

Campaigns take nasty turn in Morrisville board race

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should look into what was said." Hodgkins agreed to do so.

Also at the meeting Bryce Meyers, who has been cited for tearing up signs, asked again for a reason he was dismissed from the police department during September.

He said he wanted to appeal to the personnel committee of the board, but was unsure he would get a fair shake, since one of the members is Mrs. Newnam, the police chief's wife.

Hodgkins said the personnel committee was not the appropriate forum for an appeal, and offered to talk with Meyers in private.

His wife, Donna Lynn Meyers, had been to the Sept. 22 board meeting to ask why her husband had been dismissed.

Meyers alleges that Newnam fired him because Newnam was investigating after the police department's administrative assistant Ann Jaeger directed traffic at two events. Mrs. Meyers had allegedly taken photos of Ms. Jaeger, which were used as evidence that Newnam was using non-sworn personnel to direct traffic. Commissioner Mark Silver-Smith alerted the State Attorney General's office, and an official came and talked to Newnam.

Meyers said later that his wife did take pictures, that she was practicing with her camera because she processes crime scenes for the Durham police department.

"That is her constitutional right," he said. "The day before the chief dismissed me, he called me in and asked me if I had any knowledge that my wife was out taking pictures," Meyers said.

"The chief was looking for somebody to blame this on, rather than just accept it like a man," Meyers said.

At the meeting, Meyers admitted under questioning that he was not being paid by the police department since June, and that he had been a temporary part-time employee. Meyers agreed to meet again with Town Manager David Hodgkins and Attorney Frank Gray, along with his attorney to "get this out of the way," in the words of Commissioner Moore.

Meyers said he continued working for the police department to keep his certification even after the money was cut for part-timers.

Meyers was issued a citation for misdemeanor injury to personal property on Oct. 17 after he was reportedly seen ripping up political signs for Newnam and Mrs. Newnam in the wee hours of the morning. Mrs. Newnam and Almeria Moore, wife of Commissioner C. T. Moore, monitored intersections after other signs had been torn up during the previous week.

Meyers said he was not destroying signs, but was putting up new signs for Mayor Broadwell and for Case and Faulkner, as he had been

doing every Thursday for most of the campaign.

"All the signs in town are getting knocked down and ripped up," Meyers said.

"They claim they saw me at Davis Drive tearing down signs. But why would I have my headlights shining on, and flashers on. The only thing I had in my hand was a staple gun," he said.

Meyers said he was not cited until 41 minutes later, about 2 a.m. when he left his house again on the way to Apex to pick up a truck.

He said Thursday night was the only night he didn't have to work. "I was at work Tuesday and Wednesday when the other signs were being ripped down."

The report at the police station says he was cited at 1:38 a.m. with misdemeanor damage to personal property. The original call was received at 1:17 a.m., according to the report.

Officer Ira Jones cited Meyers at the intersection of N.C. 54 and Morrisville Parkway. He will appear in court on Dec. 16.

A second man was cited Monday, Oct. 20, for misdemeanor injury to personal property. David James Deacon, 25, of 10524 Chapel Hill Road, reportedly fell on foot into the woods on Oct. 17 after being

confronted by Mrs. Newnam and Mrs. Moore. Jones will have the same court date as Meyers.

On Oct. 20, Mrs. Broadwell returned home about 7:30 p.m. to find a large toy water gun, with a note attached, in the handle of her front door, she said. The note read, "For Silver-Smith," she said.

Mrs. Broadwell called 911, and immediately asked Town Manager David Hodgkins to authorize an outside investigation. The SBI and the City/County Bureau of Investigation were contacted along with the Wake County Sheriff's Department.

Mrs. Broadwell asked the organizations to investigate for fingerprints, and other evidence to find out who left the gun. Later, she said she could rest easier knowing it was not meant as a direct threat on a public official, as she had first thought. She declined to identify the friend who left the gun.

The campaign has also featured anonymous letters mailed out to voters. One letter accuses Mayor Broadwell, Mrs. Faulkner and Case of "Tonya Harding politics," and asks them not to cheat to win.

Sending anonymous letters in the mail is a misdemeanor, Mrs. Broadwell said, and she is spearheading an investigation.

DOT engineer offers evidence that traffic signal may not prevent crashes

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within 12 months, all of which could have been prevented by a traffic light. That doesn't mean if that criteria is met, a light would automatically be installed, Lacey added. All of the factors have to be considered, not only crash history.

As he went through the accident reports, he noted that two of the 13 were alcohol related, and others were turning in such a way that a light would not have prevented the accident.

He said that though a formal study has not been done, DOT has received reports of five accidents from Jan. 1 through July 31, 1997, and that only two would have been correctable by a stop light. There is also a severity index, which weights fatalities at a higher rate than fender benders. Lacey added that there are probably minor accidents that are not reported, and that DOT can only go on the information it receives from the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Where volume is the principle reason for a light, he said, the national guideline that DOT uses is that there must be 500 vehicles on both approaches in an hour, with 150 on one approach of the minor street.

