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WEST END RESIDENTS QUESTION PEMBROKE ANNEXATION MOVES

An irate group of west end citizens descended upon Pembroke Monday night dominating a meeting of the Pembroke Town Council. The citizens had heard that the council secretly planned to meet and petition Senator Sam Noble for a legislative annexation of their area. The citizens, some 100 in number, were furious about it. And they said so in no uncertain terms.

Bill Oxendine, who did most of the talking, said "We've heard our area is ticketed for annexation...and (we've) heard it might be through the legislative route...we're here to find out what is going on...We feel we'd be getting the shaft...what with the low rent housing which is a burden...we just don't like the idea of you jamming it down our throats without us having any input in it..."

The Town's Response...

Mayor Pete Jacobs was late arriving from a meeting of the Tax Review and Equalization Board of Robeson County. He is the county's Tax Supervisor. When he finally arrived the West End citizens had departed for the evening.

Sam Dial, the mayor pro-tem presided in the absence of the mayor. Dial said, "This annexation study is not a recent thing...and I surely wouldn't vote on it tonight without some further study...before I vote on anything I am not going to be a party to slipping anything over on anybody."

The town was meeting, in addition to other matters, according to Dial, to receive and review a study of a proposal for annexation prepared by Mike Avery, a planner hired through the auspices of the Lumber River Council of Government.

The Town's Agenda...

The meeting was called seemingly to conduct a public hearing on the possible uses of the town's expected Revenue Sharing monies and a review of a proposed resolution of a bond referendum for water and sewer.

Under new business the agenda read, "Consideration of West Side Annexation..."

Bill Oxendine, who operates TBS Services, reported to the board that he had heard that the council meant to slip the annexation move over on them without any input from them. He said, "We want to know what we are going to get for our monies...Maybe \$600.00 more a year in taxes? What can you give us that we don't already have?"

If the proposed annexation was approved it would add some 517 acres to the town and add 450 people to the rolls.

Oxendine, and others who responded from the audience, noted that they had heard that the town had approached Senator Noble about introducing the annexation through the legislation at the mini June session.

Larry Brooks, one of the councilmen, disagreed with some of the statements from the audience. He recalled that the council had been considering annexation of the west end area and other areas for some two and one half years. He noted too that it would be impossible to ask Noble to introduce the measure without public input.

Rod Locklear, the newest councilman, noted that there are five ways to annex, including legislation.

Other ways to annex could include the 100% Petition Procedure, the Referendum Procedure, Annexation subject to development and service requirements, and satellite annexation.

Sam Dial admitted, "We really haven't studied this report like we would want to...We know there are some errors in it...They have to be corrected..."

The council agreed to correct the

report from Avery and make it available to the public. Copies are now available from town hall.

Councilman Milton Hunt said, "It is our duty to look for ways to make our

Dr. Paul Givens Addresses Community School's Advisory Council

by Connee Brayboy

The Advisory Council of the Robeson County Community Schools Program met on Tuesday, May 20, 1980 for a dinner meeting at the Red Carpet Inn, Lumberton. Wade Hunt, Chairman of the Advisory Council, welcomed the members and other guests. Included in the meeting were Supt. Purnell Swett and Assist. Supt. Donald Bonner. Invocation was given by Rev. James A. Bullard, member of the advisory council and pastor of Mr. Calvary Church in Hope Mills. Rev. Bullard represents the Parkton area on the council.

Archie Oxendine, director of the Community Schools Program, introduced the special entertainment. He expounded briefly on the talent among county school students.

Miss Junior Deep Branch, Teresa Carter, performed her rendition of *Indian Clowns*.

Supt. Purnell Swett expressed his appreciation for the work Oxendine was doing with the community schools program. He then introduced Dr. Paul R. Givens, Chancellor of Pembroke State University, the speaker of the hour.

Dr. Givens began by saying that "Everything has a purpose..." and illustrated his point with a couple of jokes.

He then got down to serious business and expressed his dreams of the university and the community joining hands to build bridges. Said he, "...We've got to find ways to help one another...We must face challenges together that are common to PSU and

town stronger, including annexation...the west end is probably the most logical way to annex..."

In Avery's report it noted that residents of an annexed area can expect

Dr. Paul Givens Addresses Community School's Advisory Council

the community." He went on further to say that he felt that the community was within a thirty miles radius of PSU.

