



County Fiscal Plan Approved

School Budget Debated

By JACK GROVE

Chowan County Commissioners met in special session at 11 a.m. Monday to hear a presentation on rural unpaved roads from the Department of Transportation (see accompanying story), to approve the county budget for fiscal year 1989-90 and to pass a setback ordinance.

The setback ordinance provides that structures must be placed no closer than 25 feet from front lot lines and 20 feet from side lot lines.

At a previous public hearing on the subject, Al Howard of the Arrowhead Beach sub-

division asked that his community be an exception to the ordinance. He told the board that Arrowhead's restrictive covenants called for a 15 foot setback from side lot lines. He said the new ordinance would be unduly restrictive on property owners with unimproved lots there.

Howard on Monday again asked the board for this exemption but was told that property owners could request variances from the planning board on a case by case basis. They then passed the measure.

The budget for the coming

year was also passed unanimously without comment.

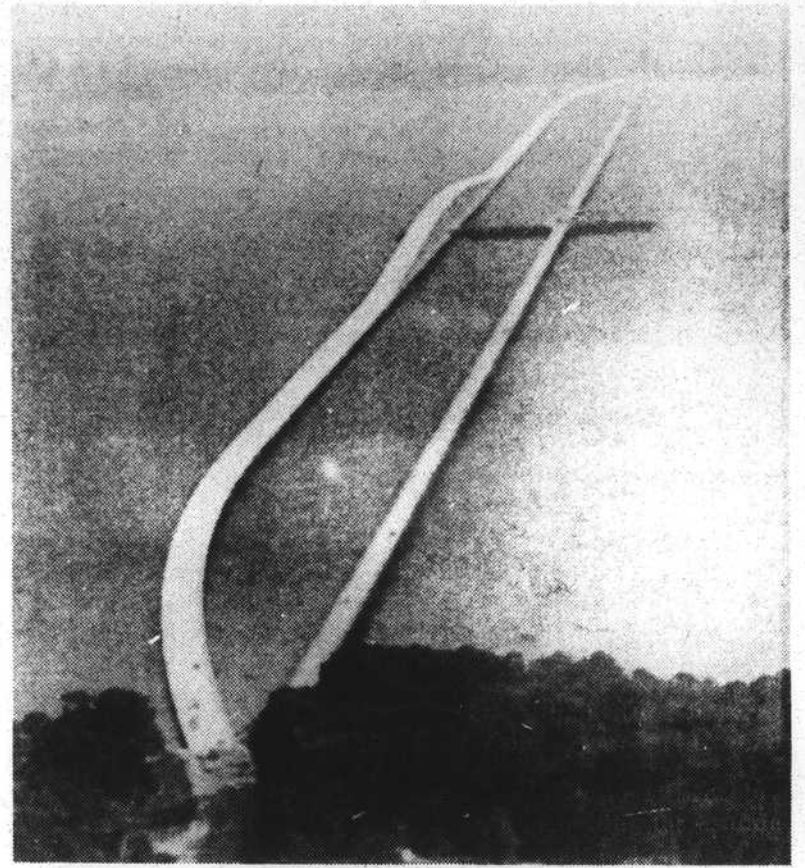
There was considerable comment Friday morning, however, at a special meeting with representatives of the school board. The school board had asked for a \$400,000 increase over its budget for last year. The county only granted an added \$100,000.

The school board asked for an additional \$44,000 Friday which received a cool reception from the commissioners. School Board member John A. Mitchener, III read a lengthy two page statement that contained some bitter verbiage concerning "financial relations between our two boards."

He said that the schools fund balance needed to be maintained for unexpected contingencies especially in the light of new construction to be provided under the recently passed \$7 million school bond referendum. "We feel that the \$100,000 contingency allowed in the bond vote is too small for a \$7 million project.

"We see a pattern of the county cutting back its funding of the school budget with local dollars and substituting sales tax money as their share

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NEW SPAN--The new Albemarle Sound Bridge stretches across the water from the Chowan shore (below) to the distant Washington County. The older span will be dismantled. The dedication for the bridge will be held Monday. The new span was opened to traffic Wednesday (yesterday). An official program, with stories and pictures, which was prepared by The Chowan Herald, is inserted in this week's edition. (This aerial view was made possible through the courtesy of Bill Myers who provided his aircraft.)

Help Is Needed

The Edenton-Chowan SPCA has issued an urgent appeal to community residents to come out to the local Animal Shelter this Saturday from 9-11 a.m. and volunteer their time to help with some badly needed repairs to the facility.

They are especially interested in having help from those who are handy with a paint brush and/or carpentry tools.

According to Marcia Crandall of the SPCA, "Animal Control Officer Jerome Purvis has been working alone since the death of his assistant, James Byrum. As Jerome also does emergency service with the Rescue Squad, he simply does not have enough time to get around to these other chores.

"We have duck boards used in the back of the runs on

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County Road Plan Receives Approval

State Department of Transportation officials met with the Chowan County Board of Commissioners Monday morning to present the proposed secondary roads plan for the county for fiscal year 1989-90.

DOT Board member for this area, Phillip Godwin, preceded the detailed explanation of the plan by telling the board, "We're operating under a new rating system." He said that two priority lists were now being used for counties. One is for rural unpaved secondary roads and the other targets subdivision-residential unpaved roads.

Godwin said that from now on the first ten roads on each list will be "locked in." Previously, roads much lower on the prior year's list could be moved up, setting some roads higher up, back.

He also told the board that the \$8.6 billion special highway legislation had been passed by the state House of Representatives and was now "tied up in the Senate Finance Committee."