In the most recent study, the average daily use on N.C. 55 was 7,800 cars, and the average on Carpenter Fire Station Road was 2,900, he said.

He did not have the figures for how that traffic was spread through the day.

He said there are more than 100 other locations across the state that in the same reporting period ranked higher in crash history.

DOT is responsible for about 78,000 miles of highway, Lacey added. All the locations throughout the state have to be considered. "We are trying to identify the locations that have the greatest need, which is a very difficult task," he said. "We want to use our limited amount of dollars in a way where we get the greatest improvement in safety."

"I understand the urgency people feel who travel through this location all the time," he said. "They think if DOT would drive through they would know how dangerous it is. But we do drive through, and we're aware of the situation. And we are doing a new study," he said.

Local residents hope the new study will show that the situation has gotten bad enough to warrant a light.

Thank you for reading *The Progress*.
See you next month.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Election day is almost upon us. As concerned citizens and informed voters who participate in many ways regularly in our community, and in order to provide honest, open and responsible government for our future in the Town of Morrisville, we the people of Shiloh, do hereby endorse and wholeheartedly support the election to office of the following candidates:

Margaret E. Broadwell for Mayor
Bill Case for Commissioner District 2
Jan Faulkner for Commissioner At-Large

Paid for by Citizens of Shiloh, Delores Scott Treasurer

PLEASE READ

Dear Morrisville Voters,

Have you received negative, false and inflammatory letters to your home directed at me and the other good candidates who are desiring to represent you on the Morrisville Town Board? I will never engage in such slanderous and crude tactics to insult your intelligence. My record of faithful public service to you has extended over 11 years. I have always told the truth and worked for you for only \$500 per year when I was first elected. Last year I provided lunch for all Town employees in my office at my personal expense to show appreciation for the jobs they do for us. I also organized and personally paid for our first July 4th celebration in Morrisville's history. (Our Chamber of Commerce shared the expense of refreshment.) We haven't had a "candidates forum" because the incumbents and Chief Newman refused to participate. They would rather hide behind trash mailings than to face you, the voters, publically.

If any individual has questions about any issue, I would be happy to tell you the whole truth personally. I can document with proof whenever necessary.

I ask for your continued support on November 4, 1997 by casting your vote for me. I have done my part to bring pride and respect to Morrisville government. Now I need your help. Thank you.

YOUR VOICE IS LOUDEST ON ELECTION DAY!

Paid for by Margaret E. Broadwell.

Billy Sauls - For Commissioner At Large



Dear Citizen:

With election time just around the corner, I need a moment of your time. I know most political letters are junk mail and go to File 13, but please give me a couple of minutes to state my case.

My name is Billy Sauls and I am running for re-election for Commissioner At Large. I have been on the Board for two consecutive terms and would like to stay for one more term to complete all my projects.

I know I have been painted ragged and rough when it comes to politeness on the Board, but look around this wonderful town. You can not show me one project I worked on or voted for that is not first class. I am very proud of the things I have accomplished and will, with your help, continue to do more.

I wanted to mail you a list of all the things I am proud of being a part of, but that would take too long. So, here are a few:

- When I started we had four police officers. Now, we have sixteen.
- Our Fire Department was volunteer. Now it's supported by the Town with 50 or more employees.
- I got a bond issue passed to pave the town streets; to build a new town hall; install water & sewer lines; acquire a parks and recreation building and build a parks and recreation building second to none.
- I have worked long and hard to acquire land and build more parks. We started with one and now we have five.
- I worked long and hard on a sewer deal with Cary. Now we have two million gallons capacity so the town can continue to grow.
- I pushed a new Police Department through the town board.
- I made the first motion for a new third fire station, and it is almost ready for bid.
- I made the first motion for sewer service to go to Shiloh with a master plan to sewer all of Shiloh.
- All of this was done and I even reduced the tax rate by 14%. There has not and will not be a tax increase on this town as long as I am Commissioner.
- I pushed a motion through the town board to set aside 50,000 gallons of sewer capacity for Shiloh.
- I spearheaded a plan to pave Luther Green parking lot, to build a picnic shelter and to add play ground equipment.
- It was my idea and motion that put lights around the ball fields.
- I worked with the highway department and got them to realign the Morrisville Carpenter and Highway 54 Intersection. This saves the town two traffic officers per day.
- I am working with the Highway Department to complete Evans Road to Airport Blvd.

Like I said, I would like to sit down with you and tell you all the things I have worked on being your Town Commissioner, but it would just take too long.

I do need your vote to continue!

Thank You!

Billy Sauls

Paid for by Billy Sauls