Dr. Givens said that there were four ways he felt that community-PSU relations could be brought about. One of them was bringing talented performers to the campus as has been done in the past for instance the NC Symphony Orchestra and other cultural performances. These events are open to the public.

He envisions, he said, "Building a joint program of opportunity for young people that goes beyond what is already offered by the schools and the churches." He termed it a youth development program and encouraged the usage of PSU expertise to meet the needs of students. For instance, he said, in music, art, tennis, golf, etc. He suggested these things be offered at convenient times to the students and the university.

He went on to say that by the concrete effort of joining hands, grants could be gotten for various programs.

On the other side of the coin, he recommended that the local schools be used as laboratories for PSU students.

The idea of community and university sharing of expertise would bring young people face to face with new, exciting self discoveries.

The floor was then opened for questions. When no questions were immediately forthcoming, Dr. Givens responded, "...That was either awfully clear or clearly awful." Several questions were asked. The advisory council then went into a brief meeting among themselves.

to receive street lighting facilities, police and fire protection, sanitation services, the elimination of a special fire district tax administered by the county, a 15% reduction on homeowner's insurance policies and immediate street maintenance.

But many of the west end citizens seemed to be happy with their situation as it presently is.

What they decided...

After a lengthy dialogue between the west end residents and the council members Councilman Rod Locklear made the following motion, "I move we take annexation under advisement (tabled), make corrections in Avery's report, make at least 20 copies available to the public, and give a proper notice before conducting a town public hearing on the matter."

The council met again Tuesday night...

The council met again Tuesday night and set a Public Hearing for May 28 to consider the possible annexation of the area.

Town planner Mike Avery attended Tuesday night's meeting. He brought along 50 copies of the report, a map of the proposed area and a fact sheet.

The annexation could add some \$50,000 to the town's coffers if approved.

In other matters...

In other matters the town passed a resolution for a Bond Referendum which would allow improvement to the town's water system.

The bond referendum passed on a surprising 3-2 margin, with the late arriving Mayor Jacobs having to break the tie. Councilman Larry Brooks and Councilman Milton Hunt voted no; Councilman Rod Locklear and Councilman Sam Dial voted yes.

The proposed referendum would raise an approximate \$725,000 of the \$1.5 million needed.

The water and sewer project would be funded partly by grants from EPA, the state and the remaining \$550,000 from the voter bond referendum. The EPA grant would total \$750,000 with a grant from the state adding another \$200,000.

The project would improve the town's water supply by adding a new well and a well water treatment facility.

The project would increase the sewage treatment plant capacity from its present capacity of 500,000 gallons per day to 680,000 gallons per day.

The referendum would call for a supervised election at a yet unspecified time.

FIRST TUSCARORA INDIAN ANNUAL POW WOW

The first Tuscarora Indian Annual Pow Wow was held May 16th and 17th at the Tuscarora Drowning Creek Reservation in Maxton, N.C.

Keynote address was by Ruth Dial Woods, IEA Project director.

On May 16th there was

dancing, boat riding, crafts.

On May 17th there were special events. There were special speakers from 11 to 1. The Little Miss Tuscarora Pageant was held at 2:30 p.m. Contest dancing was from 3:30 until 5 p.m.



Leon Locklear, one of the organizers of the Pow Wow, is shown at the Tuscarora

Drowning Creek Reservation during the Pow Wow. (Bruce Barton photo).

A Public Hearing CONCERNING WEST END ANNEXATION

PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Pembroke will hold a public hearing on May 28th, 1980 at 7:30 p.m., at the Pembroke Town Hall for the purpose of discussing the

proposed West End Annexation. All interested citizens are invited to offer written or oral comments. This is the 21st day of May, 1980.

Ruby N. Smith
Town Clerk

PEOPLE... AND PLACES AND THINGS

RETIRING TEACHERS HONORED

Fifteen retiring teachers were recently honored at a banquet hosted by the Robeson County Chapter of the North Carolina Association of Educators and the Association of Classroom Teachers.

The banquet was held last Friday at PSU Welton Lowry, a retired teacher himself, and president of PSU's Alumni Association, was the guest speaker.

Special music was presented by the Prospect Quartet.

Special certificates of appreciation were presented by Purnell Swett, Superintendent of the Robeson County Schools. Henry W. Smith, president of the local NCAE and William L. Hunt, president of the Association of Classroom Teachers, presented each of the retiring educators with a plaque.

