred to a Beach Escrow Account from which bonds issued in the amount of \$8 million to pay for beach renourishment are being paid off.

Trouble was, while the money was properly transferred each year the transfer was not accounted for on the community's books, leaving the impression that that sum remained in the General Fund and was available to

(Sand Tax) Continued on Page 13

Deadline for June issue is Monday, May 19 Deadline for July issue is Monday, June 16 Articles always welcome!