District Engineer, C.O. White said that current funding would provide \$161,000 for

paving county secondary roads. If the highway package is passed by the Senate, an additional \$57,652 would be available to complete the base and pave Hickory Fork Rd.

Others slated for improvement are Walker Drive, Donna Drive, River Cottage Road (completion of base and paving); Tip Toe Road (widening from 18 to 20 feet); and Green-

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Area Man Arrested

Edenton Police arrested a Cape Colony man on Friday, charging him with a hit and run which occurred at 9:50 p.m.

The charge stems from an accident on Coke Ave. at the intersection of Tyler Lane when Fred Williams, 31, of 215 W. Carteret St., riding a bicycle, was struck by a car. Witnesses described the car, a 1977 gold colored Oldsmobile Cutlass, to police.

A Chowan Sheriff's deputy located the car at Cape Colony

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DUSTING--Lt. James White was engaged in a search for fingerprints Friday at the scene of a break-in that occurred Thursday night at Dixon's Truck Parts. In addition to damage to the building, thieves stole \$4,790.45 in merchandise from the business which is located on N.C. 32 North.

Business Broken Into Thursday

Dixon's Truck Parts and Service on N.C. 32 North was the scene of a break-in and larceny last Thursday night. The theft was reported to the Chowan Sheriff's Department at 7:50 a.m. Friday by Marsha Dixon Gregory.

A report filed by Sheriff's Lieutenant James White indicated that entry was gained by a thief or thieves by heaving a concrete block through a glass door. Three interior doors "received a great deal of

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damage from hard blows or kicks."

Taken were nine Stihl chain saws, a Toro generator

and an FS-56 grass trimmer along with an undetermined amount of money. The total

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Search Made For Reported Suicide Victim

County emergency personnel searched the Chowan River without result Tuesday night for a suicide victim after it was reported that a man had jumped from the bridge.

Authorities were alerted at 10:30 p.m. that a naked white male was seen on the bridge on the Chowan side about to jump. The man who made the report to Barry Kirby, manager of the Golden Corral Restaurant, has not as yet been identified.

Three boats were launched under a full moon by the Rescue Squad, the N.C. Marine Fisheries and a state Wildlife officer.

Using powerful spotlights, the authorities scanned the water, pilings on both sides of the bridge and the north shore. The search continued until nearly 1 a.m. Wednesday when it was terminated without result.

Chowan Sheriff's Deputy Greg Whitehurst said that prior to joining the water search, he had driven to the

bridge's center draw looking for discarded clothing. He said that the draw operator

reported seeing nothing unusual during the night. No abandoned vehicle was found

at the bridge's north end. Authorities agreed that the report was likely a hoax.



SEARCHING--Chowan Deputy Sheriff Greg Whitehurst (left) and N.C. Wildlife Officer Jay Rivenbark scan the dark waters of the Chowan River late Tuesday night searching for a nude man said to have jumped from the bridge. No sign of the man was found.

Let Record Stand

Now that young R. Harris Vaughan III has set the record straight as to the nonpartisan nature of Jim Wright's troubles, we suppose we'll have to leave the record straight. But you could have fooled us.

There was Lee Atwater, Republican National chairman, ready with a pamphlet attacking the character of Rep. Tom Foley, the new speaker, even before he was elected, an action so partisan that President Bush and several members of the GOP could not swallow it.

And there was Rep. Newt Gingrich, a Georgia Republican activist, who instituted the charges, wringing his hands in glee as the old speaker went down.

And there was Mark Goodin, Republican communications boss, who lost his job for circulating the "out of the closet" pamphlet against Foley, taking the responsibility for something which really lay at the feet of GOP Chairman Atwater.

So we hope to be pardoned if we had the idea that, somehow, partisan politics had been involved.

Another impression we got was that the post-Wright developments tended to show Lee Atwater at his worst. Of course, he looked President Bush in the eye and denied he was responsible for the anti-Foley pamphlet. He had approved "some of it" over the telephone, but the title had not been read to him.

This was par for the course for Mr. Atwater. He is a past master at denying responsibility for political sleaze.

Back during the Presidential election, he denied responsibility for use of the Willie Horton case in the Bush campaign. But back during the campaign he was quoted as telling a Republican group that "if I can make Willie Horton a household word, we'll win the election." He has denied that, too.

While the President was endorsing a pay raise for Congress and other top federal employees, Mr. Atwater sent out a fund-raising letter denouncing Democrats for the idea. He denied that by saying the "pay raise material" had been inserted by staff members.

Now, they have done it again. A letter has just gone out from the National Republican Senatorial Committee making a "survey" of opinion on national issues. Question No. 3 asks: "Should members of the Democrat-controlled Congress receive a pay raise while our budget deficit is over \$100 billion?" Why members of the Democrat-controlled Congress? Why not simply members of Congress, if an unbiased response is sought?

But that would not be the

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More Charges Lodged

An Edenton man is in the Chowan County Jail in lieu of \$1.1 million bond after his arrest Wednesday evening, June 14.

Robert F. Kelly, Jr., accompanied by his attorney, Keith Teague, surrendered himself in the District Attorney's office in Elizabeth City. He was escorted to Edenton by Police Chief C.H. Williams and Officer Brenda Toppin where he was arrested and charged with four counts each of first degree sexual offense, indecent liberties and crime against nature and an additional charge of indecent liberties.

The charges were contained in five sealed indictments, opened that day. They are in addition to 21 identical charges previously lodged against Kelly in connection with alleged offenses at the Little Rascals Day Care center involving young boys.

Kelly had been free on \$95,000 secured bond and \$450,000 unsecured bond before the latest arrest.

Magistrate Carlton Jackson set secured bond at \$250,000 on the first four indictments involving the multiple charges and \$100,000 on the final indictment with the single charge.