Afterwards new officers for the professional organizations were installed. Helen L. Thompson assumes the position of president of the local chapter of NCAE.

William L. Hunt continues as president of the classroom teachers.

Those educators honored were: Martha Odom, Long Branch; Ella Lowry, East Robeson; Dora M. Oxendine, Magnolia; Celestine B. Jones, Proctorville; B.C. McBee, Maxton; Queenie Lowry, Union Chapel; Fred D. Lowry, Pembroke; Raymond Clark, Pembroke; Lillie M. Taylor, Ashpole; Eva Lowry, Pembroke Elementary; Ralph Sawyer, Rowland; Eva B. Williams, Smiths; Earl S. Ransom, Union Chapel; and Renia B. McBryde, Allenton.

TEACHER SUPPLEMENT IS URGED

The Robeson County Board of Commissioners agreed Monday to try and include a teacher's pay supplement in the new county budget.

Henry Smith, president of the Robeson County PACE (Political Action Committee for Education) Association asked the commissioners to exert their "influence" on the Robeson County Board of Education to include a pay supplement.

Although the school board has requested a 20 percent increase from last year's budget, that amount does not include a supplement.

Smith said although the system's teachers do not have a specific amount in mind, they want the supplement to boost moral and let the teachers "know they are appreciated."

While Commissioner Herman Dial, the board chairman, said he would recommend the school board include the supplement, Commissioner Bill Herndon said he did not support including the supplement.

"We have no control on how the board spends their dollars," Herndon said.

Although the commissioners only accept or reject the school board's budget, PACE officials are hoping the commissioners can persuade the school board to amend its budget for a teacher supplement.

PEMBROKE MAN KILLED

A 19-year-old Pembroke man was killed and another man injured in a single-car wreck near Red Springs Sunday.

Oscar Junior Jacobs of Route 1, Pembroke, was pronounced dead on arrival at Southeastern General Hospital following the 2 a.m. incident, while 20-year-old Early Revels, also of Route 1, was treated for injuries.

According to investigating State Trooper R.V. Moore, the Jacobs car was traveling east on NC 72 some six miles east of Pembroke, at a high rate of speed. The car apparently went out of control, skidded off the left side of the highway, and overturned several times end-over-end before coming to rest in a field.

The vehicle, a 1977 Mercury, was a total loss.

Wreck Kills

3, Injures 1 In Lumberton

LUMBERTON — Three men were killed and another critically injured Monday when the car they were in wrecked in a wooded area about 11 miles north of Lumberton.

The State Highway Patrol identified those killed as Gerald B. Hunt, 23, of Route 1, Lumberton, driver of the car; Alvin Thompson, 18, also of Route 1, Lumberton and Rickie Locklear, 23, of Route 3, Lumberton.

Dale Oxendine, 21, of Route 1, Pembroke, one of the passengers, was reported in critical condition Monday night at Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton.

"He has a broken arm and a broken leg and he's bleeding internally," a relative said.

Oxendine was the only survivor of the one-car crash about 1:30 p.m. in the Raft Swamp community, according to Trooper John Flynn, the investigating officer.

Flynn said the car left the road as it entered a curve on State Road 1003 near N.C. 211. The car skidded across the road and struck two trees, he said.

Oxendine was apparently sitting in the right rear seat at the moment of impact, the officer said.

Tommy Byrd, one of the Lumberton Rescue Squad attendants on the scene, said Oxendine was in the rear seat when he was pulled from the wreck.

The others were dead at the scene, the rescue operator said.

NURSING MOTHERS TO MEET

Nursing Mothers of Lumberton will meet on Thursday, May 29, at 8 p.m. at Southeastern General Hospital's Assembly Room. Speaker for the evening will be Agnes Evans, R.D. She will speak on nutrition. The public is invited to attend.

ROBESON DECLARED DISASTER AREA

...as a result of Tuesday's tornado

Rep. Charlie Rose's office announced today that Robeson County has been declared a disaster area because of the extensive damage incurred by Tuesday's tornado.

Loans are being accepted effective today from those affected. Interest will be 5% and applications will be accepted for nine months from today's date.

Those affected and in need of help are encouraged to write to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



Shown left to right are: Rev. James A. Bullard, Wade Hunt, Dr. Paul R. Givens, Supt. Purnell Swett, and Board of Education member Laymon Locklear. (Marcia Hunt photo)



Teresa Carter is shown giving her rendition of "Indian Clowns." (Marcia